

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2012
CHINCOTEAGUE RECESSED TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Council Members Present:

John H. Tarr, Mayor
Ellen W. Richardson, Vice Mayor
Nancy B. Conklin, Councilwoman
John N. Jester, Jr., Councilman
Tripp Muth, Councilman
John H. Howard, Councilman
Terry Howard, Councilman

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tarr called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

RECONVENE

Vice Mayor Richardson motioned, seconded by Councilman T. Howard to reconvene.
Unanimously approved

Mayor Tarr stated that the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance has been dispensed as this is a recessed meeting and these agenda items have been done on February 28, 2012.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS AND ADOPTION

Councilwoman Conklin motioned, seconded by Councilman T. Howard to adopt the agenda.
Unanimously approved.

- 1. Discuss the Department of Recreation and conservation, Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant for the Downtown Newly Purchased Property**
 - **Possible determination of the design.**
 - **Possible motion to fund Land Studio Professional Corporation to design the Park area for the purpose of writing the grant.**
 - **Land and Water Conservation Fund Authority Resolution.**

Mrs. Edwards briefly explained the grant. She introduced Mr. Bill Spivey with Land Studio. She would like to get input from Council and the Stakeholders.

Mayor Tarr greeted Mr. Spivey and invited him to review the outcome of Tuesday's meeting with Council.

Mr. Spivey explained the proposed plans for the Bridge Street property that the Town recently acquired. He discussed the grade and suggestions. He invited feedback for the true intention of this property and what this property would serve.

Mayor Tarr opened the floor to the public for comments.

Town Manager Ritter discussed the slope and what would be most cost effective.

There was discussion and Mr. Spivey made suggestions and further explained the plans. Mr. Spivey also explained the importance of the project and deciding what the real needs are. He asked if they were catering to the community, transient or tourism standpoint.

Discussion continued regarding streetscape from the new bridge to Bridge Street and parking.

Mr. Spivey feels Council should step back and decide what the priorities are.

There was discussion about the adjoining properties and property owners along with parking, handicapped accessibility and emergency vehicle access.

Mr. Spivey mentioned the utilities and the substation entrance.

Council asked if once the grant was in place would there be a problem to make a change.

Mr. Spivey advised it was possible as long as the intent wasn't changed and it was a minor change.

Mrs. Edwards interjected that some modifications can be made with their approval.

Mr. Richard Vesley expressed his concern as a stakeholder regarding the use of the Island Theatre and the concept, balancing the community needs for additional parking which he feels is very necessary. He suggested reducing the pedestrian aspect as opposed to parking. He pointed out the additional property adjacent to the Town's property not owned by the Town. He also addressed emergency vehicular access.

There was lengthy discussion about easements, right-of-ways, the Kiwanis' parking lot, emergency and service access.

Mayor Tarr feels that the project should be designed based on Town owned property. He asked if agreed that the Kiwanis parking lot entrance on Bridge Street should be closed.

There was discussion about the streetscape project and the possibility of utilizing the TEA-21 Grant for the streetscape. There were questions about the parking spaces and the reason for adding infrastructure.

Councilman T. Howard feels it's more acceptable to the community to use Bridge Street for parking.

Mr. Spivey asked how many parking spaces Council would agree to and what they want in the corridor. He continued to explain the alternatives including points of access and the possibility of eliminating some parking.

There was further lengthy discussion and Council concurred to keep the improvements on the Bridge Street property only.

Mayor Tarr stated and Council agreed they would like to see 8 parking spaces on the Town owned property on Bridge Street. He strongly reiterated that the improvements can only be on the Town's property.

Mr. Spivey advised he will make the revisions.

Mrs. Edwards asked if Council also agrees to a small covered area and a grilling area near the northern property line along with open space.

Mayor Tarr asked to move on to the next part on the agenda which is to approve the funding.

Councilwoman Conklin motioned, seconded by Councilman T. Howard to fund Land Studio Professional Corporation to design the Park area for the Purpose of writing the grant not to exceed the amount of \$5,600. Unanimously approved.

Vice Mayor Richardson and Councilman J. Howard left the meeting at this time for prior commitments.

Mrs. Edwards explained the resolution needed to move forward with the grant application.

Councilman Jester motioned, seconded by Councilman Muth to adopt the Land and Water Conservation fund Authorizing Resolution. Motion carried.

Ayes: Jester, Muth, Conklin, T. Howard

Nays: None

Absent: Richardson, J. Howard



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Land & Water Conservation Fund, federal funding assistance is requested to aid in financing the cost of land acquisition and or facility development; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chincoteague considers it in the best public interest to complete the land development project described in the application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that;

1. The Town Manager is authorized to make formal application to DCR for funding assistance;

2. Any fund assistance received will be used for implementation and completion of activities to develop the extension of the Robert N. Reed downtown waterfront park within the specified timeframe;
3. The Town of Chincoteague hereby it is committed to providing funding necessary for completion of this project;
4. We are aware that the grant, if approved by the National Park Service, will be paid on a reimbursement basis. This means we may only request payment after eligible and allowable costs have already been paid to our vendors and evidence of such has been provided to DCR in the format required;
5. We acknowledge that any property acquired and/or developed with financial aid from the Land & Water Conservation Fund must be placed in use and be retained in perpetuity as a public outdoor recreation are in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the Land & Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended;
6. We acknowledge that no non-recreational uses may be made of the property without undergoing a conversion of use process and obtaining approval from the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the U.S. Department of Interior/National Park Service;
7. We acknowledge that we are responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Historic Preservation Act and all other applicable state and federal laws;
8. We acknowledge that appropriate opportunity for public comment has been provided on this application and evidence of such is a required component for approval;
9. This resolution becomes part of a formal application to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

This resolution was adopted by the Chincoteague Town Council during the meeting held March 1, 2012 at the Council Chambers, 6150 Community Drive, Chincoteague Island, 23336.

Signed and approved by the following authorized representative:

Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

Mayor Tarr thanked Town Planner Neville and Mrs. Edwards for their time and hard work.

Mrs. Edwards advised she would be attending Monday night's meeting for public comments as part of the process as stated in the resolution. She continued to review some of the positive ideas in the draft.

Adjourn

Councilwoman Conklin motioned, seconded by Councilman T. Howard to adjourn.
Unanimously approved.

Mayor

Town Manager