

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2008
SPECIAL CHINCOTEAGUE TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Council Members Present:

John H. Tarr, Mayor
Nancy B. Conklin, Councilwoman
James Frese, Councilman
Terry Howard, Councilman
John H. Howard, Councilman
John N. Jester, Vice-Mayor

Council Members Not Present:

Ellen W. Richardson, Councilwoman

Planning Commissioners Present:

Ray Rosenberger, Chairman
Chuck Ward, Vice-Chair
Mollie Cherrix, Commissioner
Tripp Muth, Commissioner
Bob Behr, Commissioner

Planning Commissioners Not Present:

Jane Wolffe, Commissioner

Call to Order

Mayor Tarr called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Invocation

Councilman T. Howard offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Tarr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Additions/Deletions and Adoption

“Councilman J. Howard motioned, seconded by Vice-Mayor Jester to approve the agenda.”
The motion was unanimously approved.

1. Consider a Planning Grant for Broadband

Ms. Kat Edwards of the A-NPDC came before Council to ask if they are willing to submit an application to the Department of Housing and Community Development for a planning grant which will show support of Broadband. The invitation is to submit a planning grant application by September 30. The Planning Grant will be for \$25,000, the Town will be asked to pay \$2,500.

Fiber Optics would go from Royal Farms to major areas of Chincoteague that have the most need. A full design application is due in January and an additional commitment by the Town will be required which could be up to \$100,000. After construction the debt could be turned over to the Broadband Authority. The fiber lines will be considered an “open network” meaning there will be a number of service providers using the fiber and providing services to customers.

“Vice-Mayor Jester motioned, seconded by Councilman T. Howard, to write a letter of request for the planning grant application to be submitted.” The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Presentation/ Discussion with Peter Johnston & Associates, LLC (formerly Redman & Johnston Associates) on their most recent draft of the Comprehensive Plan Update for the Town of Chincoteague.

Mr. Pete Johnston began by giving a brief history of the Comprehensive Plan Update work with his company which began in 2006, and which included workshops, and stakeholder meetings. Mr. Johnston indicated that there have been primarily two areas of contention, the new land use area concepts, and the review processes such as Conditional Use.

Mr. Johnston indicated that there are two new land use areas concepts, resort residential, and resort commercial. The current R-1 and R-2 have not changed at all.

Mr. Johnston indicated that one change from the stakeholder’s meetings was the addition of an annexation plan in Chapter 3.

Mayor Tarr would like the Planning Commission and Council to participate in a joint workshop to review and discuss the comprehensive plan in detail.

Mr. Ward questioned whether there are any other instances where a small town annexed Federal Lands.

Councilman T. Howard indicated his interest in the bridge tenders building which could serve as a landmark.

Vice-Mayor Jester would like the story of how the ponies came to Assateague to reflect the story of the ship that wrecked.

AJOURN

“Councilman Frese motioned, seconded by Vice-Mayor Jester, to adjourn the meeting.”
The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Mayor

Town Manager