

June 10, 2019

The regular monthly meeting was held on Monday, June 10, 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, Julie Nash, and Dan Matthews; Public Works Director Danny Siegert; Police Officers Tyler Marks and Kelsie Cobb; and Clerk Letitia Greer.

Visitors: Jerry McCorkle, Marilyn Wohlrab, Chester Jackson, Connie Taylor, Ernie Swisher, Shirley Johnson, Kay Lewis, Ryan Tilghman, Paul Muhly.

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

Mayor Marshall stated that speakers would be limited to 3 minutes. He stated that he would not allow complaints against employees or council members in an open meeting. Personnel issues and complaints should be addressed with him or the employee's immediate supervisor. Mayor Marshall also stated he was open to suggestions, compliments, and ideas.

Mayor Marshall stated that he had been cussed and hung up on regarding work done in the mini-park. The existing greenery has been removed by the public works department. It had been said that the town would be spending \$7,000 to replace the plants. He assured those present that nothing had been approved to spend for that area and it would be discussed tonight.

Mayor Marshall stated that he had also been approached regarding how the trash ordinance enforcement is being handled and that the police had been called to one residence due to the resident threatening an employee.

J McCorkle asked if it was possible to note on the water bills that people need to clean up after their pets. People walking their dogs did not always clean up after their pets, including when they would potty in resident's yards. Mayor Marshall had no issues with adding that note. Public works director Siegert agreed.

Mayor Marshall stated that water bill notes were not directed at individual residents and nobody is being targeted. They are placed on all of the water bills to inform residents. He had been approached by individuals who felt they were being targeted.

J McCorkle stated he had seen about ten properties with grass that has grown too tall. He questioned if the ordinance was no longer being enforced. Mayor Marshall stated that the ordinance is still being enforced and the police department had been short staffed. He stated they are back to being fully staffed and they would start enforcing that ordinance again.

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M Wohlrab stated that she wants her dumpster back and would like to know when. Mayor Marshall stated that he felt like that issue needs to be addressed privately and he would stop by to see her the following day or so. She stated that the option presented to her was not fair. Mayor Marshall said he would like to discuss it with public works director Siegert and he would come to see her tomorrow.

Mayor Marshall stated that the organization that was supposed to speak regarding offshore drilling was not able to make it tonight and would try again at the July meeting.

Councilman Parks asked about the absence of an electric bill on the list of bills. Clerk Greer stated that she had paid that with April's bills. He also asked about combining our purchases from Pep-Up and Americas to see if we could get better rates. Public Works Director stated he would look into it.

Councilman Russell asked about the condition of the restrooms at the scout house. Mayor Marshall said they are inoperable and need a lot of work to usable condition. Councilman Russell questioned payments made to HW Drummond. Clerk Greer stated that it was car parts, antifreeze, & car batteries. Councilman Russell asked about a payment to Public Works Director Siegert. Public Works Director Siegert explained that it was to reimburse him for temporary help while his department was short staffed and reimbursement for two months of his cell phone. Councilman Russell asked if we had provided a cell phone to temporary help. Clerk Greer clarified. Councilman Russell asked about payment made to Robert Wilson not included in payroll. Clerk Greer stated that he was not on payroll at the time and he would receive a 1099 for that income. Councilman Russell asked what we are paying Robert Wilson. Clerk Greer stated that she would have to check. Councilwoman Nash stated that she had the same question, that the payment to Robert Wilson was a high number. Clerk Greer stated that it was before they had hired a replacement. Councilwoman Nash said the number looked like \$14/per hour. Clerk Greer stated that it was not that much and she would check.

Councilman Matthews made the motion to approve the minutes as sent via e-mail. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Parks, Matthews. Abstain - Nash. No - none. Motion passed.

Councilman Parks made the motion to approve the previous month's bills. Councilwoman Nash asked to change her vote for approving the minutes be changed to Aye. Motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.

Councilman Parks made the motion to approve the previous month's bills. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Parks, Matthews. Abstain - Nash. No - none. Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

None

Council Reports -

Councilman Russell would like to forbid town employees from responding to complaints on the town's Facebook page. Councilman Parks stated the town needs a social media policy.

Councilman Russell would like an ordinance prohibiting residents from hanging laundry on cars, bushes, porches, etc. Laundry should only be hung on approved clothes lines located only in backyards. He asked Councilman Matthews to research.

Councilman Russell has spoken to someone who would like to put up a statue of a baseball player in honor of the Parksley Spuds and possibly a railroad conductor. Councilwoman Nash agreed that it was a good idea.

Councilman Russell would like the town to look into contracting out trash pickup.

Councilman Russell would like to send a thank you letter to Parksley Volunteer Fire Company for allowing the town to set up a table and sell raffle tickets at the 2019 Boat Bash. Councilman Russell thanked Councilwoman Nash for her help at the 2019 Boat Bash.

Councilman Russell has received a complaint about grass on the tennis court. Public Works Director Siegert said he would look into it.

Councilman Russell asked if the police department was giving warnings before tickets unless it was something goofy. Officer Marks stated that the police department does issue warnings.

Councilman Welch had no updates.

Councilman Parks stated that the hydrant repairs and replacements to bid. Clerk Greer stated she was waiting for permission to use wording from the bid the town already has.

Councilwoman Nash stated she would like up to \$500 to spend on flowers for the mini-park. S Johnson and K Lewis had volunteered to help with the planting as well as Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle.

Councilwoman Nash stated that she would like to start issuing a Council's Choice Award monthly to recognize those residents in town who keep their yards nice or painting their house. She can get an award sign from Vista Print for as little as \$60 including the stand. The sign would be moved to a new yard each month.

Councilman Russell like the idea and suggested posting the winners on the town's Facebook page and including them in the radio advertising.

