

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**  
**CHINCOTEAGUE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Chambers**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Council Members Present:**

J. Arthur Leonard, Mayor  
Christopher D. Bott, Vice Mayor  
Denise P. Bowden, Councilwoman  
William T. McComb, Jr., Councilman  
Ellen W. Richardson, Councilwoman  
K. Jay Savage, Councilman  
Gene W. Taylor, Councilman

**Council Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Michael T. Tolbert, Town Manager  
Mr. Tyler Greenley, Chief of Police  
Mr. Bryan Rush, Director of Emergency Services  
Mr. Wes Parks, Public Works Director

**Call to Order**

Mayor Leonard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Invocation**

Councilman Taylor offered the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Leonard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment**

Mayor Leonard opened the floor for public comment.

- Mrs. Glenda Gatchell, 5070 Bay Colony Lane, advised she is representing a group of users at the Dog Park. She addressed the issues at the Dog Park which include drainage and erosion. She added that the dogs are now digging in that area. She advised of the steps taken to remedy the issues by installing stony ground covers but have now become sink holes causing a fall hazard. The request a cement pad to prevent erosion. She added that the entrance gate is damaged and off the hinge as well. They also requested a shade sail in the large dog area. She commented further and showed pictures showing the gate off the hinge, bench seating with no grass, the erosion, and added that it's an eyesore and danger.

- Mrs. Toni Cox, 6050 Tarr Street, advised she retired here in 2017. She addressed the parking lot at Donald Leonard Park. She stated that Ms. Leonard voiced her opinion to an enclosed lot back in the fall but especially since February 2024. She stated that Councilwoman Bowden stated that no comments about the parking lot were transferred to the minutes. She stated that at the last Council meeting Town Manager Tolbert was asked questions there were not

answered. She asked about the cost, who approved it, and the purchasing threshold. She asked if proper procurement was followed and how the money was spent. She read excerpts and commented further on the minutes of the RCEC and Council meetings. She then asked about the bumpers being there versus the plan to put parking bumpers there.

Mayor Leonard commented about the bumpers his father put in.

Mrs. Cox continued to read excerpts adding that the cost was \$15,000. She stated that Town Manager Tolbert didn't answer all of Councilwoman Bowden's questions. She asked Mayor Leonard, why Council wasn't told about the parking lot and who authorized it, if there were purchase orders used to buy materials for the parking lot, and where did the millings come from.

Mayor Leonard advised it was done in-house, the millings were from the Town's road repairs in the fall and spring stored in the Public Works area. The \$15,000 was for the labor and the purchase of millings, through normal operating procedures. He didn't see that the project as excessive.

Mrs. Cox asked why Mayor Leonard was the only one who knew this was going on.

Mayor Leonard advised that it was brought up to the RCEC that this was a problem and was discussed in many Committee meetings. It was not a secret.

Mrs. Cox stated that a lot of people were surprised by this and made their feelings known.

Mayor Leonard stated that it is a public park owned and operated by the Town of Chincoteague and the Town will manage the parks as the Town sees fit. He also commented about putting a parking lot back there where there was an existing parking lot. He added that the best practice was to put millings there. He understands that the public is upset that it's not grass, but this is an issue that they're not going to bring up again.

Mrs. Cox stated that the issue is not done, and asked if they can bring up the fencing. She expressed her objection to the plans for a fence.

Mayor Leonard referred her objection to the RCEC.

- Mrs. Isabel Kaldenbach, 3524 Ridge Road, agreed with Mrs. Gatchell and added that it isn't about the dogs, it's about the people. She added that they have a group of about 50 regulars, and they do activities throughout the year together. Studies show it is important to have social connections of all ages. She thanked Council adding that the Dog Park is fabulous.

