



## **CITY OF POQUOSON**

**Office of the City Manager**  
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September 9, 2019

**To:** City Council

**From:** City Manager

**Subject:** **Policy Regarding Donations of Real Property to the City of Poquoson**

Presented for Council consideration is a resolution establishing a policy regarding donations of real property to the City of Poquoson based on Council comments at the August 19, 2019 Special Meeting held at the Community Center.

As discussed with Council, from time to time private land owners approach the City with an offer to donate real property. Often the parcels offered for donations are unbuildable due to size, pervasive wetlands or are land locked and in many cases associated with an estate or family trust. Accepting donations would involve expenses associated with a title report, surveying, deed preparation and recording. It also has the effect of removing parcels from the tax rolls. However, Council is mindful that the acceptance of certain types of properties may have public value.

The policy presented for consideration shall authorize the City Manager to review each proposed donation and recommend for City Council consideration only those parcels which constitute significant public value. City Council would then consider recommendations from the City Manager.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY REGARDING  
DONATIONS OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF POQUOSON**

**WHEREAS**, periodically the City of Poquoson is approached by individuals, family trusts and other entities seeking to donate real property to the City of Poquoson; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is mindful of the public cost of accepting a real property donation including deed preparation and recording, title research and survey as well as the loss of real estate tax dollars while the property is in public ownership; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is also mindful that the acceptance of certain types of properties, i.e. additional road right of way, properties containing or adjacent to publically maintained drainage structures or properties that might allow for needed expansion of existing properties such as parks, or other parcel-specific factors may have significant public value and be in the best interest of the City of Poquoson; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to establish a general policy to provide guidance to staff and members of the community who may wish to donate real property to the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Poquoson, Virginia that the following policy pertaining to the acceptance of real property donation is hereby established as follows:

**Section 1:** The City Council shall accept privately-owned real property donations where the acceptance of such donation shall constitute significant public value.

**Section 2:** The City Manager shall review each proposed donation and shall recommend for City Council consideration only those parcels which in his/her opinion constitutes significant public value.

**Section 3:** The City Council shall consider recommendations from the City Manager.

**Section 4:** The City Council shall be the authorizing authority for all privately-owned real property donations pursuant to an affirmative public vote.

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

TESTE: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk