



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 8AM

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia officiating

The Town Board of Oriental Regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 was called to order at 8:00 AM. Mayor Belangia determined a quorum to be present, opened the meeting and turned it over to the Manager. The meeting was open to the public. All documents for the meeting were available through the Town's website at [www.TownofOriental.com](http://www.TownofOriental.com).

Present: Mayor Pro Tempore White, Commissioner Overcash, Commissioner Price, Commissioner Winfrey, Commissioner Roe, Town Manager Diane Miller, Administrative Director Tammy Cox, Officer Blayney, and several members of the public.

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Overcash made a MOTION to accept the agenda. Commissioner Winfrey seconds. 5-0. Also- Commissioner Roe questioned the period of turnover and staggered terms. Alternates are not staggered, which is why there are so many appointments this time.

Consent Agenda: Commissioner Roe noted that the Minutes under the BOA appointments that the decision was pushed to this meeting. Mayor Pro Tempore White Made a MOTION to approve the consent with correction. Commissioner Overcash agrees. Minutes to be amended. Mayor Commissioner Overcash seconds. 5-0.

Public Comment: 8:06AM Mrs. Roe notes her qualifications for open position on BOA. Chairman of the Board makes recommendation to the Town Board who makes the ultimate decision.

Public Hearing GMO change to BOA: Manager introduces, notes the only actual change is to the final dates of each term to make them consistent. Town Board reconstituted the fallen BOA in 2013 by Motion/Vote. Manager tracked every appointment since inception in 1999, and notes all appointments are valid and changed at the proper time, only differences are the expiration dates. This Ordinance change gathers those expiration points to 6/30 of whatever year. Notes that we must fill spots resigning early to the end of the appointment, similar to Town Board and then either reappoint or get new. Mayor Pro Tempore White makes a MOTION to open the public Hearing. Commissioner Winfrey seconds. 5-0.

Sally Belangia: asks for Public Comment

Jennifer Roe is sworn in to provide testimony by Manager Miller.

JR: Dates might not be right. Terms to start on July 1, but 22.4.1 says at the BOA's first meeting in June (a year later), some date needs to change.

Diane Miller: Agreed- good point- there is a conflict. Attorney forwarded language- we can change it to June 1, expiring May 31.

JR: Dates conflict with the other parts of the Ordinance.

DM: Recommend that we change these dates.

JR: Could make terms run June 1-July. No.

DM: We can move to expire May 31, terms commence June 1, that right?

JR: what they're trying to do is make it a year. That makes it in compliance with the rest.

DM: Thank you. Terms commence June 1 and expire May 31.

SB: Commissioner Comments

DW: MOTION to close Public Hearing

Sandy Winfrey: Second.

SB: Motion and second- any comments? 5-0.

43 Mayor invites Board members to comment. Mayor Pro Tempore White makes a MOTION to approve the GMO  
44 change AS AMENDED. Commissioner Roe seconds. 5-0.

45  
46 Appointments: BOA appointments: Valinoti, Carmichael, Khouri and Cox, and then there is an open seat due to the  
47 resignation of Mr. Ken Small. Commissioner Roe asks to split the reappointments on two- existing reappointments  
48 and then a motion/second for the open seat. Commissioner Overcash asks to add the appointment of Vicki  
49 Rasmussen to Parks and Recreation to the first Motion. Mayor agrees.

50 Mayor Pro Tempore White makes a MOTION to appoint Chris Moffat to the Board of Adjustment. Commissioner  
51 Roe stops the process and asks that the other motion be made first because he wants to recuse himself from the new  
52 appointee vote because his wife is a candidate. Mayor agrees. Mayor Pro Tempore White amends the motion to  
53 reappoint the existing members with expiring terms, and also to appoint Mrs. Rasmussen to the Parks and  
54 Recreation Committee. Commissioner Roe seconds. 5-0. Commissioner Roe recuses himself from the next vote.

55  
56 Mrs. Roe asks about other members not to be reappointed. Marlowe and Welling are not being reappointed.

57  
58 Manager notes these appointments have to be right because this moves from us to Superior Court. Quasi-Judicial  
59 proceeding.

60  
61 Mayor Pro Tempore White makes a MOTION to appoint Chris Moffatt to the BOA. Commissioner Overcash  
62 seconds. Commissioner Price notes that both candidates are abundantly qualified- not an easy decision.  
63 Commissioner Overcash notes that the relationship between Frank and Jennifer Roe could give the APPEARANCE  
64 that might open us up to questions. 4-0, Roe abstaining.

65  
66 Ms. Rahm (Planning Chair) asks if the terms will be moved from the existing dates to the previously discussed  
67 dates.

68 Mrs. Roe asks about the question about staggering- does the stagger start over? No. The terms are carried forward.  
69 Manager finds the GMO section on constituting and moving forward with terms. Alternates were not staggered from  
70 the beginning. Expiration dates are changed to 5/31/each year.

