



CHESAPEAKE CITY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tentative May 14, 2012 Agenda

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All of Council was present including Town Attorney.

II. Approval of minutes from Town Council Meeting April 9, 2012

Minutes unavailable, move vote to June voting session

III. Approval of minutes from Special Session Meeting April 17, 2012

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Rich Taylor to approve minutes from the Special Session on April 17, 2012. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Approval of minutes from Special Session Meeting April 23, 2012

MOTION: Bert Wells made a motion, seconded by Ron Francis to approve the minutes from the Special Session on April 23, 2012. All in favor, motion carried.

V. Public Announcements

Frank Vari: May 26 salvageable metals on south tower. June 30 5K still looking for sponsors

Ron Francis: May 19 House and Garden tour

Frank Hill: Office will be closed 5/28 for Memorial Day.

Public Hearing: Water & Sewer Rate Increase

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, seconded by Bert Wells to open the Public Hearing to discuss water and sewer rate increases. All in favor, motion carried.

Ed Schweizer: There's been a rate increase for about 5% the last seven years, except last year. Is this to continue for the next several years?

Mayor – we are not caught up and still operating in the red. Not running it as an enterprise fund. With the new meter installed, we hope to make up 10% along with cost savings in buying water from Artesian. Will there be a foreseeable decrease? Unable to say.

Ed Schweizer: Excess savings goes?

Sharon Weygand: We have nothing in capital fund?

Ed Schweizer: May we see a decrease in rates?

Ron Francis: Hoping the projects in the next two years, level out the expenses.

Ed Schweizer: – Questioning obtaining authorization from county to create our own code for new contraction to have on demand heating system at the sink or tub; it would decrease the amount of flow of water. – Possibility of research or require a waiver by the county.

Mayor – possibility – but limited amount of new building going on at the present time

Bert Wells – not a water savings device. saves money on energy side instead of the water usage side.

Margaret O'Brien: Has all new appliances, paid 3 years base rate without paying for water. I'm shocked at what I'm paying. It's tripled of what I have paid in the past. Hoping it's not raised. Water saving dishwasher and washer faucets, live alone and still paying \$205. I'm hoping to curb the cost. I was hoping the system would level out. Encourage to work harder. Just speaking as a resident.

Frank Hill: we do have one of the highest rates in the county and state. We have 800 people and two plants over 30 years old. They're not the best. The line from DE on the north side will save all the processing of water. The water saved by the old water plants, will pay for the cost of the line. FV 0 I feel the way as Ms

Margaret O'Brien: Understands we are trying to fix it. We just can't keep raising the prices. It's getting to the point people cannot afford to live here. We need to wait until we get the water into town and see where we come out. The rate increase should be put off.

Rich Taylor: concerned is there's not "fluff" in the budget numbers. What can we take out? I agree the increase is uncomfortable. There's no place to decrease the expenses.

Frank Hill: we've looked and we're not profitable and we have to bite the bullet to cover the costs.

Dean Geracimos: – if a raise does happen, and we come in under budget and there's a profit after the last hike, somehow take 50% and return it to the citizens and 50% to capital improvements?

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, seconded by Rich Taylor to close the public hearing at 7:20 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, seconded by Dean Geracimos to go into the regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners' Reports

A. Ron Francis

Public Works – Water/Sewer Status – Noise

Rob Penman artesian Report

Steve – Cabe pre-engineering report supersedes the existing 2010 report. We've learned Artesian operates at a pressure higher than the town, there are some risks, tanks could overflow –better data needed, what pressure at the state line. Gathering data over the week to see if we have a mountain or a molehill problem. Pressure reducing value? Need a recommendation to the town.

Dean Geracimos – we need to move forward. What can we do on our end to get this out? If needed, a vault located, can be in state of DE - funding? Go into the easement from the Losten's list price 14K without options – looking at 30-40K improvement.

Bert Wells if you reduce the pressure – are we able to produce the gallons per day? Is this a precaution?

Dean Geracimos: based on the info from Artesian – the tanks will overflow. We can get increased pressure. We have to reduce it to keep it where it's at. Tank overflow rate north side 153.5' above sea level. Pumps turn off at 152'. Will be sending water out the over flow pipe.

Frank Vari: What will the pressure do:

Cabe – we don't know the full scope of the problem yet. Waiting on information from Artesian. We can give it to you this week, but at some point we would have to add it to the plan and be reviewed by all the same people again.

Dean Geracimos why did this just come to lite now

Cabe – it was a question from MDE; Artesian has been very responsive

Artesian has been very responsive.

Pressure washing the sludge beds \$550 to clean the panels in lieu of replacing them; Cut groove on northside beds for better drainage; Prices on remainder of sidewalks for entire town

Painting on north side welcome sign at base of bridge, Helen Titter Park \$3500-3600 total.

Noise complaint – seveal against CI – working on it. Signature signs will be at workshop.

B. Bert Wells

Public Safety – Charter – Ethics

May 13th is national police week – bicyclists coming over bridge.

