

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 8th, 2024**

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor

Stephen Joseph

Aileen Joeckel

Robert Bilicki

Robert Williams

Glenn Schagelin

Absent: Mayor Charles Elliott

Town Clerk Susan Springer

Town Council Meeting

Meeting began at 7:00

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE COUNCIL MEETING

- I. Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski called the meeting to order.**
- II. Glenn Schagelin led the Council in Prayer.**
- III. Vice Mayor Puchalski led the Council for the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- IV. Public Comments – None made.**

V. Town Council Meeting Minutes

July 11th, 2024, Town Council Minutes were reviewed and one misspelling was noted. Councilman Glenn Schagelin motioned to accept the minutes, as amended, for July 11th, 2024. Councilman Steve Josephs 2nd the motion. All in favor.

VI. Review of Financial Report

The Council reviewed the Town's financials for July 2024.

The council reviewed the Port's financials for June 2024.

Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to approve both. Councilman Glen Schagelin 2nd the motion. All in favor.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Maintenance

Councilman Glenn Schagelin reported no complaints, all operations normal.

B. Powell Park

Councilman Glenn Schagelin requested the Shelter be painted, Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski requested the fencing around the truck parking area be looked at and at least receive some weeding and trimming.

C. Seaside Park

Councilman Steve Joseph's reported on the recent landscaping work performed by Donald Motto, including the weeding, trimming and mulching of the entire park. Councilman Bob Williams reported the brackets on the Gazebo needing replacement.

D. HRSD

Councilman Bob Bilicki reported:

- Electrical contractor beginning work on grinder pump wiring and should begin work on Vims/Pump Station this week.
- Change Order #1 is in a holding pattern as of now, as DEQ is still assessing unused funds from the previous fiscal year.
- Town Attorney Carl Bundick will be asked to review the Private Easements from 2 adjacent properties to the Wachapreague Town Hall.
- Blake has purchased the required grease trap, utilizing his own funds, so as to not hinder the schedule. It is on site and will be installed by Subcontractor Underground Utilities.
- The Survey is almost complete as to parties interested in hooking up to the sewer in the next phase. Those properties would be ones adjacent to the current collection system. The location of the additional pump station will need to be made soon.

E. Derelict Properties.

Vice Mayor Puchalski reported she would speak in person with Patricia Bragg about her plans for the house at 48 Main Street before the Town acts on it. Zoning Administrator Arthur Mendez spoke about the description of derelict and that to be deemed derelict a property it must be shown to be unsafe and hazardous and if the Town attempted that description the Town should consult with the County Zoning Administration. Discussion was given to the overgrown shrubs and ornamental grass at 7 Center St, as well as the ongoing grass problem at the Susan Baker Property. Recommendation was for letters to be sent prior to the Town taking on the maintenance and billing for it.

F. Marina

Vice Mayor Puchalski spoke about ordering stainless steel screws for fixing dock boards and the need to find a new vendor for treated dock boards as the last order was not the quality it was promised to be or should be. She also noted the need to order additional gravel to dress the area that was excavated for the grinder pump and stated any leftover gravel would be used in other parking areas. Vice Mayor Puchalski spoke with Chris Turner of the Army Corp of Engineering about additional signage being placed at the Town Marina about the Bradford Bay/Finney Creek dredging

project, stressing the importance as that Town Marina is the only usable ramp in the Town at this time. Some

discussion was given to Darrell Lilliston's Seafood Building with Councilman Bob Bilicki noting the bulkhead was being eroded dangerously. Vice Mayor Puchalski noted that he can apply to VMRC for a permit to restore it and has been actively seeking a Contractor.

G. Tourism

Councilman Aileen Joeckel requested a vote to renew the light box ad at the Welcome Center for \$850 (it was noted this is budgeted for).

Councilman Aileen Joeckel motioned to approve.

Councilman Glenn Schagelin 2nd.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel requested a vote to renew the ad in the Tourism flyers for \$1350 (it was noted this is budgeted for).

Councilman Aileen Joeckel motioned to approve.

Councilman Glenn Schagelin 2nd.

H. Floodplain Adm/CRS

Councilman Bob Bilicki reported the annual report was complete and just awaiting the Mayor's signature. Councilman Bob Bilicki reviewed the CRS rating, and various layers available to utilize and relayed his commitment to the program, stressing the direction is needs to take in the short term and long term. Councilman Bob Bilicki closed by committing to continue to the CRS Official if re-elected. All were in support and thanked him for his dedication and hard work.

I. Town Beautification

Councilman Aileen Joeckel had nothing to report.

J. Safety and Security

Councilman Bob Williams had nothing to report.

K. Historic District

Nothing new to report however Councilman Aileen Joeckel shared information about a possible Grant for the Cemetery, noting the 250 Anniversary and being able to incorporate the Cemetery in that exposure, noting the age of graves. Councilman Bob Williams stated he could produce records of those interred there, including their date of birth. It was noted some were Prerevolutionary War.

L. Streets and Drainage

It was stated that more direction from the Mayor was needed about the direction of the Committee that was voted on and clarification about who would serve on it. Councilman Bob Williams stated he reached out to the Mayor but did not receive a response yet. It was noted the pothole in front of Joe's House had opened up again and some discussion was given to the responsibility of Accomack County to maintain a portion of the ditches. It was decided a source of the problem was the County's request for permanent ROW easement was a part of the problem. Property owners were willing to give a temporary ROW easement but not a permanent ROW easement.

Some discussion was given to the status of the Christmas Lights, who is ordering the Town of the Fire Dept. Councilman Steve Joseph's committed to reach out to Sean Fate for some clarification.

3

M. Planning Commission

Councilman Aileen Joeckel noted the Commission has been meeting but had nothing new to report.

N. Community Report

Some discussion was given to any known plans by Vicky and Paul Morris (The Old Marina). It was noted they are applying for environmental and dredging permits and have been tossing around several ideas, including lodging that included slips. Discussion was given to the site plan and building permit process and it was agreed upon by all that the site plan should come before both the Planning Commission and the Council. It was noted that any temporary rental or use would be contingent upon sewer hookup, with the exception of the Army Corp of Engineering Finney Creek/Bradford Bay dredging crews (a port a pot is in place).

The new job description for Arthur Mendez was brought forward by Vice Mayor Puchalski who explained that all Zoning Permits would be reviewed and approved by Art, and all observations of violations would be brought to the Council for action.

Vice Mayor Puchalski discussed this year's plans for Halloween. She suggested having it on Halloween evening, at the Fire Hall. She noted the drop in population of trick or treating age children and even suggesting she would ask around town for interest in an event.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned.

Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to .
Councilman Glenn Schagelin 2nd the motion.
All in favor.

