

## OCCOQUAN TOWN COUNCIL Meeting Minutes Town Hall – 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125 Tuesday, April 16, 2024 7:00 p.m.

- **Present:** Mayor Earnie Porta; Vice Mayor Jenn Loges, Councilmembers Nancy Freeborne Brinton (remote), Cindy Fithian, Eliot Perkins, and Theo Daubresse
- Absent: None
- Staff: Adam Linn, Town Manager / Chief of Police; Matt Whitmoyer, Deputy Town Manager; Philip Auville, Town Clerk; Julie Little, Events Director; Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police; Asma Rupani, Town Treasurer (remote)

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porta called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

As a result of personal matters, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton attended remotely from Chattanooga, TN.

## 2. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Request to Accept April 2, 2024, Town Council Meeting Minutes
- b. Request to Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for Darby Leondra

Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Daubresse seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor Porta asked for unanimous consent to move up on the agenda Item 4A the Request to Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for Marisela Rumberg. There being no objection, the item was moved up on the agenda.

## **3. REGULAR BUSINESS**

## a. Request to Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for Marisela Rumberg

Councilmember Fithian moved to adopt Resolution R-2024-03 recognizing Marisela Rumberg for sharing her time and talents with the Occoquan community through the design and installation of a mural on the LOVEwork at River Mill Park. Councilmember Perkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

## 4. PRESENTATIONS

## a. Treasurer's Report for February 2024

Ms. Rupani provided a written report as part of the agenda packet.

Ms. Rupani noted that town staff has worked as a team to prepare summonses to delinquent Meals Tax owners and since the letters have gone out there have been responses to solve the delinquencies.

Vice Mayor Loges asked about the Accounts Receivable on the Balance Sheet being lower than at the same time in previous years.

Mr. Linn explained that part of that was the past due amount from the dredging grant payments totaling approximately \$237,000 that the town is anticipating to be paid soon.

#### b. Resilient Stormwater Assessment - Final Report by Weston & Sampson

Raed El-Farhan, Vice President from Weston & Sampson provided a presentation to the council of the final report on the Resilient Stormwater Assessment and responded to brief questions from the council.

#### 5. REGULAR BUSINESS

#### a. Request to Set Public Advertising for the FY 2025 Budgets and Tax Rates

Vice Mayor Loges moved to advertise the FY 2025 Real Estate Tax Rate at \$0.116 per \$100 of assessed value. Councilmember Perkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

#### Councilmember Perkins moved to advertise the FY 2025 Transient Occupancy Tax at 7 percent. Vice Mayor Loges seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

Councilmember Perkins moved to advertise the FY 2025 Meals Tax Rate at 3.5 percent. Councilmember Fithian seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. Ayes: Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins Nays: None

#### Councilmember Perkins moved to advertise the FY 2025 Proposed Mamie Davis Fund budget of \$256 in revenue and \$0 in expenses. Vice Mayor Loges seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

#### Vice Mayor Loges moved to advertise the FY 2025 Proposed E-Summons Fund budget of \$15,200 in revenue and \$7,200 in expenses. Councilmember Freeborne Brinton seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

# Councilmember Fithian moved to advertise the FY 2025 Proposed Events Fund budget of \$313,285 in revenue and \$238,726 in expenses. Councilmember Perkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

## Councilmember Freeborne Brinton moved to advertise the FY 2025 Proposed Operating Fund budget of \$1,408,258 in revenue and \$1,408,258 in expenses. Councilmember Fithian seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

## Councilmember Daubresse moved to advertise the FY 2025 Proposed Capital Improvement Fund budget of \$1,374,031 in revenue and \$1,374,031 in expenses. Councilmember Perkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Ayes:** Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins **Nays:** None

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

## a. Report on Planning Commission Strategic Planning Recommendations to Town Council

Councilmember Perkins presented a report on the Planning Commission's Strategic Planning Recommendations to the council. The report made recommendations on a Trail Town program, Parking and Transportation, Green Improvements, Beautification and Public Art, Business Support and Recruitment, and Cross-Cutting recommendations.

The Council agreed to consider the recommendations.

## **b.** Report on Riverwalk Expansion from RESC

Mayor Porta indicated that the Riverwalk Expansion Special Committee met for the last time on Monday and that as discussed in the meeting a few additions were being added to report. Mayor Porta advised that the Riverwalk Expansion Report will be moved to a future council meeting.

## 7. CLOSED SESSION

Vice Mayor Loges moved that the Council convene in closed session to discuss the following as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(3), a matter involving: discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose; specifically involving private property located in the Town and outside the Town, because discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the Town's bargaining position or negotiating strategy. Councilmember Daubresse seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Council went into closed session at 9:25 p.m.

The Council came out of closed session at 9:50 p.m.

Vice Mayor Loges moved to certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and

(2) lawfully permitted to be discussed in a closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as cited in that motion. Seconded by Councilmember Fithian. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Ayes: Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Daubresse, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Perkins, and Councilmember Fithian

Nays: None

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Philip Auville, Town Clerk