

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held January 2, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Greene, President.

Treasurer's report provided by Jeff Lewis. We have \$3,288.72 in the main account and \$850.39 in the License plate account. We received \$200 in ad sales, \$161 from Christmas "pass the hat," \$5.00 for EOV sticker sales and \$50.00 in dues. We paid out \$561.00 to support the Rec Center's and NLCC's Christmas activities in December. A question was asked if the Treasurer could find out how much money is needed to move forward with the OV License Plate project. It will be researched.

Officer Snyder provided the **Crime Report**. There were 32 incidents since the last meeting: no violent crimes, all property crimes. The break in at the Rec Center on 28 Dec was listed as a "commercial burglary." There remains an on-going investigation but it is assumed to be juveniles due to nature of the damage. The incidents on 19th Bay St have slowed down due to increased policing. There is an ongoing investigation re a body found washed up at Little Creek Base. A member asked about 3613 Pleasant Ave owned by "Mrs. King, in Va Beach. The police are on it. Activity was also noticed under the Pretty Lake Bridge during past 2 weeks, and officers will check it out.

The EOV CL Board for 2014, as voted upon during the December meeting, was installed by Councilman Tommy Smigiel. Board members: John Greene, President; Ann Bolen, Vice President; Jeff Lewis, Treasurer; Ann Freeman, Secretary; Members at Large: John Hadfield, Juanita Sneed, Steve Van Leeuwen, Amanda Skupin, Willie Smith, Rodney Hammonds, Jim Casey, Mike Joyner.

Councilman Smigiel gave a presentation regarding work being done on behalf of EOV (the Power Point presentation is available on the EOVCL website, www.livingeov.com). Tommy is a member of an EOV Steering Committee, convened by Wynter Benda, A/City Manager, along with Councilman Barclay Winn, John Greene, and Norfolk City Dept Heads. The Committee meets monthly to push EOV initiatives forward. They have asked Economic Development to present to the Steering Committee in January. Some initiatives moving forward are:

- East Beach Phase 7, which includes a boutique hotel, high end seafood restaurant, organic grocery store and a Towne Bank branch;
- Improvements to Shoppes at East Beach;
- Bay Oaks Park;
- Improvements to Shore Drive and Little Creek Road;
- Code Enforcement on blighted properties; and
- Pump Station

Tommy commented that EOV has been studied to death and shared several results the City has learned from these studies and that the EOV Steering Committee would be dealing with:

- Construction documents are done for Bay Oaks Park, and have passed design review. The new cost estimate is \$3.2M, which is higher because traffic engineers want a light added to OV Avenue. Bay Oaks Park is designed as a passive park with walking and running trails, bathrooms, and a gazebo. The plan is to now to develop 6-7th Bay facing park with single family homes, though additional infrastructure is needed.

- Shore Drive/Little Creek: The trailer park is for sale. The City is looking at redoing the whole corner to include new high end corporate owned 7/11.
- \$60-80 million dollars is needed for a new floodgate under Pretty Lake Bridge. If built, the cost of flood insurance would decrease dramatically.
- \$18M needed for sand replenishment project. There are some funds from Hurricane *Sandy* settlement. City would only owe 30% of project (5,400,000).
- \$25-40 million needed for curbs, sidewalk and drainage improvements 1-22nd Bay Streets.
- **Total needed** for these projects: **\$130M**. There is **currently \$1M** in City Budget to spend. Tommy is looking at using a TIF (Tax Incremental Financing) to raise the funding needed, similar to the TIF used to fund the \$55M needed for East Beach, which was paid back in 10 years. If funding were set up for 20 years, it could realistically be paid off. The City is also looking at a BID (Business Improvement District), whereby money raised through taxes on businesses in EOV would be used for EOV improvements only.

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

Ed Maulbeck gave a presentation about his intent to build an Indian Motorcycle dealership on city-owned property located on Shore Drive near the new Sherwin Williams Paint store. He is planning a 14,000 sq foot store with sales and service but may anchor 3-5 retail stores within the space. He believes one or more food stores may be possible near the shop. He wanted Civic League support and a vote was taken with unanimous support given by membership present.

Jorge Romero (Jessy's Tienda) gave a short presentation regarding his desire to expand the restaurant by 40 seats by adding an outdoor seating area, and to increase his liquor license to sell alcohol as well as beer and wine. The expansion would extend across 15 feet of sidewalk and be covered. The operating hours remain the same (9am-11pm). He did say lighting in parking lot is getting fixed and landscaping would be added. The Civic League Board and membership expressed concern over trash but determined this was an issue with the landlord, Mr. Todd Lovelace, not Jorge. A vote taken to support Jorge's request to expand his seating and was passed with unanimous support by the members present. John Greene will send (NB— which he did) a letter of support to City Planning Commission Staff, as well as to the landlord.

Wayne Coleman, Republican candidate for Virginia Senate, gave a brief presentation and asked membership for their support at the election to be held Tuesday, Jan 7th.

Rob Blizard, Director of the Norfolk SPCA, will be the guest speaker in February.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by,

Ann Bolen, Vice President