



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7pm

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia Officiating

6 The Town Board of Oriental Town Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 was called to order at 7pm. The
7 Mayor Sally Belangia determined a quorum to be present. She said we have a Public Comment period, if you wish
8 to speak please make sure you are signed up on the correct sheet. We will call the meeting to order with the Pledge
9 of Allegiance.

10
11 Present: Mayor Sally Belangia, Pro Tempore Barbara Venturi, Commissioner Overcash, Commissioner White,
12 Commissioner Winfrey, Commissioner Price, Town Manager Diane Miller, Deputy Finance Director Tammy Cox,
13 Administrative Assistant Jeannine Russo and Members of the Public.

14 **1. Approval of Agenda**

15 (a) **Commissioner Venturi** made a **MOTION** to approve the Agenda. Seconded by **Commissioner Winfrey**.
16 Motion passed 5-0.

17 **2. Consent Agenda: (Tab 1)**

18 (a) Consider Approval of Minutes from Town Board Regular Meeting November 8, 2017

19
20 **Commissioner Venturi** made a **MOTION** to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by **Commissioner Winfrey**.
21 Motion passed 5-0.

22
23 **3. Public Comment Period:** Mayor Belangia asked if anyone would like to speak. Limit comments to 3 minutes
24 and comments to full board not individual.

25
26 **Bill Hines, 1108 Link Lane:** Mr. Hines stated he understands we are a bird sanctuary and feels this would be a good
27 thing to advertise, possibly put a sign at each end of town. Mr. Hines feels this would be a good way for newcomers
28 to get a feel for what type of people live in Oriental. He also extended an invitation for anyone interested to attend
29 the Offshore Seismic Blasting meeting Thursday (December 7) at Brantley's at 6pm (meet, greet and eat) and 6:30
30 for the meeting.

31
32 **Grace Evans, 301 Midyette Street:** Ms. Evans referenced a recent article in the County Compass regarding the
33 government working with localities policing the areas around BT-9 and, possibly, BT-10. Ms. Evans stated that
34 although it is all public waters but they do have jurisdiction for the restricted areas. She feels that this impacts our
35 sailors and has impacted them through the years. Ms. Evans asks that the Town keep up with what the county does
36 about it or what the Town thinks we ought to do. She feels the Town has had a good experience working with the
37 military and the state in the past to ensure all interests were taken into consideration.

38 **4. Public Hearing requests**

39 Manager Miller requests that the Board set a Public Hearing for their January meeting. Mr. Sharpe's request for
40 short-term rental was pushed back as the Planning Board did not meet and their recommendation is needed for
41 Public Hearing. They will meet on December 7 and forward their recommendation to the Board. In expectation that
42 this happens, Manager Miller requests that a hearing be set for January. The Sutton SUP request has been put on
43 permanent hold as the Suttons will be staying in their house.

44
45 **Commissioner White** made a **MOTION** to set the Public Hearing for the Sharpe SUP for January 2. Seconded by
46 **Commissioner Overcash**. Motion passed 5-0.

47 **5. Any other old business**

48 No old business to discuss.

49 **6. Swearing in Mayor and Board Members**

55 **Mayor Belangia** and all Commissioners left the dais. Mayor Belangia presented plaques of appreciation to outgoing
56 Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tempore Barbara Venturi and outgoing Commissioner Sandy Winfrey.

57
58 Mayor Belangia, Commissioner Overcash, Commissioner White, Commissioner Price, and newly elected
59 Commissioners Eric Dammeyer and Dianne Simmons were sworn in (Oaths attached). All returned to the dais.