- Ms. Jody Hoffman and Mr. Colie Bennett, 7149 Margaret's Lane, explained an issue with another property owner that has an easement, right-of-way to her property who has connected her property to Lisa's Lane. They've done the title search and surveys. The title company referred them to Council. They feel she has taken advantage of the easement. He stated they can install barriers as long as she has access to her property to cut down on the traffic. They maintain Margaret's Lane, which is a dead-end road, with money from other residents to help

with maintenance costs. He added that the owner of the property does not contribute. He asked for understanding. He also informed Council he was assaulted with a vehicle a couple Fridays ago. Mr. Bennett added he was also verbally assaulted trying to protect his property. He stated that a 10-wheeled truck can't make the turn. He advised that every time there is an incident they've been in the wrong and they are the property owners. They were advised that it is perfectly legal to put up gates or barriers as long as she had access to her property.

Mayor Leonard advised that because this is a civil matter, the Town can't get involved.

Mr. Bennet stated that he understood and wanted this to be part of the record as they are pursuing legal action to close the easement off. He thanked Council.

- Mr. Larry Conser, 5171 Main Street, advised that the pump-out at the Town dock doesn't always work and feels there should be more than 1 pump. He stated that Harbormaster Merritt is super busy and doesn't have time to take care of everything.

Mayor Leonard advised that if it isn't working, he should call Harbormaster Merritt, or the Town office and it would be addressed.

- Mr. David Landsberger, 5611 Amrien Circle Drive, thanked Council advising that the trail is finished at the Brianna's Kindness Park. He advised of 2 missing signs and asked if the Town could buy and put the 2 signs up. He also asked about the donated funds for the sunshades at the Dog Park and Brianna's Kindness Park and a hard trail for the disabled people to get to the workout equipment. He reported on the progress of the YMCA's new gym, adding that it should be completed by the end of the year.

### **Agenda Adoption**

**Councilman McComb motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson to adopt the agenda as presented. Unanimously approved.**

### **District 2 Supervisor Report**

Supervisor Tarr discussed the Inlet Study funding in depth. He urged Council to contact Mr. Keith Lockwood, Chief Water Resources Division of the Norfolk District with the Army Corps of Engineers. He explained in length about the Inlet Study funds to be in the President's budget in 2026 with no specific line item in regarding the Town's Inlet Study. Congresswoman Kiggans gave authority to start the study, and the Army Corps has a non-specific available fund in the amount of \$500,000. They are supposed to fund \$1.5 million, and \$1.5 million is supposed to be from non-federal money. He added that nothing has been said about the mysterious \$27 million that came into play for Eastern Shore waterways 2 years ago. They couldn't give any information on this. The Army Corps advised that they ask for it every year, and nothing has been authorized or appropriated, except for the \$500,000 for other projects as well. If they get it approved, it will take up to 3 years to get it. He suggested sending letters to Mr. Lockwood about the importance of this project. He stated that Delegate Bloxom should be contacted. He suggested asking the Army Corps what their intentions are and for a timeline of commencement and completion. He stated that they should invite Mr. Lockwood to come to the Island. He reminded them of what they do for the Island with dredging, adding that this is big.

Councilwoman Bowden feels this is unrealistic to think that \$3 million 8 years ago will still be \$3 million now, she feels that there's just no way. She stated that this is the biggest issue facing them. She feels they should get Mr. Lockwood here and take him to the Inlet.

Supervisor Tarr also advised of NASA's decision to take the P3 planes out of Wallops, adding that this is 23 jobs. He stated that Mr. Dave Pierce assured them that they would have other jobs at Wallops. He also stated that the County and the state has \$8 million in the Wallops Research Park and a selling point was the runway. He advised that the County wrote a letter to NASA, and Mr. Pierce will be at the Supervisor's September meeting. He also reported that Rocket Lab wants to use Queen Sound ramp to bring big rockets in on a barge and take to Wallops on a trailer. The County doesn't own the Queen Sound ramp, VDOT does. He added that by 2028 they'll have at least 12 launches and 12 landings at Queen Sound with a lot of holdups on a 2-lane Causeway. He reported that the DWR, Department of Wildlife Resources, has this now. He is unsure if that ramp will hold a barge and rocket.

Councilwoman Richardson asked what happened to the project of digging out and putting in a new pier bringing rockets in from the ocean to the Inlet.

Supervisor Tarr advised they've moved the sand from one end of Wallops to the other, and did work on the pier but the dredging is the Army Corps of Engineers. He commented about the jetties off of Wallops beach.

Councilwoman Bowden feels this is unrealistic to think they can bring something like that to Queen Sound with 1 way on and 1 way off the Island. She stated that they won't get an ambulance off the Island.

Supervisor Tarr suggested they contact the DWR.

## **Staff Reports**

### **General Government**

Town Manager Tolbert reported that Cockrell's Marine Railway, Inc. has completed the Derelict Vessel Removal Project. They removed 5 vessels along with the abandoned steel rigging in the marsh. He also reported on the street sweeper fire which has been declared a total loss. The Town will receive replacement costs for the sweeper as opposed to the salvage value. Public Works Director Parks is currently looking for a replacement. He gave the August Report for the Chincoteague Center events which included a family reunion, Virginia Spaceport intern presentations, Wrestling, the Kiwanis bi-monthly blood drive, and a wedding. Center Director Leonard applied for and received a grant for new trash cans. There will be a Chincoteague Candidate Forum, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. which will be moderated by former Accomack County Circuit Court Clerk, Mr. Sammy Cooper. Town Manager Tolbert announced that the Town office has a new phone system which went live Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. The new service will provide the same desirable features of the existing system as well as an auto attendant that will greet callers, allowing them to connect directly to the employee or subject of their choice.

Town Manager Tolbert gave the Trolley Report for August advising that the ridership has fallen off and they decided to revert back to weekends through the Oyster Festival on October 12<sup>th</sup>. He

added that the Center booked a wedding in October, and they have rented the recently acquired trolley to transport attendees from their hotels to the event at the Center. He gave the Meals and Transient Occupancy Tax Report for August, which is the July activity along with the Financial Report. He then reported on Building and Zoning with 60 permits, 51 inspections, with a total value for the building cost of construction was \$1,257,234 with \$4,595.90 in building permit fees.

Councilwoman Bowden, referring to the trolley the Town purchased, asked what the charge is.

Town Manager Tolbert advised that they offered this to them at \$100 per hour which was discounted as they rented the center. He added that if you're just renting it, there would be a different rate.

#### Police Department

Chief Greenley reviewed the monthly Police report advising that on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, PFC. Turlington completed his FTO program with SGT. Stevens and now on patrol by himself. He introduced Officer Turlington who came from Accomack County Sheriff's office as a jailer and completed the Police Academy on June 11<sup>th</sup>. On August 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> SROS Carmody and Geminiani completed an AAIR (Active Attack Integrated Response) class, similar to the Active Shooter Class integrating with EMS. On August 21<sup>st</sup>, he attended the DMV grant workshop to receive grant funding for Selective Enforcement. He added that the Dispatcher room received a major cleaning and removal of old wires to prepare for the new consoles to be installed this week.

#### Public Works Department

Public Works Director Parks reported that in addition to repairing 5 water leaks, the Water Department installed 2 new services, and 1,200 feet of new watermain on Bayberry Lane. The Public Works Department installed exercise equipment around the walking trail at Brianna's Kindness Park. They acquired an equipment trailer. They also installed fencing at Memorial Park Drive. Pavement markings were installed on the new asphalt on Willow Street, North Main Street, Ridge Road, and the "S" turn on Deep Hole Road. The Public Works crew also painted 20 stop bars around Town. Public Works Director Parks explained that the current chlorine provider sold the company and the service was poor. The Town has decided to change providers. Accomack County Public Works was kind enough to loan the Town chlorine. He also advised that in September they plan to hook-up the waterline on Wildcat Lane and are currently in the process of looking for a new street sweeper. They will also continue with storm drain improvements.

