

TOWN OF SHADELAND
Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

Council members present: Mike Kuipers, Bob Morrison (virtually), David Downey, Josh Shives, Tim Balensiefer, David Vanderkleed, Pamela Luenz, Clerk-Treasurer Charlene Brown and Attorney Stu Weliever.

The meeting was called to order by Mike Kuipers at 7:04PM at the Shadeland Fire Station.

Pam made the motion and Dave V second the motion to accept the September 14, 2021 minutes as presented. All in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer's report

Dave V made the motion to approve claims totaling \$437,258.91 as presented, Pam second, all in favor.

Josh made the motion to approve September financials as presented, Tim second, all in favor.

Town Hall Complex:

Ken Smith gave an update on the new Town Hall Complex. Ken indicated that he is working on the financing for the Complex, which is one of the biggest hurdles. USDA is wanting us to get with three banks and get letters from them as to if they will meet the terms of the USDA rates, then they should be able to approve financing.

Park Committee

Dave V presented the Park committee report.

Josh also indicated a citizen wishes to put up a little library. Stu indicated he has concerns about the content that might be left behind, and who would monitor it. Chelsea Cummings was present and discussed the little library. She is willing to set up the box, monitor it weekly for content, and be responsible for maintenance. Chelsea would also purchase the charter number and donate it to the Parks. Stu indicated that being on our property, we would accept some sort of liability, however his biggest concern is content monitoring. If there is no involvement with the Town on that end, he is fine with the box. She also indicated that there is generally a list of rules posted in the box. Chelsea was asked to work with the Parks committee on those rules and report back to the Town Council for this.

Signs at the Park – Dave V has ordered the signs for the Park. As soon as they are in, we'll install them. Tom will be doing the inspections of the park equipment weekly during the summer/active times, monthly during the off season.

Mike reported that he reached out to a TIPMONT associate and inquired about security at the Park. The associate brought it to their council, and they are in agreement with putting a hotspot at the Park for security measures. The goal is to have around the clock visual monitoring, and hopefully a spot where it will zero into the Sheriff's department when necessary.

Planning report – Tim Balensiefer

Tim gave the planning report. There was a notification for an area in the Chesapeake area trying to get out of the flood plain. At some point we may need a flood administrator, but we can also look at the County to see if we can have an agreement with them for this. The process the notification was giving was a standard process, and it is informative more than anything.

We have received a complaint about the dumping site on 275 S. They've added a concrete crushing facility creating a tremendous amount of dust. Tim is going to look further into this matter and report back.

We have had complaints about the septic business on Smith Drive. Char and a couple board members toured the area and witnessed a significant amount of business type activity in a district zoned residential. The owner is building a pole barn onsite, and he assured me it was for personal use, however he seems to live in Brookston. The council asked Stu to write the owner a letter and put him on notice. Hopefully the homeowner will respond, if not we'll go from there.

The dent repair place still has not removed the signs in spite of our Attorney requesting they be removed. The owner has not reached out to Char or Stu, or any council member. Stu will prepare a lawsuit as the next step.

Fire report – Kevin Vanschepen & Pam Luenz

Kevin Vanschepen presented the fire report. There was a truck committee formed for the 305 Truck.

Pam indicated the Fire Department needs to be notified when we have road closures. This is extremely important so respondents do not lose valuable time when responding. Generally the contractor would notify the Sheriff's department when there is a road closure, who intern notifies our VFD of the closure. Our highway department will make sure to notify the VFD when he becomes aware of such closures as well. We'll also make sure notifications are part of future contracts as well.

Pam presented the request from the Fire Department regarding 2022 salary requests. Officers would be eligible for up to \$3,000 and firefighters up to \$2,400.

Road report –Tom Younkin & David Downey

Tom indicated the CR 660 and Sleeper Road projects are complete. He has been mowing.

Tom has a list of roads to be painted and crack sealed next year and the following year. David D has indicated he hopes to make these part of future Community Crossings grants.

Ken Smith put out traffic and speed counters in several spots through the Town as part of the evaluation for future speed tables, etc.

Tom is also trying to get branches cut back so they are out of the roadways for safety.

Tim indicated the County's portion of CR 400 is under currently under repair.

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

Council / Clerk / Attorney comments

Tim indicated Pfeifer Farms plat has been updated and corrected, next step is to get the residents to sign their approval, then it will need Mike and Charlene's signatures.

Tim also had a couple residents requesting Chesapeake Landing signs, specifically no outlet signs. Tim didn't feel like the signs were the responsibility of the Town to do. Tim also mentioned we might need to put some chevrons on CR 400 indicating the curve and narrowing of the road. This may be the County's responsibility.

Mike read Sarah Brown's thank you note for her plaque and quilt.

Char distributed information on the Reach Alert system she received for the Council's consideration.

Char also received a complaint from a citizen regarding 1311 Lilly Road. They have several campers and apparently have several families on the property. Tom is unable to get a back yard picture without interfering, however Tim pulled up the GIS pictures and concurs that it appears to be a campground at the location, including multiple campers, multiple vehicles. The neighbor described it as a commune, and Tim agreed with that assessment. The Town Council asked Stu to write the property owner a letter on the Town's behalf.

Charlene is going to be at Training over the next regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting. The Parks Committee and the Town Council meeting will swap weeks, making November 9th for the Park's committee, and the Town Council meeting will be November 16th.

David D made the motion to adjourn, Josh second, all in favor to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Approved:

Michael A. Kuipers
Michael Kuipers

Tim Balensiefer

Robert Morrison, Jr.
Robert Morrison, Jr.

David Vanderkleed

Joshua Shives
Joshua Shives

David Downey

Attest:

Pamela Luenz

Charlene Brown
Charlene Brown