60
61 **7. Any additions to the agenda from newly seated Mayor and Board**

62 No additions to the agenda.

63
64 **8. Approval of the Agenda of New Business by the newly seated Mayor and Board**

65 There were no objections to the previously approved agenda.

66
67 **9. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore**

68 **Commissioner Overcash** made a **MOTION** to nominate **Commissioner White** for Mayor Pro Tempore. Seconded
69 by **Commissioner Price**. Motion passed 5-0. (Oath attached)

70
71 Board Liaisons were assigned as follows:

- 72
73 1. Harbor Waterfronts Advisory Committee – Commissioners White and Simmons
74 2. Parks & Recreation – Commissioners Dammeyer and Overcash
75 3. Planning Board – Commissioners Overcash and White
76 4. Tourism Board – Commissioner Simmons
77 5. Tree Board – Commissioner Price
78 6. Water Advisory Committee – Commissioner Price
79 7. Check Signing – Commissioners White, Overcash and Simmons
80 8. Eastern Carolina Council on Government – Commissioners Price and Overcash
81 9. Human Resources – Commissioner White
82 10. Mayor Pro Tem – Commissioner White
83 11. Monthly Bank Statements – Commissioner Price

84
85 **10. January meeting agenda/Quarterly workshop scheduled for January 25, 2018**

86 The Quarterly Agenda Workshop will be held on January 25, 2018 at 4pm. Manager Miller asked for the Board to
87 forward to her any topics, and bring documentation, that they would like to discuss. The final draft of the paperwork
88 for the dog park will be available then. Manager Miller is still working on the draft.

89
90 **11. Police Report**

91 Manager Miller delivered the police report as Officer Blayney is out of Town, but asked Manager Miller to relay to
92 the Board that the boat that had been stolen had been recovered, half sunk, on the other side of the creek with no
93 indication of who had taken it. A lot of business checks were done as well as assisting other law enforcement and
94 assisting citizens. Officer Blayney assisted a boater staying at one of our docks that had a medical emergency. The
95 boater has called us to let us know he was okay and that he would be coming back to get his boat. Commissioner
96 White asked about his wellbeing and offered to pick him up if he needed a ride back to Town from the hospital.
97 Manager Miller stated that the man had made plans to get back to Town. Officer Blayney also encouraged citizens
98 to be more vigilant during the holiday season, locking doors, etc. and asks anyone in need of assistance to call him.
99 We are working toward hiring the second officer, keeping this low key until we get passed the state exam. Manager
100 Miller will make a public announcement when we are strongly headed down that road. Manager Miller is confident
101 that they will complement each other.

102
103 **12. Manager's Report.**

- 104 • Financials are attached. Commissioner Price had one question on last month's statement regarding a
105 \$60,000 deposit which was a check from Lisa Thompson for the Sea Harbour project and is now complete.
106 • The sidewalk repair contract has been signed. Project should begin shortly after the holidays.
107 • PEV station is up and running. There will be an article on Towndock. It is an easy process, simply wave the
108 card across it to unlock the handle. Manager Miller receives computer notification when someone is using
109 one of the stations. The PEV allows users to get in a waiting line if one of the PEVs is in use and will be

110 notified on their mobile device when it is available. The stations are fully upgradeable so in the future if
111 there is a need, we can add an additional charging handle. Also, if it becomes unsustainable, we have the
112 ability to add a debit/credit card option. Currently, the cost to run it is .42 cents per hour so for now, we can
113 absorb some of that. Infrastructure is already in place for this.