Stg Leas – report attached to minutes book; working with Doris and ethics four or five outstanding letters. Newsletter time again - need stuff by June 15th. Tourism has meeting and another due this week. Will have additional info at the next meeting. Frank Vari suggested another Conquer the Bridge Event for the 175th anniversary.

C. Rich Taylor

Financial – Historic

Historic did not meet in April. MHD workshop on Sat. .Suggestions on how to deal with requests solar panels, windmills, case studies of how others dealt with those topics. We will have more applications as costs come down. Most of roofs face east to west instead of north to south. Will need to amend budget ordinance to read as an emergency ordinance, deferred voting until June. Meeting with Mayor, Bert Wells and Val Walls regarding rates on Friday at 8am.

D. Frank Vari

Planning & Zoning-5K Run/Walk-Parking Committee-Recycling

P&Z had 3 actions items approved. Attenda a Plan Maryland meeting. Sustainable Communities- working on maintaining certification, walkable community workshop in June.

5K run going well for June 30 . Meeting with CCVFD for police coverage. Runners and sponsors shirts approved, short sleeved shirts. No parking committee meeting. Recycling doing well. The Town qualifies for 3 awards, one from state. Two from the county.

- E. Dean Geracimos Parks & Recreation-Docks-Public Relations
Chamber of Commerce – Little League

No Parks and Rec meeting in April . Spruce tree went in on north side, docks very busy. An issue with trash at very end of dock..Ms Claire threw it away. A huge recyclable open bin there for a couple of days, two large bags and 5 small bags. Never had an issue in 21 years with trash accumulating. 5 small motor boats. Didn't want trash bin on long floating dock. Will try to monitor in future. It's always been kept clean.

Office Reports

- F. Sharon Weygand Town Administrator report attached
G. Valerie Walls Clerk/Treasurer
H. Frank Hill Mayor

VI. Old Business

- A. Work-in-Progress Ordinance regarding Water & Sewer
B. Rental Ordinance – May workshop
C. Town Website –May workshop
D. Adopting of Water was voted on
E. Ordinance 4.9.2012A An Ordinance adopting the budget of the Town of Chesapeake City for the fiscal year July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Will amend and move to the workshop

VII. New Business/Discussion

- A. Fire Hydrant Repairs

We have seven hydrants that are not working. Need repairs – not known, very hard to open, needs turned means facing wrong way.

MOTION: Ron Francis made motion, seconded by Rich Taylor to authorize Artesian to make necessary repairs. All in favor, motion carried. *Fire Company would like notification of when it's being done. Keep the fire chief updated. Ron Penman said it will take about a week.*

- B. Closing 2nd St for the CCVFC for Canal Fest was not in the org plan. Tom Morris – has been closed for several years, state gave TM verbal approval and will get the town a signed permit.

MOTION: Dean Geracimos motion to close 2nd Street for the CCFVC for Canal Fest, seconded by Frank Vari. All in favor, motion carried.

- C. Introducing Resolution for Water & Sewer rate increase
Move to May workshop discussion and vote in June

VIII. Action Items

- A. Ordinance 4.9.2012 An Ordinance of the Town of Chesapeake City to Adopt Regulations Known as the Chesapeake City Comprehensive Development Ordinance.

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Rich Taylor to adopt Regulations Known as the Chesapeake City comprehensive Development Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried.
Flood plain updated in next six months.

- B. Appointment to Election Committee: letter from Susan Gill for one vacancy, Elaine Shepard had to drop out because running for office. Natalie Gentry sent an email to the Mayor to serve as an alternate.

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, seconded by Rich Taylor to accept Susan Gill as a regular member of the Elections committee. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Dean Geracimos made a motion, seconded by Ron Francis to accept Natalie Gentry as an alternate to elections committee. All in favor, motion carried.

Sharon to send letters to notify both Susan Gill and Natalie Gentry.

C. Bank Street Parking –Currently parking allowed on both sides. Resident request to stop parking before Schaefer’s opens.

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Bert Wells to mark both sides of Bank Street a ‘No Parking Zone’. All in favor, motion carried.

D. Resident Parking Between Biddle St & Bank St on Lock St

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion to approve fours resident parking spaces on Lock Street. Bert Wells seconded to call for a vote. Aye 1- F Vari; Nay 4 B Wells, D Geracimos, R Taylor R Francis.

E. Speed Sign

MOTION: Dean Geracimos made a motion seconded by Ron Francis to purchase the Traffic Logix for \$3065 including the data collection and accessories listed, contingent on SHA approval. All in favor, motion carried.

F. Constant Yield Tax Rate

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Bert Wells to accept the constant yield at \$.4222 per \$100. All in favor, motion carried.

G. Street Signs

\$425/\$450 for HTP; \$3200 max for Welcome signs

MOTION: Bert Wells made a motion, seconded by Dean Geracimos to restore the two welcome signs coming into town and replacing the sign at Helen Titter Park. All in favor, motion carried.

The Helen Titter Park sign has to mention Open Space tag line as it does now.

IX. Public Comment – None

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion seconded by Bert Wells to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted:

D. Valerie Walls
Clerk Treasurer

Frank Hill
Mayor