Councilman Matthews stated he had verified details in the ordinance regarding barking dogs. Fifty percent of the residents within 500 yards of the nuisance animal would need to sign a petition and then the animal could be removed. The code doesn't include a time frame. Once the petition requirements are met, the resident would present the petition to the council. Residents are encouraged to involve police to avoid problems between neighbors.

Councilman Matthews stated that we don't currently have any ordinances requiring owners to clean up their animals' waste. He isn't sure how we would enforce it, including proving whose dog created the waste.

Councilman Matthews stated that out of town lawn care contractors are probably not aware of the state law prohibiting blowing grass clippings into the roadway. He asked for input on how to notify them. For example, homeowners who don't live here and the contractor isn't aware of the law. Councilman Russell suggested sending the property owners a letter requesting they send the contractor to the town office to purchase a business license and find out about the laws regarding glass clippings.

Councilman Russell stated that anyone doing any business in town is required to possess a business license from either Accomack County or the Town of Parksley.

Police Chief Greer was absent.

Public Works Director Siegert stated that he and Clerk Greer had attended a meeting at ANPDC with VDOT regarding a sidewalk grant. He asked for the council's input on moving a VDOT planned sidewalk from Bennett Street to Cooke Street. He also requested input for the street lights that would be replaced and/or installed with the new sidewalks. Councilwoman Nash asked who would maintain the newly installed sidewalks at Metompkin Elementary School. Public Works Director Siegert stated that wasn't discussed so he wasn't sure whose responsibility it would be.

Public Works Director Siegert asked for the council's input on trees for the new sidewalks. VDOT would be planting the trees. Councilwoman Nash stated the Master Gardener's would be handling that as part of the new grant. Public Works Director Siegert said he needed an answer by Tuesday as all comments were due this week. Councilwoman Nash agreed to contact B Farley of Master Gardeners for input.

Councilwoman Nash asked if MES would give permission to VDOT to install the new sidewalk on their property. Public Works Director Siegert explained that was part of the comment solicitation. VDOT would need to get an easement from Accomack County to build a sidewalk on the MES property.

M Wohlrab asked if the sidewalks would be installed before the street drainage issues in front of Violet's would be fixed. Public Works Director explained that those sidewalks were not part of the VDOT sidewalk grant.

Councilman Matthews explained that the sidewalk project would tie into where the new crosswalks from the CDBG would be.

Clerk Greer had no updates.

New Business

Councilman Welch made the motion to accept the 2019-2020 budget as proposed. Motion was 2nd by Councilwoman Nash. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Russell asked if this budget would be the last time the town would have to pay \$5500 for accounting, referencing the audit required by USDA. Councilman Welch explained it was still in the budget since we had not yet paid for the 2017-2018 audit.

Councilman Parks made the motion to appoint B Keith Greer Police Chief, J Danny Siegert Zoning Administrator, and Letitia Greer Clerk. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Matthews. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Parks made the motion to adopt state code 46.2 for 2019-2020. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Welch made the motion to adopt resolution asking State Senator Lewis request the General Assembly allow the town to change the charter moving council and mayoral elections from May to November and extending all affected terms from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Parks made the motion to renew the current DMV contract for two more years. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Matthews. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Nash made the motion to select one house per month for a curb appeal award and purchase a sign to cost no more than \$150.00 Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Nash made the motion to spend no more than \$500 for flowers for the planters in the mini-park. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Marshall reiterated that the motion was for up to \$500, not the \$7,000 as had been rumored recently. He stated that rumors were started by people who did not attend the meetings and made it up.

Councilman Parks stated that the trash ordinance was being enforced and that enforcement had caused some issues among residents. He stated that residents must have their trash in bags in cans with lids or face citation.

Councilwoman Nash stated that B Farley had asked her to suggest to the council still picking up the garbage, but fining those who were not in compliance with the ordinance. Councilman Parks stated that the process to cite violators was an approximate two week process and was not a quick fix. Councilman Russell stated that we needed a way to enforce the ordinance beyond fines such as disconnecting water service.

Councilman Russell said the town needs to revisit picking up limbs. He stated many residents expected public works to pick up limbs as soon as they are cut. He suggested doing that less often. Public Works Director stated that it would be too much at one time to pick up limbs less frequently. Councilman Russell stated that we could add a fee if residents would like their limbs picked up on an off day. Councilman Matthews read from the current ordinance that states the limbs would be picked up weekly and storm clean up would be as needed.

C Taylor asked if homeowners were being notified of the trash ordinance if the house is a rental. Clerk Greer stated a note had been put on all water bills. Councilwoman Nash stated that it had been posted on Facebook, and Councilman Russell stated that it had also been posted at the post office.

Councilwoman Nash met with Richard Lewis; he would like the lines on the tennis court repainted.

Councilwoman Nash made the motion to paint the tennis court and put the net up. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Welch, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Russell suggested still picking up the trash with non-compliant residents and fining them. Mayor Marshall stated that Chincoteague has a zoning enforcement officer and it doesn't have to be a law enforcement officer. Mayor Marshall shared that the public works department and the police department were all too busy to take that on full time.

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Councilman Russell made the motion to go into Executive Session for personnel matters. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Russell, Nash, Parks, Matthews, Welch. 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

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;

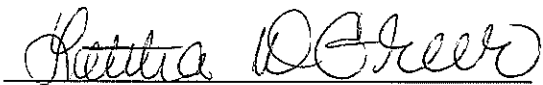
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parksley Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the Executive Session to which this certification resolution applies, 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 Russell made the motion to go back into regular session. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes - Russell, Welch, Nash, Parks, Matthews. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Russell asked Clerk Greer to mail thank you letters to all who had applied for the advertised public works position and to let them know we would keep their application on file for one year.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.



Clerk



Mayor