

September 9, 2019

The regular monthly meeting was held on Monday, September 9, 2019 in the Council Chambers on Dunne Ave. The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Present: Mayor Wayne Marshall; Council: Frank Russell, Sam Welch, John Parks, Dan Matthews, Vince Savona, Julie Nash; Public Works Director Danny Siegert; Police Chief Greer; and Clerk Letitia Greer.

Visitors: Diann Bendix, Beth McHenry, Donna Phillips, Carl Thornton, Marilyn Wohlrab, Scott Smith, Kim Smith, Mark Layne, Dana Bundick, James Lilliston, Ricky Taylor.

Mayor Marshall opened the meeting and Councilman Welch led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Marshall recognized the visitors who wanted to speak.

M Layne of Parksley Baptist Church stated that his church had never been charged for water until the previous month. He stated that it needed to be done without bias either all nonprofits or no nonprofits should have to pay water bills; this would include Parksley Volunteer Fire Company. The council had decided to start billing both Parksley Baptist and Grace United Methodist recently. Mayor Marshall stated that some other towns charged churches for water usage and some did not. He stated that the Town of Chincoteague waived fees for the first 40,000 gallons used quarterly by all of their nonprofit organizations. Mayor Marshall stated the council would come up with something.

B McHenry asked if there was anything in place to prevent people from driving their cars over her driveway in the backyard. Zoning Administrator Siegert stated he would stop by and figure out what could be done to prevent the problem.

D Bendix asked why no one had sprayed for mosquitoes this year. Mayor Marshall stated that the town had not been able to find anyone licensed to spray. Councilman Welch stated most of the \$3,000 budgeted for mosquito spraying is to cover the cost of the spray used.

D Bendix stated that she is still paying for the town to pick up her limbs, but they are not being picked up. Public Works Director Siegert stated that public works was behind due to the holiday and the truck being inoperable. Mayor Marshall apologized.

D Bundick stated that she was not running for mayor, but was considering running for town council in next year's election. She introduced James Lilliston, who she hoped would replace her in November.

D Bundick asked for the town's support for James Lilliston, who is running for Treasurer of Accomack County this year.

J Lilliston, candidate for Accomack County Treasurer, asked for the support of those present in the upcoming election. He gave a brief life history and spoke of his 14 years of experience with the Treasurer's office. He thanked everyone for their time.

Councilman Welch questioned paying both Mansfield and Pep-Up for vehicle fuel. Clerk Greer stated that Mansfield is contract pricing with a savings of approximately \$200/month, but we also use Pep-Up. Councilman Parks asked if we had changed propane for heating from Amerigas to Pep-Up. Clerk Greer stated yes. Councilman Welch asked if the H.W. Drummond payment was for fuel as well. Clerk Greer stated that was for vehicle maintenance - oil, antifreeze, etc. Councilman Russell made the motion to approve the bills as submitted. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Parks, Matthews, Welch, Savona, Nash. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

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Councilman Parks made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Savona. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Parks, Matthews, Welch, Savona, Nash. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Marshall stated that the town is currently accepting bids for the fire hydrant work. All bids must be submitted by Friday September 13, 2019 as advertised. Mayor Marshall asked if any proposals were submitted. Clerk Greer stated we had already received one and that BJ Baker had requested the full RFP.

Mayor Marshall stated there would be a public hearing at the town office on Monday September 16, 2019 at 6 pm to receive comments regarding the VDOT Transportation Alternatives grants the town is applying for. Mayor Marshall updated stated the town is currently seeking letters of support for the two VDOT grants we are currently applying for. C Thornton asked for information on the grants. Mayor Marshall explained that one grant was part of the Safe Routes to School program and would connect Metompkin Elementary School to the downtown with a sidewalk. He stated the other Transportation Alternatives grant would provide funding to replace the sidewalks in the downtown area. Clerk Greer stated that the recently awarded CDBG would serve as the 20% match required for the VDOT grants so they will not cost the town anything. D Phillips asked if the grant would cover the street lights. Mayor Marshall confirmed that the grant would cover the cost of replacing the town's downtown lights.

Mayor Marshall asked Councilman Matthews to read the proposed Code of Ethics to the council. M Layne stated that the proposed code of ethics stated that all town business should be conducted without bias, regarding his church paying water bills while the fire department does not. R Taylor asked if the council was legally allowed to remove a member without a judge. Mayor Marshall stated that the proposed Code of Ethics was provided to him by Supervisor P Muhly of Accomack County. D Phillips asked if a council member that was appointed, not elected, could be removed without a judge. Councilman Welch stated that #1 of the proposed Code of Ethics needed to be removed since that verbiage is included in the oath of office. Councilwoman Nash stated the council needs to define highest moral principles since everyone has different moral principles. D Phillips asked if the process of removing an appointee would be the same as someone who was elected. Mayor Marshall asked Clerk Greer to send the proposed Code of Ethics to Attorney Dix for review.

Council Reports

Councilman Russell passed around an event insurance questionnaire for the council to review. He would like to the town to purchase the insurance in case it rains for the Golden Spike Railway Festival. The insurance for \$7000 would be between \$400 and \$500.

Councilman Russell stated that the contractor he spoke to about the potholes in the parking lot is no longer interested in doing the work. He is expecting to receive quotes from two other contractors this week.