- 114 • Dog park installation has begun. Poles are up and fencing will be strung. It sits between the fire house and
115 the gravel road and is the highest piece of land out there. There are sections for large and small dogs with a
116 bullpen where you enter with your dog, close the gate and then enter the large or small area as a safety
117 feature. We have paperwork from another successful dog park, which we have amended and has been
118 legally vetted. There will be a simple registration process at Town Hall.
- 119 • Planning Board vacancies: The Town Board appoints this Board. Manager Miller has submitted several
120 names and have bowed out. The Planning Board does a lot of work, are very thorough and Manager Miller
121 would like to appoint people to that Board who will continue to work in that way. They do have to be town
122 citizens.
- 123 • Manager Miller will be attending school in Chapel Hill from January 9-12.
- 124 • Town Hall will have limited staff on Friday, December 22 and will close at 3:30pm and will be closed
125 December 25 and 26. Late fees will be applied at close of business on December 27. Payments can be left
126 in the drop box.
- 127 • Andrew Cox will be out from December 13 until January 1.
- 128 • The annual Christmas party went very well. Merritt bonuses were distributed that day. The staff earned
129 their bonuses the last two years and were budgeted as such. They earned between 1 and 3%. The advantage
130 to this as opposed to a raise is this is not compounded to the next year. Raises are earned according to their
131 evaluation, a 9-11 page evaluation and is given in one check. Performance has improved, fewer misreads,
132 fewer problems, fewer absences with this process and Manager Miller feels this has been working well.
- 133 • Manager Miller addressed questions for the last Board meeting. Regarding the comment from Mr. Barton
134 who quoted David Owens from the School of Government, Manager Miller spoke with him when she
135 attended school the following week. Manager Miller and Mr. Owens thought of the same incident –
136 Princeton [sic] (Princeville). This was the community that during Hurricane Floyd, where the most
137 vulnerable population was in the least well constructed homes in the worst elevation. When this community
138 was wiped out, there was no insurance to rebuild; they lived in FEMA trailers for an extended period of
139 time. The Planning Board discussed this during the GMO revisions and posed the question, why would
140 they allow the most vulnerable population to be in the worst built homes, so Class B was eliminated. After
141 speaking with Mr. Owens, it cannot be eliminated by Class but there is a way to fix this. This is to remove
142 Class altogether from the language altogether and to institute the standards that are defined as a Class A in
143 our Ordinance with minimum length, width, etc. for manufactured homes. Stick built has no minimums
144 where manufactured do so Planning Board removed the Classes from that language and removed the
145 Classes from the GMO Permissible Use Table and then we will be compliant. This will be brought back to
146 the Planning Board.
- 147 • Ethics class for Commissioners Simmons and Dammeyer is not yet scheduled. Generally, the ECCOG in
148 New Bern hosts the class for the local elected officials required by statute.
- 149 • Adjustments to Spirit of Christmas: The weather is not looking good. Manager Miller spoke with Marsha
150 Paplham and there may be adjustments to the luminaria, may go to Saturday. Notices have gone out and
151 signs will be put up regarding the dock closures from Friday noon to Sunday noon. Town is on standby if
152 anyone needs assistance.
- 153 • We are working on Christmas decorations that are getting damaged by large vehicles. Next year, we may
154 turn them to the side to prevent this.
- 155 • Commissioner White commented that where it concerns the docks, if they gentleman with the medical
156 emergency returns, we should not move his boat. Manager Miller spoke with him and told him to take his
157 time.
- 158 • Anyone in the large boat flotilla was advised to contact Joe Valinoti at joesail@gmail.com. Larry
159 Summers is coordinating the kayak flotilla.
- 160 • Mr. Fulcher's agent, Dennis Fornes, has contacted Manager Miller with a parking lot plan and has secured
161 a list of preferred trees, shrubs and ground cover from Dr. Bob Miller of the Tree Board. The GMO states
162 he should bring a plan to the Planning Board and the Planning Board should refer it to the Tree Board.

163 Manager Miller told him we will go through the Tree Board and then take all of it to the Planning Board. If
164 we need to go back to the Tree Board afterwards we will.

165
166 **13. Committee Reports.**

- 167 1. Tree Board – October 31, 2017
168 2. Tourism Board – November 21, 2017
169

170 **14. Commissioners' comments.**

171 Commissioner Overcash wished to reinforce previous comments by Manager Miller regarding applicants to serve on
172 the Planning Board. It is labor intensive and there are times where work is done outside of the meetings. He did state
173 that it is rewarding as you help shape what happens in Oriental. Just be sure if you nominate someone or apply
174 yourself, that there is a lot involved. Commissioner Price thanked the Oriental Woman's Club for cleaning up on
175 Broad Street. Manager Miller stated that the Toys for Pamlico Kids will be picked up Friday for anyone interested in
176 dropping anything off.
177

178 **15. Adjourn.**

179 Commissioner Price made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Simmons. Motion passed 5-0.

180 Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.
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186 Sally Belangia, Mayor

185 _____
186 Diane H. Miller, Town Manager/Clerk

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189 Approved _____, 2017 _____
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