Councilman Taylor directed Public Works Director Parks to fix the gate at the Dog Park and put concrete in. He suggested talking and working with the people there. He added that they have a good crew.

Councilwoman Bowden asked if the money charged for the Dog Park was going into the General Fund.

Town Manager Tolbert advised it was.

Councilwoman Bowden asked is anyone was looking at some of this at times.

Town Manager Tolbert advised that they do, and suggested regrading, planting grass, adding wood shavings or pouring concrete, bolting the benches down for safety purposes, and installing the sail shade.

### Emergency Services

Director of Emergency Services Rush reported they ended August with 130 calls. He reviewed the statistics from August 2011 calls, response and on-scene times giving kudos to the EMS staff. He talked about REVIVE Training which teaches EMS staff how to teach family and patients how to administer Narcan. He added that they can also leave Narcan with the patient and/or family members. This could reduce responses making the County safer. He commented on the status of the Drug Kit Program, adding that the goal to go live is mid-October. He reported on weather monitoring from tropical storm Debby. He also advised that they hosted the Regional Catastrophic Planning Exercise Workgroup with a workshop at the Center with representatives from Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. He reported that Finance Director Lewis helped close out the VDEM Local Emergency Planning Grant for the upgrades to the EOC. The Pony Penning After Action Report has also been completed. He reviewed the tropics for potential storms adding that September is National Preparedness Month. He urged everyone to be prepared.

### **Committee Report**

#### RCEC

Councilman Taylor reported they met on August 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed repairing the roofs on the Memorial Park pavilion and restrooms and decided to remove the dugouts using fence-type dugouts to save money. They discussed the Amrien gym floor, shade for the Brianna's Kindness Park along with the hard surface to the exercise equipment. He also advised of the decision for a new volleyball court at Memorial Park and adding another member to the RCEC in the near future.

#### Public Safety

Councilwoman Bowden stated they met on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Chief Greenley proposed that they needed in-car and body worn camera systems. The current system has failed. The Committee voted to send it to Council for approval.

#### Budget and Personnel

Vice Mayor Bott advised that they are looking at additional new revenue sources and programs. They spoke with the legal team in Richmond. He added that Town Manager Tolbert has more items for Council to discuss in October. They will reinvent the wheel like other localities have done.

Councilman Taylor commented on the water availability fee.

Councilwoman Bowden commented further about thinking about getting more families to the Island. She feels that Council needs to get proactive to get these families here. She hopes they can continue to work on getting legislation done for the community.

**Adoption of Minutes of August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meetings**  
**Councilwoman Bowden motioned, seconded by Councilman McComb to adopt the minutes of the August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> Council meetings as presented. Unanimously approved.**

### **Holiday Decoration Presentation**

Councilman McComb advised that after the end of FY24 budget closure, they had surplus that was designated for the holiday decorations. He stated that they put together a committee comprised of citizens who have worked to develop recommendations for Council for the enhancement of the community's holiday decorations. Some of the decorations are not in good condition. They worked with Public Works Director Parks and staff, took inventory and decided what they have to work with. Mr. Krome and Mr. Potts have a long-standing relationship with Mosca Design of Youngsville, NC through their work over the last several years with Christmas by the Sea and Christmas Manor. This relationship was a huge benefit in enabling savings and recommendations quickly and involve local businesses and community organizations through donations to expand the project's scope. The Committee is recommending to Council for the purchase of 42-LED pole-mount decorations that are an average of 5' x 5' and will line Main Street from the Waterside Inn to the Island Motor Inn and from the bridge down Maddox Boulevard to the Chincoteague Museum with enhancements to existing pieces on Willow and Church Streets. Decorations are a mix of holiday nautical items and large snowflakes that expand and support the ongoing Christmas by the Sea theme.

