

June 8, 2020

The regular monthly meeting was held on Monday, June 8, 2020 in the Banquet Hall at Parksley Fire House. The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Present: Mayor Wayne Marshall; Council: Dan Matthews, Sam Welch, John Parks, Julie Nash (remotely), Frank Russell; Public Works Director Danny Siegert; Police Chief Greer; and Clerk Letitia Greer. Councilman Vince Savona arrived at 7:06 pm.

Visitors: Shirley Johnson, Betty Farley

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

Mayor Marshall recognized the guests in attendance.

S Johnson apologized to Public Works Director Siegert; she would like Jerry's banner moved closer to the monument.

B Farley stated that she had asked a council member about the procedure to fill the empty council member. The council member told her that it would be appointed by the council according to the charter. B Farley stated that Roger's Rules of meeting procedure reads that vacancies should be filled by election instead of appointment whenever possible.

Councilman Russell stated that the council had always given the vacancy to the person who had the next highest votes in the election if there were enough candidates; if there were not enough candidates, the council would pick from the community.

Councilman Matthews shared that the charter states that all vacancies have to be filled by the council.

Donna Phillips stated that an election would be costly and there were higher priority items that needed to be addressed.

B Farley stated that she was not suggesting an election, there were several council candidates in the election that could be appointed.

Councilman Matthews stated that the previous two council vacancies were appointed; they were Councilwoman Nash most recently and Councilman Savona prior to that.

Councilman Russell stated that, traditionally, the council always picked the person with the next highest votes. Councilman Matthews asked who those council members were. Councilman Russell stated he didn't know.

Councilman Matthews explained the procedure for changing the charter and that can be addressed in July when there is a vacancy.

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

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

#### Council Reports

Councilman Russell stated that he had spoken to the Sons of the Confederacy and they would take over the monument for roughly \$1 whenever the town wants them to.

Councilman Russell stated that he had spoken to residents who had been parking in their front yard and they have complied with his request except for one household who he had not yet spoken to.

Councilman Russell stated that he spoke to the resident who owned the rental house next to Brittany about the grass; the gentleman has since cut his grass; he thinks the council is beating a dead horse, sometimes, the residents just don't know.

Councilman Russell stated there is a problem again with too many people in the same house; there is a gentleman present he will turn it over to.

Mayor Marshall stated he wasn't aware of the issue.

Councilman Russell stated that the town had not been executing the ordinance requiring windows in houses; the council needs to get those squared away.

D Bendix asked if fields had to be kept cut like grass. Mayor Marshall stated he thought so.

B Daughton stated that he heard the town was broke. Mayor Marshall stated that the town is able to pay the bills, but the current pandemic had not helped. B Daughton asked if the town had considered eliminating trash service. Mayor Marshall shared that the town had looked into that and it would be more expensive to contract.

Councilman Welch stated that Chief Greer and Public Works Director helped him when he had a flat tire on his truck. Councilman Welch stated that someone else from the town had also paid for most of the cost to replace the tires; Councilman Welch stated that he and his family were thankful.

Councilman Parks stated that he had spoken to Beauchamp Construction and they could start working on the hydrants again within two weeks of the town being ready for the work to start again. Councilman Parks asked for everyone's input. M Wohlrab asked for 48 hours notice before the work begins again so residents would have time to prepare.

Councilman Matthews stated that the new logo and branding for the CDBG is complete. The logo will be posted to Facebook this week. The logos and branding will be made available to the town businesses.

Councilman Matthews stated that the business owners who indicated they would be participating in the grant need to complete their paperwork. Hill Studio cannot complete their facade work with businesses who have not submitted their completed paperwork.

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Councilman Matthews stated the designs proposed by Hill Studios looked great.

Councilman Savona had no updates.

Councilwoman Nash stated she would like the pickleball courts opened. Mayor Marshall stated parks were not allowed to reopen under Phase 2.

D Bendix stated that children are playing soccer at Metompkin Elementary School and they are not practicing social distancing. Mayor Marshall stated that MES is not in town.

Mayor Marshall stated that he would follow up with Accomack County regarding opening the park. Councilman Savona stated that he thought the town should open the park, as soon as allowed, without requiring a council vote.

Police Chief Greer had no updates.

Public Works Director Seigert had no updates.

Clerk Greer stated that J Pawin had resigned and she would like the town to hire one part-time person.

