

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held December 3, 2015

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

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Jeffrey Lewis:

Total Assets	\$3,145.82
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$3,145.82
Net Income	\$ -736.50

A detailed financial statement is available on request of John Greene, President.

**Police Report**

Our new Precinct Captain, Wally Driscoll, was present, introduced himself, and let us know we had his support. He began his career in law enforcement in Ocean View and commented on the changes to the area since he was a young policeman. Before taking over the Second Patrol Division, Capt. Driscoll was the Training Director.

Officer Ruiz, our Community officer, reported there have been 24 reported incidents in our area over the last 30 days. They included: three aggravated assaults (many times those involved know each other well); seven larcenies from autos (many still do not lock their cars and leave valuable items in full sight, creating "crimes of opportunity"); four larcenies from buildings (victims tended to know vandals); and assorted other crimes including young juveniles following the FedEx truck and stealing newly delivered packages. There were also two autos stolen, though the cars had the keys in them and were running when they were stolen!

**Guest Speaker: Mr. Chuck Rigney, Director of Development, City of Norfolk**

Mr. Rigney had worked for the City of Norfolk for many years, moved to Portsmouth as their Director of Development for seven months, and then, six months ago, moved back to Norfolk as Director of Development.

Mr. Rigney reported there has been a setback on the possibility of a major supermarket coming to Ocean View and building on the site between Pleasant Avenue and East Little Creek Road, near the 7-Eleven. Though there had been a valid contract and letter of intent, he reported that the supermarket got "cold feet." They have made a commitment to revisit the deal in the next few months, and the City is trying very hard to make this project happen.

The City is also working with the Navy and all interested parties regarding the housing development on the lot near Norfolk and East Ocean View Avenues (near the Senior Center). They have discussed many possibilities but none are firm, as yet. No retail is included in the plans and the plans currently include

145 units. The proposed plan is on the City website, Plan 20-30, and is scheduled for Planning Commission on Jan 28th.

John Kownack, D/NRHA, said the City is looking for an anchor store for the commercial section of East Beach, Phase 7, and has been working with Rite Aid but ran into design issues. In the process, merger talks have surfaced between Rite Aid and Walgreens, so the process is stalled.

The 7-Eleven Corporation wants to improve the stores in the area and upgrade the appearance of the stores that do not sell gas. They will build a new store near the Heritage Bank site. The 7-Eleven Corporation also wants to improve the store located at Shore Drive and East Little Creek Road. The City owns the property adjacent to the store and is in the process of selling a 4.5 acre lot to 7-Eleven, which will pay the City a premium and will improve that store and that corner. They have also proposed to close and demolish the store near 2nd Bay Street, though maintain ownership of that property.

### **Guest Speaker, Gabriel Phelps, Norfolk Department of Utilities**

Mr. Phelps briefly discussed the utilities project on Pleasant Avenue and East Ocean View Avenue where the City is replacing old water and sewer pipes. He feels that the project will be completed in three more months. When asked if the City could coordinate projects and put in sidewalks and gutters, Mr. Phelps said he was not aware of any coordinated attempt to do this, nor separate funding. John Greene talked with Marcus Jones, City Manager, who will consider this suggestion.

### **Old Business**

Election of Officers: We had our annual election of Officers and, as per by-laws, all officers were up for election as well as five At-Large members. Candidates for the At-Large positions are: Deborah Lutz, Juanita Snead, and Willie Smith (currently serving) and Michael Phelps and Scott Berry who are new to the Board. All four Officers agreed to run for another term: John Greene, President; Ann Bolen, Vice President; Jeff Lewis, Treasurer; and Ann Freeman, Secretary. All officers were declared elected by acclamation.

By-Law Changes: The Board is proposed three changes to the By-Laws that were voted on and passed tonight. John Hadfield has also agreed to chair a total revision of the By-Laws (he also chaired the last By-Laws change process), and will bring it to the membership for a vote early in 2016. The changes brought before the membership at the meeting, voted on, and approved were: (1) word change; (2) allow the President to cancel a meeting due to bad weather; and (3) an increase in dues to \$15 a person and \$25 for a family. The Civic League supports three organizations (Rec. Center, New Life Christian Church, Coach Dwight's youth and adult programs), and a newsletter.

Sand Replenishment: Thelma Drake is co-chairing the Dune and Beach Management committee; and one of the issues is beach sand replenishment. The City received just one bid that they rejected and reopened the bidding process. The contractor will work around the turtle migration when it occurs in the fall. The process will start near Bay Breeze Point, work west, will be in process 24/7, and will be noisy. There is also an emergency replenishment that will focus on homes in Willoughby that are at risk due to the effects of the Oct/Nov nor'easters. There is only \$200,000 available at this time, however.

Taylor's Landing Apartment: There continues to be concern about access to and from East Ocean View Avenue when this project is complete. The project passed Planning Commission and is scheduled for December Council vote.

Community Garden: Our Community Garden, overseen by Deborah Lutz, is sponsored by Bon Secours hospital, at a cost of \$20,000 per year. It is a wonderful neighborhood amenity and we need to be aware that the support of Bon Secours could go away.

Amstar Hotel: According to Councilman Smigiel, the owner has been given thirty days to either demolish or rebuild. If the owner decides to rebuild he will have follow the new construction and flood zone guidelines.

### **New Business**

Membership Night / Open House: We will hold a Membership night / Open House on December 8th from 6 pm to 8pm at Mac's Place (formerly the Ship's Cabin). This is a great opportunity to come out and meet your neighbors and check out the Civic League. Please come and bring your neighbors.

New Comer packets are available for anyone new to the community. They include coupons to local stores and a myriad of information for anyone new to our area.

Coming Events: **Christmas in the Garden**, December 5th, 11am to 2pm, in the EOV Community Garden; and **Cookies with Santa**, December 19th, Noon to 2pm, EOV Rec. Center.

Our next meeting will be January 7th, 2016. Sheriff Bob McCabe will be our speaker.

Please check our website regularly for information about our area and what is occurring here.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Freeman

Secretary