

# ONANCOCK TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

## FEBRUARY 12, 2009

### 6:30 P.M.

#### TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fletcher Fosque  
Kris LaMontagne  
Travis Bradley

Kathyanne Runninger  
Maphis Oswald  
George Miles

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

Bruce Paone, Mayor  
Sandy Manter, Interim Town Mgr.  
Deborah Christie  
Dick Cole  
Caleb & Lynne Fowler  
Charles Landis

Karen Simpson, Admin. Asst.  
Haydon Rochester  
Clinton Strand  
Carol Vaughn, E.S. News  
Shirley Zamora

I. The Mayor called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Economic Stimulus Funding. ~~Commissioner~~ Councilman Bradley attended the VML Conference for municipal officials from across Virginia in Richmond last week. He advised that Council needs to quickly submit our projects for stimulus funding to the Governor's office, State Senator Northam and Delegate Lewis and follow up with lobbying the legislators. The narrative of applications can run from 1-30 pages. We need to come up with an organized proposal with descriptions, costs and the amount of funds we are seeking and include a cover letter.

The Governor is going to try and get money for projects that are already in progress. Alan Silverman has prepared an outline of three responsive economic stimulus fund proposals. Discussion followed regarding slip lining the remaining pipes in Town and addressing repairing the infiltration. The lateral lines are the responsibility of the landowner. The Town could require that no lateral lines be leaking. VML and Donald Hart, President of VACO, can help us in the application process. We need to find out which State agencies will be handling the stimulus dollars. The STAG grant applications are on-line through Senator Webb's site. After we figure out which projects we want to apply for, a two page crisp, precise summary application should be sent to the Governor's rep.

The Town Manager felt that most of our projects fit well within the definition of economic stimulus dollars. Job loss prevention can be argued, as well as job creation for the WWTP. A well-functioning regional sewage treatment system with reasonable rates will help drive the local economy. The Onancock School is asking for \$1 million for two projects. We should apply for multiple projects, such as:

WWTP; Septage System; Ferry; Broadband, including laterals; Dredging; Sidewalks/Street Improvements; Onancock School; Law Enforcement.

The Town Manager can get updated figures for the dredging project from Duke Shannahan. She will work diligently to get the project applications to the proper people as soon as possible.

Councilmen Bradley and Fosque offered to be the lobbyists in Richmond, and will call for appointments. DEQ will publish the application process and give twenty (20) days after the stimulus money is released.

We need to get updated cost estimates before we go out to bid on Onancock Landing. The engineers should be ready very soon.

III. Pending Presentation to Accomack County Board of Supervisors re WWTP. As we have been concerned about the UCC's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors not to use Onancock WWTP, Mayor Paone will be making a non-numerical presentation to the Board of Supervisors on February 18<sup>th</sup> regarding how the Town wants to cooperate with the County and always has, as the Board is finally willing to listen to the Town. Discussion about the situation followed. Councilman LaMontagne felt that we do not need to be contentious about the difference in numbers – we can agree to disagree. The more people we hook up to our system, the more we will be able to drop rates. The Town Manager truly thinks the Onancock system can be part of a regional solution and be beneficial to all. We need to let the County know we are willing to work with the PSA.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Sandy Manter  
Interim Town Manager

Bruce Paone  
Mayor