Clerk Greer stated that she needs updated contact information for the residents in town. Clerk Greer stated that she had researched programs for emergency push alerts for residents in case of another water outage.

Mayor Marshall stated that Accomack County Department of Public Safety has a program that could send out emergency alerts at no cost to the town; C Pruitt would need a letter from the town to use it.

Clerk Greer stated that she would like to work with C Burton on switching to a less expensive office phone service.

#### New Business

*Councilman Savona made the motion to adopt Ordinance 20-2 VA Code 46.2 Incorporating Laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

Councilman Matthews stated that the town needs to have processes in place to address blight and unsafe structures; this is a requirement of the CDB Grant. Parksley adopted Accomack County's code in the 1990's and it has since changed so the town will need to re-adopt for the town. Councilman Matthews stated that he would make copies available.

Mayor Marshall stated that the boy scouts wants to have their car show June 20; they will have social distancing measures in place.

*Councilman Matthews made the motion to open an escrow account at Taylor Bank for the CDB Grant matching funds. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

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*Councilman Savona made the motion to update the town's bank accounts to remove Mayor Marshall and add Mayor-elect Russell. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

Councilman Russell stated that refinancing the town's sewage loan would save the town a boatload of money. Mayor Marshall stated that he would follow up with his contact at Taylor Bank.

*Councilman Savona made the motion to authorizing Mayor Marshall to sign the Certification for Receipt of Coronavirus Relief Fund Payments. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Councilman Savona made the motion to keep all Coronavirus Relief Fund monies for the town of Parksley and its licensed businesses instead of surrendering any part of it back to Accomack County. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Russell. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Councilman Savona made the motion for the town to collect delinquent meals taxes from the Club Car. Councilman Russell stated that he had spoken to the owner on Saturday and asked what good it would do to shut them down. Councilman Savona stated that would allow another business who would pay their taxes to go there. Councilman Russell stated that he spoken to him Saturday and he would be attending the next meeting to discuss it with the council. Mayor Marshall stated that he and Councilman Russell had set up a payment plan with him in November 2018 and he had made payments for several months. Councilman Russell stated we had picked up \$40000 or \$50000 from it, or some large amount of money. Councilman Russell stated that many business owners in town were old enough to retire; he is also not sure if the health department would let buyers of current businesses to hook into the sewer. Councilwoman Nash stated that the Club Car brings people to town, he had paid a large sum of money the last time he was asked. Councilman Matthews asked if we needed to go to the Club Car monthly to collect the money. Councilman Parks explained that the meals tax is not an expense to the Club Car, it is money he collects for the town. Mayor Marshall said that he should be allowed to address the council at the next meeting. Councilman Russell stated that he has a plan to pay it off.*

Mayor Marshall stated that the council should consider holding its monthly meetings in the banquet hall at the firehouse instead of the council chambers due to the hole in the floor.

Mayor Marshall asked to be considered to fill the council seat that will be vacant when Councilman Russell becomes mayor in July. Mayor Marshall thanked everyone for their support while he was mayor and congratulated Councilman Russell on winning the Mayor's seat. Mayor Marshall also congratulated R Taylor and D Bundick on winning the two council seats in the May 2020 election.

Councilman Russell thanked Mayor Marshall for a clean race and stated he did a good job for the town during his time as Mayor.

*Councilman Russell made the motion to sell the Confederate monument and land to the Sons of the Confederacy; they can come next month so the monument will be privately owned and not in the town's name, this would prevent the governor from making the town take it down. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

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*Councilman Parks make the motion to have Beauchamp Construction begin working on the hydrants again. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Savona. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Councilman Russell made the motion to advertise and hire a part-time office employee for approximately 24 hours/week with pay negotiable due to experience. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Parks. Ayes -Savona, Matthews, Nash, Parks, Welch, Russell. No - none. Motion passed unanimously.*

Public Works Director Seigert stated that VRWA is looking for an engineer to work on the town's sewage system.

Councilman Russell stated that he talked to the Doc in the Box people about two weeks earlier and they were interested in the old Annie's building, he thinks that's gone down the tubes. They are supposed to contact him in six months.

Councilman Russell stated that Dollar General was going to start remodeling in June.

J Stauffer stated there were about six new vendors at the farmer's market.

K Phillips thanked everyone for their donations to the food bank; the donations totaled over 300 pounds. They used monetary donations to purchase and donate more food as well. K Phillips stated she would like to get the community garden back up and running as well.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

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Clerk

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Mayor