71  
72 Officer Blayne provides the Police Report-including the weather event and the OFPMF. Described situation  
73 during/after OFPMF where phones/keys were returned to owners without issues. Phone ended up folded up lawn  
74 chair with phone in it! Formatting changes to be hours of activity. OFPMF went really well. Lots of folks in town  
75 despite bad weather. Commissioner Overcash asked about traffic enforcement. Both Officers have made several  
76 stops- traffic IS slowing down. Midyette and Ragan are prime spots for enforcement. Manager thanks Officers for  
77 extra work during festival to make it all work smoothly. Both Sheriff Deputies and Police were complimented by  
78 visitors. Note that moving your car to higher ground does not negate handicapped only parking- it's still  
79 handicapped parking. Good time to remind people that NO PARKING signs AND YELLOW CURBS mean NO  
80 PARKING. Commissioner Roe notes incident at Piggly Wiggly and thanks our Officers for quick response and  
81 quick defusing situation.

82  
83 Manager's Report: All departments reporting for last time. Board indicated they did not need the full report- just the  
84 highlights. Financials attached. Twice as many work orders processed. Copper/lead testing as required. One home  
85 had barely over the limit readings. Attributed to one house, one resident, minimal water usage, water sits in pipes  
86 longer. Tests have very specific parameters. ORC spoke to that resident. No violation- just note we did have one  
87 poop on the test. Fence is up at Water Plant as directed in budget. Inspection and cleaning of both tanks is complete.  
88 Continuing education hours for water operators. We are replacing toilets- partial replacements not fixing leaks both  
89 here and at public restroom. Neuse Beach project is moving well- almost finished. Awaiting fixes at WPR. Meeting  
90 paving contractor next week, audit moving forward.

Commissioner Overcash asks about meeting with Senator Sanderson for infrastructure. We did- roads/water distribution. Discussed the underfunding for smaller towns. Repaving is \$1M/mile. We receive \$40K/year. Asking for some direct funding. All available opportunities have at least one disqualifying parameter. The Senator noted that money was allocated to places where there is a limited time to spend and then it will revert and be reallocated. We need to be in line when that reallocation happens. Commissioner Roe notes the specific funds given for very specific purposes. None of those address our issues. The Public needs to write Senator Sanderson and our new representative Kidwell. Funds were pigeonholed and made unavailable for more general purposes. Public Works did a great job in storm prep- this one was difficult- no commitment to path/strength/etc- on which direction we needed to go- tie it down or pick it up? Manager shows photos of emergency responders going door to door looking for survivors- this is why we try to get folks to let someone know or use the sheets to let us know you are gone.

Committee Reports: Ms. Crosser had meetings with pickleball and tennis folks at the court. Looking to make that ne tennis court into two pickleball courts. We can re-stripe it- perpendicular to tennis, using portable pickleball nets- locked container with code on website to use those things. Looking at last re-striping, pickleball people (some are county/some in-town) will support by half cost.

Julie from Planning: PB is working on Comprehensive Land Use Plan and CAMA Land Use Plan updates- new census data plus 160D re-laying of zoning GS. We will be redistributing things to other Boards for their input, and then prepare a new draft for review and acceptance by the Board. PB will do workshop tomorrow to look at the tables included. Also looking at Driveway Ordinance- we rewrite when we find issues- may have been more restrictive than necessary. Trying to balance private property rights with town impacts.

Commissioner Roe notes Tree Board working on gravel road to water tower.

James Blackerby notes thanks for securing waterfront facilities for storm. Gates at WPR are weaker than expected. Original contractor will return to correct. Project updates are working through the Committee and will be given to the Board.

Carla Fischer- Tourism- trying to get others to get their events to us for publication on website. Also- calendaring events.

Commissioner Comments: Mayor Pro Tempore White notes HWAC is meeting this afternoon. Many projects approved are underway: Net House, kayak launcher, beach rehab, rock at Wall St. Today to talk about jurisdiction- enforcement will be difficult (and expensive) at best.

Commissioner Roe notes discussion with Manager about signs: parking/traffic signs/children at play/men working plus poles and hardware. Street signs missing. We budget \$750/year. This order was several thousand dollars. Responsive to ongoing concerns about parking/speeding, etc.

Commissioner Price thanks the OFPMF organizers- questioned the decision to go on, but it was well-attended. Commissioner Overcash noted beautification meeting. One of the things we noted was the abuse of public trash containers. If you see someone doing that, get their LICENSE PLATE number.

Commissioner Price notes DON'T CONFRONT those- just get the license. Mr. Valinoti notes green contractors should be hauling their trimmings away.

Mayor Belangia invites all to the Car Show this weekend. Witches Crawl the 29<sup>th</sup>. Also Poker run coming up. Saturday is also the household hazardous waste dropoff.

Next meeting scheduled: Town Board Quarterly Meeting – November 1, 2022, 8AM.

Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 9:10 AM by MOTION of Commissioner Winfrey, second by Commissioner Price. 5-0.

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Sally Belangia, Mayor

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Diane H. Miller, Town Manager/Clerk

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2022