Councilman McComb also added that in discussion with our Public Works personnel, it may also be feasible to take the best of the lantern decorations that in years past lined Main Street and light a portion of Deep Hole Road past the Fire House. The Committee has also recommended the purchase of the following enhancements to other public areas, and showed pictures:

- A new Christmas by the Sea custom marquee with alternating LED lighting in the colors of red, green, and warm white. The marquee will be a great addition to the Robert Reed Park measuring 41' x 18'.
- 12' LED tree lights for the foot of the bridge also in red, green, and warm white alternating strands of lights.
- 10' holiday wreath with bow and ornaments and 160 LED lights for the Town Office.
- 5-3' building wreaths for the old fire house of similar design of the wreath for the Town Office above. This will be reminiscent of how the building was decorated when the CVFC occupied the space.

Councilman McComb advised that the Committee continues to work with the Downtown Merchants Association and add to the holiday décor of Robert Reed Park through a potential donation of a large Christmas by the Sea sign all with the new LED technologies. They are also discussing the addition of a sound system for the Downtown that could be used not only for music during the holidays but year-round. They ordered the new decorations and equipment in August so that they will arrive in October and Public Works can start getting them up in time for this holiday season. He thanked the Committee for a job well done; Mr. Krome, Mr. Potts, Mrs. Robbins, Mrs. Conklin, and Ms. Faith.

## **Consider FY25 Donations**

### Island Museum

Ms. Cindy Faith with the Island Museum stated that this is a great opportunity and thanked Council for all they do for the Town. She added that it goes unnoticed. She advised that the Museum is in the 52<sup>nd</sup> year. She reported that the exhibits change each year, the Beebe Ranch is in the process of being repaired, renovated, with the addition of a handicap ramp along with exhibits in the home. They purchased a new bus to help with the Road Scholar Program, and they are planning the 100<sup>th</sup> Pony Penning Celebration. She added they are also wrapping up the year with events, fundraising, and activities.

Mayor Leonard advised that historically the Town has donated \$5,000 to the Museum which is what they're requesting.

**Councilman McComb motioned, seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve a donation for the Island Museum in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimously approved.**

### Island Library

Mayor Leonard advised there was no one present to represent the Island Library and advised this is another organization that the Town helps annually. He added that they sent, along with the application, their Profit Loss Statement and plans for the donation.

**Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by, Councilman McComb to approve a donation for the Island Library in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimously approved.**

### Village Neighbors

Ms. Catherine Shappell with the Village Neighbors thanked Council and advised they appreciate anything the Town can do to support the Village Neighbors.

Mayor Leonard advised the Village Neighbors requested \$5,000.

**Councilman Taylor motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson to approve a donation for the Village Neighbors in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimously approved.**

### North Accomack Little League

Mr. Lee Jester with the North Accomack Little League stated that everyone has had kids coming up through the Little League. He stated that they do a lot to keep the kids out of trouble, teaches good sportsmanship, teamwork, respectful conduct, and it draws young families to the Island. He reported that enrollment has increased significantly, and they have upgraded their facilities to accommodate the increase. He stated that they have hosted multiple District All-Star games bringing in more than local people. He added that the Town gave a donation for the 40' x 80' x 14' building for indoor pitching and hitting for year-round practice. They have raised the money for the building but need money to finish the inside. He commented on the cost of the rollup doors, concrete floors, and turf. Mr. Jester stated that payment for either item would be greatly appreciated.



**Vice Mayor Bott motioned, seconded by Councilman McComb to approve a donation for the North Accomack Little League in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimously approved.**

Council directed Town Manager to review the budget for additional funds

Chincoteague Combined Schools - PTSA

Ms. Melissa Barret with the Chincoteague Combined Schools PTSA explained that the PTSA hosts free dances and activities, a welcome back breakfast for teachers and staff, teacher's appreciation, and scholarships.

Mayor Leonard stated that many members of Council have enjoyed things at the schools. He feels they should support them and are fortunate to have them.

