

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 27, 2020**

**This meeting was conducted electronically pursuant to Governor Carney's State of Emergency declaration, effective March 13, 2020, as amended.**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Saxton called the August 27, 2020, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 3 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Councilmembers Derek Abbott, Randy Bartholomew, Sue Callaway, Dick Oliver, Carol Stevenson, and Mayor Tim Saxton; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; Chief Jason Lovins; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith.

Excused Absence: Councilmember Frank Weisgerber

Motion by Councilmember Oliver, seconded by Councilmember Abbott, to move Agenda Item 6, Discuss change in the floodplain ordinance, up to Agenda Item 4. FOR THE MOTION: Councilmembers Stevenson, Callaway, Bartholomew, Oliver, Abbott, and Mayor Saxton. AGAINST THE MOTION: None. Motion unanimously carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE APPROVAL OF APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE FEMA AD HOC COMMITTEE**

Motion by Councilmember Stevenson, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to appoint Colin Chasler (South Bethany property owner on the west side of Route 1) as a member of the FEMA Ad Hoc Committee. FOR THE MOTION: Councilmembers Stevenson, Callaway, Bartholomew, Oliver, Abbott, and Mayor Saxton. AGAINST THE MOTION: None. Motion unanimously carried.

**DISCUSS CHANGE IN THE FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE**

Code Enforcement Constable Hinks stated that the Town has been notified that to keep the CRS Class 8 designation, the Town must add specific language to its ordinance to mandate 1 foot of freeboard for new construction and substantial improvements. The ordinance would need to be in place by January 1, 2021. Adding specific language to include the freeboard does not guarantee a Class 8 rating because credits for the higher standards continue to be taken away. Mr. Hinks reminded the council that CRS discounts are not guaranteed, meaning the insurance provider has to apply the discount (this is between the provider and the property owner). He indicated that there is no guarantee that revising our ordinance requiring freeboard will keep the Town at a Class 8 rating. Every revision of the CRS manual takes away points or credits from the Town that we once received.

Mr. Hinks stated that with the proposed FEMA changes, we are not advocating the CRS change to our ordinance.

Councilmember Callaway suggested taking a survey on how many property owners are getting the discount. Mayor Saxton questioned the value of a survey because he is not sure if people know if they get the 10 percent discount.

Council will make a final determination on this at the September Town Council Meeting.

**DISCUSS TOWN CODE § 30-9 ANIMALS AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE**

Council discussed possibly amending Town Code Chapter 30 to address animals fouling public property and causing unsanitary conditions and foul odors in the community. Chief Lovins stated

that residents have been making complaints of cat waste on their property (gardens, boats, etc.) and cats hissing and howling in their windows.

Councilmember Stevenson will work with Chief Lovins and Town Manager Hartman with input from Councilmember Abbott on a proposed amendment to Town Code Chapter 30. After a review by the Town Solicitor, the Charter and Code Committee will review the proposed amendments before sending it back to Council for consideration.

### **DISCUSS SERVICES FOR 2021 TRASH HAULER RFPS**

Council suggested the following changes to the trash, recycling, yard waste, and bulk trash bid documents:

Trash Collection:            May and September – Monday and Thursday  
    June, July, August – Monday, Thursday, and Saturday  
    October through April – Monday

Recycling Collection:      Year-Round – Every Friday

Yard Waste Collection:    May through September – Every Wednesday  
    October through April – Every other Wednesday

Bulk Pick Up:                One in the spring; One in the fall

Mayor Saxton said the Town could ask contractors to bid on different options (for example, yard waste every other week or once a week for a certain period).

Regarding the trash contractor providing trash containers to all residents, the requirements for the bins where owners store their containers at curbside needs to be considered. Mayor Saxton questioned if the property owners would be charged for the trash containers. Mayor Saxton would like more information before committing to the trash contractor providing trash containers to all residents.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Carmine Pilla, 203 Anchorage Dr. – Expressed his appreciation for the work Councilmember Stevenson and Chief Lovins have done regarding animals as a public nuisance and added that the issue is damage to property that he and his neighbors are experiencing. Mr. Pilla looks forward to seeing what is proposed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to adjourn the August 27, 2020, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 4:00 p.m. FOR THE MOTION: Councilmembers Stevenson, Callaway, Bartholomew, Oliver, Abbott, and Mayor Saxton. AGAINST THE MOTION: None. Motion unanimously carried.