



TOWN COUNCIL Work Session

November 30, 2006

4:00 p.m.

At approximately 4:00p.m. in Town Council Chambers, Mayor Dora Sullivan called to order the Work Session of Town Council. In addition to Mayor Sullivan, present were Council members Harris, Burdiss, Bannon, Elliott and Evans (arrived at approximately 4:11) and Brown (arrived at approximately 4:30). Also in attendance were Town Manager Tim Krawczel, Town Clerk Joy Pelletier, several staff members and approximately seven members of the public.

Business

Discussions with the Fire Department

Mayor Sullivan introduced Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Company members Rob Stubbs and Greg Rippon who were in attendance to represent the Fire Company's Building Committee. Mayor Sullivan asked for their input on the area of the Municipal Building leased to the Fire Company, i.e., for what purpose it is being used and whether it was feasible for the Town to share that space. The gentlemen expressed their willingness to work with the Town and continue building a positive and helpful relationship. They also expressed their gratitude to the Town funding the aerial ladder fire truck. The gentlemen then offered the following concerns for debate: 1) storage of turn out gear; 2) location of radio room and expense related in relocating; 3) bays used to house units/vehicles; 4) funding to accomplish these tasks.

Town Manager, Tim Krawczel, offered ideas towards compromise and suggested a consultant familiar with space needs of fire companies look into the possibility of efficient usage of space. He also mentioned this would be a temporary fix as the long term forecast was to find better space to be utilized as a Safety Building (house Fire Department, Police Department and possibly EMS)

STIP

Tim Krawczel reported the Northampton County Board of Supervisors had responded to an earlier request from the Town to join into discussions over the uses of the Sustainable Technology Industrial Park (STIP). He asked for discussion on direction of who should attend and lead the Town's portion of the meeting and what the Council's feeling were for the best use of the STIP. Councilman Burdiss explained that although he sees nothing negative about using the premises for a public purpose such as a college facility or Parks and Recreation, the IDA board had been looking to turn to private use to increase the tax base. He asked who would fund the project if the building and grounds were for public use and mentioned the Town would get no direct benefit from that use.

Water rights/capacity, the use of the building to house the Fire Company and the municipal offices and preserving the conservation area were also debated.

Council Policy

This segment was dedicated to efficiency in disseminating information. John Burdiss opened the discussion to streamlining the agenda package and possibly eliminating the paper package. How and when the agenda package was created was debated. A secure website to be used as a depository for related information was suggested by Mary Harris. John Burdiss stated the Council's job was as policy makers, not to make every decision not to be hands on and involved in everything that happens on a daily basis.

Motion made to adjourn the Work Session by Mary Harris, seconded by John Burdiss and unanimously approved.

Mayor

Town Clerk