**Councilwoman Richardson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to approve a donation for the CCS PTSA in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimously approved.**

Accomack County Sheriff's Department – DARE Program

Deputy Campbell with the Accomack County DARE Program stated that the Program is for all Accomack County 5<sup>th</sup> graders and funded by the Accomack County Sheriff's Department. The donation he is asking for is for DARE Day where all the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Northampton and Accomack County go to Nandua High School for a full day of celebration to ensure they're on the same track and mission.

**Councilwoman Richardson motioned, seconded by Councilman McComb to approve a donation for the DARE Program in the amount of \$1,000. Unanimously approved.**

**Consider 911 System Tower MOU**

Town Manager Tolbert explained that the County of Accomack is getting a new 911 system, and the Town was included. He described all the equipment that is included; 2 consoles, installation, antennas, wire, server, and everything needed to operate the system. He stated that they needed a space on the Town's cell tower that is leased to American Tower. Because it is new equipment on the tower the Town will need to pay for another space and the ESVA 911 Center will reimburse the Town for the rent in the amount of \$966.03 per month. The MOU memorializes the arrangement as part of the inner workings. As a part of this agreement, the Town had to amend the Tower Lease. He explained that the Town will pay ESVA 911 \$4,328 at the beginning of each year for support and maintenance costs associated with the dispatch radio consoles. The Town's only cost of participating in this program is \$4,328. He added that the Town currently pays approximately \$12,000 each year for a cloud-based server. This service will be canceled, and the Town will pay the \$4,328 each year which is a savings of nearly \$8,000 a year in dispatch revenue. He advised that the agreement is good and accounted for.

Councilwoman Bowden asked if the \$4,328 and MOU was good for 20 years.

Town Manager Tolbert advised it is unless they say differently. There is no provision to accelerate this.

**Vice Mayor Bott motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to adopt the 911 System Tower MOU as presented. Unanimously approved.**

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE ESVA 9-1-1 COMMISSION  
AND THE TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE, VIRGINIA.

THIS Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is made and entered into on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024, by and between the Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1 Commission, a separate entity formed under Virginia Code § 15.2-1300 by adoption of a joint resolution by the Counties of Accomack and Northampton on July 18, 1990 (“ESVA 9-1-1”), having a principal office located at 23201 Front Street, Accomac, Virginia 23301 and the Town of Chincoteague, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, with mailing address at 6150 Community Drive, Chincoteague Island, Virginia 23336 (“TOC”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, ESVA 9-1-1 is upgrading its Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Radio System ("ESVARRS"), which will require the installation of antennas on the Tower and the construction or placement of associated infrastructure, improvements, fixtures, and equipment on a tower located at 6097 Community Drive, Chincoteague, VA 23336-2701; and

WHEREAS, **TOC has an existing agreement with American Towers, LLC**; dated March 20, 2024 for the use of a certain portion of the Tower Facility (“Tower”) to accommodate the ESVARRS infrastructure, improvements, fixtures, and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the **existing** Lease between TOC and **American Towers, LLC** sets forth the terms and conditions on which Lessee shall lease sufficient space on the Tower to install, maintain and operate antennas on the Tower and to install, maintain and operate infrastructure, improvements, fixtures and equipment on the Site.

NOW, THEREFORE, ESVA 9-1-1, and TOC, in consideration of the mutual obligations and mutual benefits accruing to their respective entities from this MOU, have agreed upon the terms herein among themselves as follows:

1. Through and in compliance with the existing lease between the TOC and American Towers, LLC, TOC agrees to grant ESVA 9-1-1 usage and access to the Tower for the placement of antennas systems and related equipment as identified in Exhibit A.
2. TOC agrees to grant usage and access to TOC land around the Tower site and the TOC Public Works **Building for construction and** use equipment shelter and related needs; as identified in Exhibit B.

