



TOWN COUNCIL
Work Session
Cape Charles Civic Center
June 2, 2016
6:00 p.m.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., Mayor George Proto, having established a quorum, called to order the Work Session of Town Council. In addition to Mayor Proto, present were Vice Mayor Bannon, Councilmen Bennett, Brown and Godwin, and Councilwoman Natali. Councilman Wendell was not in attendance. Also present were Town Manager Brent Manuel, Town Clerk Libby Hume, and Councilwoman-elect Dora Sullivan. There was one member of the public in attendance.

Mayor Proto announced the business for the evening would be to discuss proposed Town Code modifications regarding Beaches & Walkways and Unlawful Assemblage.

Town Manager Brent Manuel stated that, at the May Council meeting, Chief Pruitt brought up an incident that occurred at the beachfront and expressed his concern regarding future instances. Ordinances from other jurisdictions in Virginia were researched and draft language was provided for Council review and discussion.

There was much discussion regarding the events leading up to the incident at the beachfront. Councilman Brown stated that the Town previously had an ordinance prohibiting parking along the beachfront after 11:00 p.m. When the fishing pier was built, the ordinance was repealed to allow the users of the fishing pier access to the pier overnight.

Councilman Brown went on to state that language regarding gang-related activity and rioting were already in the Town Code so this issue could already be enforced. The incident most likely would not happen again if there was a visible police presence. There was only one way in and out of town which also a deterrent.

After further discussion, Council agreed that the proposed language regarding unlawful assemblage and removal of signs were good to have in the Town Code and should be added along with reference to the Use of Facility Forms for events and/or gatherings at town-owned facilities. (Please see attached.)

Vice Mayor Bannon stated that Chief Pruitt had suggested a curfew. There was discussion regarding consistent enforcement of a curfew. Council agreed that input was needed from Chief Pruitt regarding enforcement issues.

Motion made by Councilwoman Natali, seconded by Vice Mayor Bannon, to adjourn the Town Council Work Session. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor Proto

Town Clerk

Proposed modifications to Cape Charles Town Code:

Chapter 50 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions

Proposed for Section 50-19 – Permit for parades, meetings, etc., in streets, parks, beach, etc.

(d) No person, group or organization shall hold, organize or sponsor any assemblage or gathering in any town beaches, parks and recreational facilities that will be attended by twenty-five (25) or more people without first obtaining a permit from the town manager or his/her designee. Applications for permits must be received by the town manager at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to any such event.

Current (d) will become (e).

(e) Any person, group or organization violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor.

Section 50-21 – Removal of signs, flags or other caution markers. (Currently Reserved)

Any person convicted of the unauthorized removal of signs, flags or other caution markers from the beach, boardwalk, harbor or other areas in the town shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor.

Chapter 14 – Beaches and Waterways

Proposed for Section 14-2 – Unlawful assemblage. (Currently Reserved)

No person, group or organization shall hold, organize or sponsor any assemblage or gathering in any town beaches, parks and recreational facilities that will be attended by twenty-five (25) or more people without first obtaining a permit from the town manager or his/her designee. Applications for permits must be received by the town manager at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to any such event.

Proposed for Section 14-3 – Removal of signs, flags or other caution markers. (Currently Reserved)

Any person convicted of the unauthorized removal of signs, flags or other caution markers from the beach, boardwalk, harbor or other areas in the town shall be subject to a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250.00) fine.