

MEETING MINUTES-Corrected
Meeting of Eastville Town Council
February 4, 2013

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

Council Members Not Present: Councilman Edgar Sturgis & Councilwoman Nancy Mulligan

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

Guest: Peter Stith, Northampton County Long Range Planner

At 7:00pm Mayor Jim Sturgis called the meeting to order. **A motion was made by Town Councilman Todd Simpson to approve the minutes as corrected. Councilwoman Gordon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report: Linda Zieger, Bookkeeper, reported the Town was in good standing financially. She questioned a \$95.00 check the town received from the Clerk of Court. Sgt. Eder stated he would check to find the source of the revenue.

Police Report: Sergeant Eder reported there were 23 calls of service this month and the department had issued 94 tickets. Some of the tickets written were on Courthouse Rd and Willow Oak Rd. Sgt. Eder noted he had a conversation with Sheriff David Doughty about a planned robbery that was detected on Twitter concerning a local BB&T bank. A suspect was arrested as a result. Sgt. Eder also stated the law enforcement community is concerned about the State taking a larger percentage of revenue from tickets due to the State Police not writing as many tickets. Locally, the State Police have had a greater presence in Accomack County due to the arson cases. The State is contemplating increasing the percentage the State receives from fines written by municipalities. He suggested the Town write to Representative Lewis and Senator Northam concerning this issue.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **DRAPER ADEN:** The Council had previously tasked Jack Wescoat, Town Attorney, with reviewing the proposal written by Draper Aden for the potential test well to be shared with a local farmer. Mr. Wescoat found a discrepancy in Section 8.1 and suggested it be rewritten prior to presentation to the farmer. Mayor Sturgis will take the document to the farmer after corrections are made. The Council also discussed other options available concerning the back-up well.
2. **DRAINAGE EASEMENT:** Jack Wescoat, Attorney, presented the Council with the revised drainage easement paperwork. The easement width was changed from 10' to 20'.
3. **RURAL WATER UPDATE:** Councilwoman Gordon reported that Kenny Reynolds has been assigned to our district as our new representative with Virginia Rural Water. He will be returning to complete his mapping of the Town's water system. He feels the leak is very near the hydrant at the old Social Services building. Mayor Sturgis will contact David Sumners and discuss the hydrant work.
4. **TOWN OFFICE:** The Council reviewed the letter and lease drafted for the Town Hall building. **The Council voted to send the proposed lease to Buoy 38 LLC with the cover letter and punch list of needed work to be completed at the office.**
5. **OLD JAILS/PVA:** Mayor Sturgis reported he had the names of the two firms which the Northampton PVA had supplied as possible grant sources. He stressed that the town must have a project in place to be able to approach anyone with a grant application. Mayor Sturgis suggested the town get some numbers together for the old jail project. He suggested we contact the same firm that gave the estimates three years ago for the PVA. It was the consensus of the Council to contact DJG and request they revisit the Old Jail project and present the Council with updated estimates for various options. Councilman John Crockett reported he had secured the 1899 jail today.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** Vice-Mayor Gordon stated it was time to renew the Town's dues to the Northampton Chamber of Commerce for the upcoming year. After some discussion, **Councilwoman Gordon moved the Town pay the dues to the Northampton Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Crockett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
2. **DELIQUENT WATER ACCOUNT:** Vice-Mayor Gordon presented an issue with an overdue water bill on a foreclosed property. Sgt. Eder stated there was a posted notice on the property stating the foreclosure information. Council advised to consult the water ordinance and proceed accordingly.
3. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES:** The Town received a letter from Cape Charles Mayor Dora Sullivan requesting a letter of support for an emergency medical services presence in Northampton County. It was the consensus of the Council to send a letter of support to the County Administrator and the Board of Supervisors independently supporting a medical facility in Northampton County.
4. **POWWOW:** Councilwoman Gordon reported that Laura Jenrette, Parks & Recreation Director, met with Mike Hinman, Tribal Historian, Chief Rudy Hall, and Chairman Clarence Tyler from the Accohannock Tribe to discuss the infrastructure of the PowWow. Councilman Simpson requested the committee disperse some "save the date" information to the public. Councilwoman Gordon stated her daughter, Laura Gordon Craig will be happy to create and attend the Facebook presence for the Town.
5. **EASTVILLE INN:** Vice-Mayor Gordon reported the Eastville Inn will be closing at the end of the month. It has been reported that several parties are interested in the Inn.
6. **COURT GREEN:** The town discussed the idea of having a one hundred foot setback from the road for more protection for Eastville's downtown district for tourism purposes. The Consensus of the Council was positive and they requested a copy of the zoning amendment to be delivered to Peter Stith, Northampton County Long Range Planner, prior to the joint public hearing with the Planning commission for the Town's updated Comprehensive Plan.
7. **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:** The Council wishes to establish a Capital Improvement Plan for the Town of Eastville. It will be researched.

At 9:00pm Councilman Simpson moved to recess the meeting until February 5, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Board of Supervisor Chamber for a joint public hearing with the Planning Commission and the Town Council for the new Comprehensive Plan for the town of Eastville. Councilman Fox seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonny Stevenson
Town Clerk