3. TOC agrees to grant usage and access to the Police Department Building (Town of Chincoteague facility) as part of the needed connectivity (microwave) network of the ESVARRS; as identified in Exhibit C.
4. ESVA 9-1-1 shall pay TOC \$966.03 at the beginning of each month for usage and access to the Tower, with an escalation not exceeding the Annual Escalator pursuant to Section IV of the Agreement between TOC and American Towers, LLC .
5. TOC shall pay ESVA 9-1-1 \$4,328 at the beginning of each year for support/maintenance costs associated with the dispatch radio consoles located and used at the Chincoteague Police Department as part of ESVARRS.
6. The Term, for the use of the Tower, shall be in accordance with the Agreement between TOC and American Towers, LLC. The Term for the use of the TOC land around the tower and at the Police Department Building (Town of Chincoteague facility) shall be Twenty (20) years commencing on the effective date of this MOA.
7. Either entity wishing to withdraw from this Memorandum of agreement must provide at least twelve-month's notice to the other entity, prior to such withdrawal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their signatures :

Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1  
Commission

Town of Chincoteague, Virginia

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Consider SLPP Awardees Recommendation**

Mayor Leonard advised that the Septic Local Partners Project Committee met on August 14<sup>th</sup> to review and consider applications for assistance from residents for the replacement of failing septic systems. The Committee reviewed all 10 applications and approved them.

Town Manager Tolbert advised that according to the agreement with the DEQ the Committee is required to make a recommendation, and Council is required to approve the recommendation. There are other things that must be done during the process as well.

Mayor Leonard asked how much funding is left.

Town Manager Tolbert reported there is approximately \$800,000 left.

**Councilwoman Bowden motioned, seconded by Vice Mayor Bott to approve the award for the first round as presented. Unanimously approved.**

### **Council Comments**

Councilwoman Bowden stated that they have a wonderful Town, Parks, and visitors and live here and do a fantastic job. She continued that Public Works does a great job maintaining and doing what they do. She added that there's always ways to improve on a couple of things. She doesn't like it when a citizen spends their own money to make something better. She feels the Town should be on top of things that need to get done. She wants the Town to do better to get the projects done. She appreciates every one of them and what they do. She concluded with "Go Yankees"!

Councilman McComb referred to Supervisor Tarr's topic regarding the loss of planes at NASA. He feels it would behoove the Town to write a letter concerning the loss of jobs. He added that it is also about the amount of folks that are bring here for testing of the planes and there is a good amount of money going into lodging and restaurants. He stated they need better assurances. He concluded that he knows for certain if the Town doesn't slow down or prevent it from happening there will be a loss of jobs and also in Transient Occupancy and Meals Taxes.

Councilman Taylor stated that the amount of money given out tonight isn't a drop in the bucket to all that they do in money and effort. He added that they have the Town's blessing, and he urged them to keep doing what they're doing. He also thanked them.

Councilman Savage agreed with Councilman Taylor adding that volunteers make up the community and doing a great job. He gave kudos to them. He mentioned the EMS and Police Department for a fine job adding that it's hard to match their job, he also gave kudos to them.

Mayor Leonard stated that he is thankful for where we live and the people that live here. He concluded with, "Roll Tide"!

**Closed Meeting – In accordance with §2.2-3711(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia that the Council convene a closed session for the discussion and consideration of the purchase of real property for a public purpose.**

**Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to go into a closed meeting in accordance with §2.2-3712 (A) (3) of the Code of Virginia that the Council convene a closed session for the discussion and consideration of the purchase of real property for a public purpose.**

**All present were in favor and the motion was carried.**

**Ayes: Bott, Bowden, McComb, Richardson, Savage, Taylor**  
**Nays: None**  
**Absent: None**

**Certification of Closed Meeting in Accordance with §2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia**  
**Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge:**

- 1. Only public business lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements was discussed and**
- 2. Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.**

**All present were in favor and the motion was carried.**

**Ayes: Bott, Bowden, McComb, Richardson, Savage, Taylor**  
**Nays: None**  
**Absent: None**

**Adjourn**

**Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to adjourn.**  
**Unanimously approved.**

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J. Arthur Leonard, Mayor

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Michael T. Tolbert, Town Manager