Councilman Russell stated that Barney from Bullfeathers planned to start working on the new PA system this week.

Councilman Russell stated that he and Councilwoman Nash had raised approximately \$6,000 for the festival. He stated that they are relabeling some trophies from last year to save money. The town will not be renting tents this year, they would borrow them.

Councilman Russell stated there had been a wedding in the mini-park area over the weekend. It was performed by a lady who lives in town; the town should look into having more.

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Councilman Russell stated that he is trying to build stages for the festival to save money.

Councilman Russell stated that the library's groundbreaking would happen in the next few weeks, based on the governor's schedule.

Councilman Welch had no updates.

Councilman Parks stated that the hydrant committee would meet after the RFP's were due Friday September 13, 2019.

Councilwoman Nash stated she had over forty vendors registered for the festival. She asked for council members to volunteer.

Councilman Russell passed around a site plan for the festival. He stated that set up for the festival would be Friday October 4, 2019. He stated that the faucets in the town square needed to be repaired for the water rides before the festival.

Councilman Matthews stated that the council needs to create two committees for the CDB grant, one for facade, one for funding. The town will have to formally accept the CDBG funding.

Councilman Matthews presented an ordinance for using town equipment outside of town for non-town related business.

Councilman Matthews presented an amendment to the inoperative motor vehicle ordinance to define trailer.

Councilman Savona stated that Parksley Volunteer Fire Department answered 120 EMS calls and 17 fire calls during the month of August.

Councilman Savona stated that he would have better information regarding the repairs needed at the scout house next month; he doesn't think the current budget will cover the expensive repairs needed. D Bundick asked what the scout house is used for. Councilman Savona stated the boy scouts use it for meetings; he is hoping it could be used for concessions once it's repaired.

Chief Greer stated that there had been ten DUI arrests and thirteen drug arrests from Jan 1, 2018 through the previous week.

Public Works Director Siegert had no updates.

Clerk Greer asked if the town wanted to continue paying \$300/month for radio advertising. Councilwoman Nash stated that it should continue.

Clerk Greer stated that the town had agreed to Flags for Veterans and stated that we have room for twelve currently; the brackets would need to be replaced for 13-24 flags. Clerk Greer asked if the town would cover the cost of the new brackets if needed or if it would be the responsibility of the person purchasing the flag. The council suggested waiting to see if there was enough interest to need new brackets. Councilman Welch suggested charging \$90 for the flags to cover the cost of the flag and part of the bracket.

Clerk Greer stated that she needed to know how much cash the festival committee would need the town to provide for change for the festival. Councilwoman Nash stated that cash was needed to make change for tickets and bracelets.

Clerk Greer stated that she had worked with Accomack County Treasurer candidate James Lilliston over the past few years and he had always been very helpful.

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Councilman Russell asked for donations for fifty goody bags for the car show.

New Business

Councilman Matthews made a motion to approve the VDOT Transportation Alternatives grant resolution as read. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Savona, Matthews, Nash, Russell, Parks, Savona, and Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Parks made a motion to approve the VDOT Transportation Alternatives Safe Routes to School grant resolution as read. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Savona. Ayes - Savona, Matthews, Nash, Russell, Parks, Savona, and Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Matthews made the motion to adopt Ordinance 19-6 regarding the use of Parksley owned vehicles and equipment for non-town related activities outside the corporate limits. Ayes - Savona, Matthews, Nash, Russell, Parks, Savona, and Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Nash made the motion to continue the \$300/month advertising agreement with WESR. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Savona, Matthews, Nash, Russell, Parks, Savona, and Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

D Phillips thanked the town for advertising for the merchant's. Councilwoman Nash stated the festival sponsorship fees included the advertising.

Clerk Greer stated someone had posted on the town's Facebook page about a costume contest at Trunk & Treat this year and there had not been interest in the costume contest the past two years. Councilman Russell stated that was because there wasn't a PA system. Clerk Greer asked about the cash prize advertised on Facebook for the costume contest. Councilwoman Nash suggested a cash prize for first place for the two age groups and ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

M Layne offered to advertise town events in the Parksley Baptist Church bulletin weekly.

D Phillips asked that all of the churches worked together for a drive-thru nativity scene for the Old Fashioned Christmas.

D Phillips asked what was going to be done to fix the bricks in the mini-park. Councilman Russell stated he was working on that. D Phillips stated that the area is used for pictures frequently. Councilwoman Nash stated the area was being decorated for fall.

Councilwoman Nash volunteered to organize the town's Old Fashioned Christmas this year.

Mayor Marshall asked M Layne to work with Councilwoman Nash on the holiday events this year, including the dinner.

Councilman Russell would like the water tower inspected in the near future. Public Works Director Siegert stated that it is currently in violation for not being inspected.

Councilman Parks made the motion to go into Executive Session for legal and personnel matters. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Matthews. Ayes - Russell, Parks, Savona, Nash, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed.

WHEREAS, the Parksley Town Council has convened an Executive Session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

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WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(A) of the code of Virginia requires a certification by this Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parksley Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the Executive Session to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Executive Session were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.

Councilman Parks made the motion to go back into regular session. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Parks, Welch, Nash, Savona, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Parks made the motion to adjourn. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Parks, Savona, Nash, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17.

Clerk

Mayor