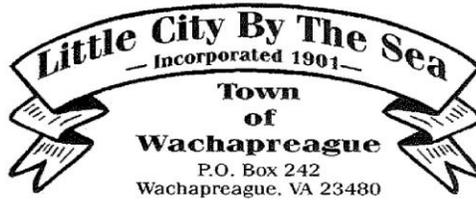




**Marina**  
757-787-1930



**Town of Wachapreague**  
P.O. Box 242  
Wachapreague, VA 23480



**Town Office**  
757-787-7117

**Charles Elliott, Mayor**

**Town Council Present:**

Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor  
Robert Bilicki  
Glenn Schagelin  
Craig L. Baker  
Aileen Joeckel  
Robert Hipple

Clerk: Susan Springer

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 9, 2025  
VIMS SEASIDE HALL**

**Town Council Meeting**

Meeting began at 7:00

- I. Vice Mayor Puchalski called the meeting to order.**
- II. Councilman Glenn Schagelin led the prayer.**
- III. Vice Mayor Puchalski led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**IV. Public Comments.**

Compliments were given to the progress in Sewer Phase II as well as thanks given to Arthur and Beth Mendez for their time in delivering the trash truck for repair.

**V. Approval of Minutes**

Town Council Meeting – July 12, 2025  
Motion made by Councilman Hipple to postpone Council vote until Mayor Elliott’s addendum is provided.  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Hipple.  
Motion amended to release Draft of Minutes until Mayor Elliott’s addendum is provided.  
All in favor of Motion as amended..  
Town Council Meeting – September 11, 2025  
Motion made by Councilman Bilicki to approve as presented.  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Schagelin.  
All in favor.  
Town Council Special Called Meeting – September 26, 2025  
Request by Councilman Bilicki to amend to indicate reason for his vote of abstain.  
Motion made by Councilman Baker to approve as amended.  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Hipple.  
All in favor.

**VI. Review of Financial Report**

Approve Financials – Town of Wachapreague-June 2025 incomplete pending year end  
Approve Financials – Port of Wachapreague-June 2025 incomplete pending year end  
Motion made by Vice Mayor Puchalski to postpone vote on both until November council meeting  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Baker

All in favor.  
Approve Financials – Town of Wachapreague – September 2025  
Motion made by Councilman Bilicki to approve as presented  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Hipple  
Approve Financials – Port of Wachapreague – September 2025  
Motion made by Councilman Schagelin to approve as presented  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Hipple

## **VII. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Maintenance**

Councilman Schagelin announced new garbage truck has been delivered back to the Town and was working better than ever. Discussion was given to the possibility of selling the Old Garbage Truck and will continue in the November Council Meeting.

### **B. Powell Park**

Vice Mayor Puchalski reported the Tennis and Basketball Courts were complete and ready for use, with just a few touch ups needed. The need for gravel by the Concession area was discussed, as was a spring clean up project of the playground equipment in conjunction with fresh mulch application.

### **C. Seaside Park**

It was noted the gazebo brackets were still not installed by the Contractor who has been paid to do so. Vice Mayor Puchalski volunteered to follow up. It was noted that the broken bench was still awaiting repair by Atlantic Grante.

### **D. HRSD**

Councilman Hipple reviewed the recent progress, including the progress made with HRSD on drawings, the required documents being received by John L Maynard Inc. and the recent order, authorized and signed by the Council, being placed with CES for the pumps. The contract with John L. Maynard Inc. was authorized and signed by the Council and presented to John Maynard.

### **E. Derelict Properties**

It was reported the Town had heard from the owner of 3 Lee St who acknowledged receipt of the recently mailed violation letter and requested additional time to clean up the property.

### **F. Marina**

The possibility of the closing of the Coast Guard Station was discussed, with Vice Mayor Puchalski reporting the Chief was supportive of the recent correspondence of the Council endorsing the return of full time 24/7 staffing of the Coast Guard Station. Further discussion ensued about the correspondence and the desire to continue it. Vice Mayor Puchalski reported that the water was still on at the Marina but would be shut down for the winter next month, at which time the Powellton Park port a pot would be relocated to the Marina.

### **G. Tourism**

Councilman Joeckel reported on the recent visit and filming by outdoorsman Carter Andrews and his choice to stay all week at the Wachapreague Inn and visit VIMS, the Island House and the Coffee Shop, as well as other local favorites on the Peninsula.

### **H. Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator/RAFT**

Councilman Bilicki reported on the progress of the CFPF Grant, noting that 3 firms were eligible for selection for the Coastal Resiliency Study, the purpose of the Grant. He also noted that the VA Energy Grant project was also moving forward with the intent being to provide a portable trailer and generator for emergency use of residents requiring use due to the medical needs.

### **I. Town Beautification**

Councilman Joeckel reported on the delivery of the garland samples, citing the differences between the 3" and the 6" with Sean Fate approving either. Conversation ensued and the decision was made to increase the budget to cover the 6" garland.

Motion made by Councilman Joeckel to increase the budget to \$1500.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bilicki.

All in favor.

### **J. Safety/Security**

Councilman Schagelin reported no issues with safety and security. Resident Beth Mendez reported on the recent completion of the AED installation and her continued work on the needed registration and training required to become a trainer herself. It was noted that the Maintenance crew should be trained on the AEDs, and Town Clerk Springer volunteered to as well.

### **K. Historic District**

Planning and Zoning Chair Jim Bell reported on the upcoming Dept of Historic Resources public meeting to be held Tuesday Oct 21, 2025 at VIMS Seaside, 6:30 pm. He encouraged Council and residents to attend and bring others.

The DHR will give a presentation and answer questions. This will be the last public meeting prior to the presentation at the State Board December 13, 2025, who will make the final decision on the Historic designation

**L. Streets and Drainage**

Councilman Hipple reported road safety was good and noted the recent street sweeping operation by VDOT. Discussion continued to the North Ditch and South Ditch, with notation that the County would not be assisting with the North Ditch. It was noted the County had limited resources and the Town was fortunate to have the County assistance with the South Ditch. The condition of the storm drain grates was noted, with the update from Councilman Hipple that VDOT had been contacted but did not have resources to repair them at this time.

**M. Planning Commission**

Planning and Zoning Chair Bell presented the 2025 Comprehensive Plan packet, including the Draft Plan, an adoption checklist, the Adoption record to be included in the Plan, the draft Council Resolution and the P&Z Resolution recommending adoption was read aloud. It was determined the Council would hold a Public Hearing November 13, 2025 at 6:30 pm at VIMS Seaside Hall, prior to the Town Council Meeting. The Council could then vote recommend changes to the Plan and return it to the P&Z Commission or vote to approve the Resolution adopting the Plan. A printed copy of the packet was given to the Mayor and digital one will be provided to the Town Clerk at Town Hall. .

**VIII. New Business**

Discussion was given to the 2 properties being offered to the Town by the Nature Conservancy, those properties being the bird watching station on Atlantic Ave and the Finney Reserve. Conversation ensued regarding the desire to know the criteria for accepting the Finney Reserve, prior to the creating or accepting of any deed.

Discussion was given to the need for a Copier, citing the inability to replace worn parts on the old copier. It was decided to allow a budget to replace it.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Puchalski to approve a budget of \$3500.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bilicki

All in favor

**IX. Adjournment**

Motion made by Glenn Schagelin to adjourn

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor Puchalski

All in favor

**X. Closed Session Cancelled.**