

**Town of Urbanna  
Town Council  
Work Session  
Council Chambers-390 Virginia St. Suite B  
March 28, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

**Members of Council**

**Present**

Mayor Bill Goldsmith  
Marjorie Austin  
Larry Chowning  
Alana Courtney (arrived at 6:02pm)  
Merri Hanson (left meeting at 6:40pm)  
Beth Justice  
Sandy Sturgill

**Others Present**

Ted Costin-Town Administrator  
Martha Rodenburg-Town Clerk  
Michele Hutton-Town Treasurer  
Members of the public and press

Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 6:01pm  
All present said the Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to approve the agenda as presented**

**Councilmember Sturgill seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Hanson, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 7-0**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Billy Mayo spoke about vehicles blocking the line of sight at the intersection of Rappahannock Ave. and Virginia St.

**COUNCIL COMMENT**

In response to Mr. Mayo, Councilmember Austin said she has experienced the same problem, and Mayor Goldsmith said it would be looked into.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Rezoning Package**

Mr. Costin presented the background behind the decision to seek a comprehensive rezoning for the properties that were brought within Town limits with the recent Boundary Line Adjustment (BLA).

- Per §17-2-12 of Urbanna's zoning ordinance, properties incorporated due to BLA or annexation are giving the R-1 designation.
- Bay Design is currently working on an updated plat.
- Proposed comprehensive rezoning will match existing and compatible uses.

Mr. Costin reviewed the proposed changes and rationale for the changes in regards to the different parcels and is requested Council vote for staff to move forward with a comprehensive rezoning.

- All owners have been advised of the plan.
- All owners and adjacent property owners will receive the required notice if Council approves moving forward.
- Fiscal impact would include staff time, advertising, and document production.

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to authorize staff to proceed with the comprehensive rezoning as proposed.**

**Councilmember Sturgill seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Hanson, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 7-0**

## **PROJECT UPDATES/DISCUSSION**

### **Fireworks**

Mr. Costin updated Council on the current status of the fireworks:

- Options are still being researched.
- Using a barge continues to be looked into, but it is difficult because of shortage of available barges (due to Hampton Roads bridge/tunnel construction, and, now the Key bridge in Baltimore).
- Rosegill owners have been told by their insurance company that they will lose their day-to-day insurance coverage of the property if they do any fireworks.
- A barge would cost \$25,000 or more, which doesn't include fireworks. Fireworks are budgeted at \$15,000.
- A 40'x60' barge would be required.
- Deadline is next week to decide.

Councilmember Sturgill suggested forming a committee and taking the \$15,000 fireworks budget to come up with alternative events.

Discussion took place about possible events and possible alternatives for a smaller fireworks show on a smaller barge. Booking a military band for a concert was discussed.

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to form an ad hoc committee for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities, chaired by [Councilmember] Sandy Sturgill and [Councilmember] Beth Justice.**

**Councilmember Chowning seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Hanson, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 7-0**

Town Clerk, Martha Rodenburg reminded Councilmember Sturgill to let her know when the committee would meet (so proper notice can be given).

### **Wi-Fi Policy**

Michele Hutton presented the proposed Wi-Fi policy for Council to review and discuss.

- Policy covers Town Hall, the museum, and the Town Marina.
- Reason for being implemented to protect town from potential lawsuits.
  - Breezeline notified town of copyright infringements due to illegal downloads and distribution of copyrighted material by a someone using public Wi-Fi at marina.
  - Too many warnings will cause Town's internet to be cut-off.
- Passwords will be changed frequently, and anyone requesting password will be required to sign policy.
- Policy will be voted on at next meeting.

In response to a question by Councilmember Hanson, Ms. Hutton explained the policy was developed using one from Franktronics, with the Town Attorney editing it so it was tailored for the Town.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In response to a question by Councilmember Austin, Mr. Costin and Council discussed the need for Friends of Urbanna to report to Council regarding work being done at the museum now, and in the future in order to properly inform Council.

Councilmember Austin asked about the pool fundraising status, to which Councilmember Sturgill responded all pledged donations had been received.

All pledges have come in.

Additional discussion took place regarding a Middlesex County Sheriff's Department report regarding the increased number of calls received at Bethpage, and what steps would need to be taken should the Town of Urbanna decide in the future to hire their own law enforcement.

Councilmember Courtney recommended all members of council donate towards the pool.

### **CLOSED MEETING**

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(29) for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body-Trash contract and pool management contract.**

**Councilmember Justice seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Hanson, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 7-0**

### **OPEN MEETING**

Councilmember Austin made motion to reconvene in open meeting and to certify that only the matters that were identified in the motion to go into closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered.

Councilmember Justice seconded

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith certified.**

**Council entered back into open meeting.**

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to authorize the mayor to execute a contract with Signature for the operation of the Town pool for the 2024 season.**

**Councilmember Justice seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 6-0**

### **ADJOURN**

**Councilmember Austin made a motion to adjourn**

**Councilmember Sturgill seconded**

**Austin, Chowning, Courtney, Justice, Sturgill, and Goldsmith voted yes**

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm**

**Submitted by:**



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**Martha J. Rodenburg**

**Town Clerk**

**Approved by Town Council 8/8/2024**