

MEETING MINUTES-CORRECTED
Meeting of Eastville Town Council
January 7, 2013

Council Members Present: Councilman Todd Simpson, Councilwoman/Vice-Mayor Eleanor Gordon, Councilwoman Nancy Mulligan, Councilman John Crockett, and Councilman Ben Fox

Council Members Not Present: Councilman Edgar Sturgis & Mayor Jim Sturgis

Town Employees Present: Sgt. David Eder: Town Sergeant, Jack Wescoat: Council, Jonny Stevenson: Town Clerk

Guest: Peter Stith, Northampton County Long Range Planner

At 7:12pm Vice-Mayor Eleanor Gordon called the meeting to order. **A motion was made by Councilman Todd Simpson to approve the minutes as amended. Councilman Ben Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report: Vice-Mayor Gordon reported the income from the Food and Beverage Tax in town. She established that Shore Stop is still submitting the taxes on fountain beverages, although they no longer have a lunch counter. A budget committee was established for setting the next fiscal year budget. Additional line items will need to be added to the next budget to make financial tracking easier. It was established that Todd Simpson, Nancy Mulligan, Eleanor Gordon and Sgt. David Eder will work on the FY14 budget.

Police Report: Sergeant Eder reported on the department's activities this month. He also reported that the monies for town fines are sent to the Eastville Town office between the 6th and 14th of each month.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: Vice-Mayor Gordon introduced Peter Stith, Northampton County Long Range Planner, to present to the Council the revisions to the Comprehensive Plan for the Town. The Council decided to further study the revised plan and recess to January 14, 2013 at 7:00pm. Mr. Stith agreed to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **PROPERTY IN/OUT TOWN:** After much discussion, Jack Wescoat, Town Attorney, suggested the Town write a letter to the owner of the lot in question and advise them it has now been identified as being in the Town of Eastville limits.
2. **PVA/OLD JAILS:** Councilwoman Mulligan suggested the Town Council engage a contractor/engineer to evaluate the Old Jail Buildings for a more accurate cost to repair or stabilize the buildings. It was also noted that the Old Jails had not yet been boarded for safety concerns. **Councilman Simpson moved to have John Crockett make the repairs to the jails with plywood on the windows and locks on the doors. Councilman Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
3. **TOWN SPEED LIMIT:** Vice-Mayor Gordon restated the Council would like to see the speed limit in town dropped to 25mph. as it is in every other town on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. She stated that the Town of Eastville needed to draft a letter including the statistics of town speed limits on the Eastern Shore to VDOT.
4. **CURB REPAIR:** It was reported that the curb in front of 16367 Courthouse Rd still has not been repaired by VDOT.
5. **RURAL WATER UPDATE:** Vice-Mayor Gordon reported she had met with Kenny Reynolds from Virginia Rural Water on December 11, 2012 to discuss mapping of the town water system. As they were familiarizing themselves with the water lines, Mr. Reynolds discovered a main hydrant leaking substantially. He recommended it be replaced immediately and suggested a shut off valve be installed on the hydrant. Mr. Reynolds along with Vice-Mayor Gordon, Linda Zieger and David Eder then met and reviewed the number of gallons pumped versus the number of gallons billed. This mini-audit resulted in an estimated 55% wastage of water pumped. The Council agreed to advise David Summers to order a shut off valve and then replace the hydrant immediately.
6. **TOWN PARK ELECTRICITY:** Jonny Stevenson, Town Clerk, reported she had spoken with James at ANEC about our request for electrical service on the Town Park property and how best to achieve that end.

James stated there were two options. One would be to come from a pole on the west side of the lot and bury it to where we wished to have the service on the east side. The other option would be installing an additional two poles on the east side of the property with an upgrade in service on that line at no cost to the town. The rate to bury the line to our marked spot of service would be cheaper as the distance the line would need to be buried would be much shorter. **Councilman Fox moved to take “option two” with the two new poles that would provide an upgrade of service to the adjacent home and less cost to the Town for buried cable. Councilwoman Eleanor Gordon seconded. The motion passed with four “yeas” and one “abstention” by Councilman Simpson whose home would be getting the upgrade.**

7. **EASTVILLE POW WOW:** Jonny Stevenson, Town Clerk, reported that the planning for the Eastville event this year was shaping up. The committee had met with Chief Rudy Hall and Historian Mike Hinman from the Accohannock Tribe to understand the undertakings of a PowWow. A visit to Northampton Indiantown Park and discussions with Laura Jenrette, Director of Parks and Recreation, had taken place. Laura Jenrette stated that the County and the Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation were thrilled to have us use the park for our event. Jonny reported that she was in negotiations with an exact cost for the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **WEBMASTER/FACEBOOK:** Councilwoman Mulligan stated the Town should consider becoming more of a presence on the internet to promote the Town and their events. She suggested that the Town will need more frequent changes on the website. We will need to approach our present webmaster to see if he could guarantee some time for upgrades and accept a payment for his work in order for the Town to feel free asking him to do more frequent changes for our website. Councilwoman Mulligan also suggested we get a Facebook presence.

At 8:55pm Councilman Simpson moved to recess the meeting until January 17, 2013 at 7:00pm for review of the updated Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Eastville. Councilman Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonny Stevenson
Town Clerk