



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, December 9, 2025 6PM  
507 Church Street, Oriental, NC  
Mayor Sally Belangia officiating

1 The Town Board of Oriental regular meeting was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025,  
2 and was called to order at 6 PM. Mayor Belangia determined a quorum to be present. The  
3 meeting was open to the public. All documents for the meeting were available through the  
4 Town's website at [www.TownofOriental.com](http://www.TownofOriental.com). Mayor starts with the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 Present: Mayor Belangia(SB), Commissioner Overcash(CO), Commissioner  
6 Litzenberger(BL), Commissioner Crosser (BC), MPT Allen Price (AP), Town Manager Diane  
7 Miller(DM), Finance Officer Lisa Millington, Officer Wichrowski, and members of the Public.  
8 Mayor calls the meeting to order and starts with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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11 **2. Approval of Agenda**

12 A motion was made by CO and seconded by BC to approve the agenda. Motion carried  
13 unanimously.

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15 **3. Consent Agenda**

16 The Board considered approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2025 Town Board  
17 Meeting.

18 BL makes the MOTION, CO seconds. Motion approved unanimously.

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20 **4. Public Comment (Old Business)**

21 No speakers signed up for the initial public comment period.

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23 **5. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners**

24 Plaques of appreciation were presented to outgoing commissioners for service to the Town:

- 25 • **Sandy Winfrey** For coming back AGAIN and filling in a vacancy!
- 26 • **Charlie Overcash** (12 years as Commissioner; prior Planning Board and Board of  
27 Adjustment service)
- 28 • **Breana Litzenberger** (Service on Harbor & Waterfront Committee, website and budget  
29 software improvements)
- 30 • **Allen Price** (Mayor Pro Tempore; liaison and ambassador work)
- 31 • **Bonnie Crosser** (Park & Recreation leadership and committee revival)

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34 **6. Adjournment of Outgoing Board**

35 Motion made by SW and seconded by BL and approved to adjourn the outgoing board meeting.

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37 **Swearing-In Ceremony**

38 The newly elected officials were sworn into office:

- 39 • Mayor **Sally Truitt Belangia**
- 40
- 41 • Commissioners sworn in:

- 42 • **Iris B. Cooper**
- 43
- 44 • **Chris Edward Moffatt**
- 45
- 46 • **Paul Richard Jordan II**
- 47
- 48 • **Louis Frederick Ostendorff III**
- 49
- 50 • **Donald James McGuire**
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53 **New Board Meeting**

54 **7. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore**

55 Motion made by CM to appoint **Commissioner Paul Jordan** as Mayor Pro Tem. Seconded by  
56 DMc. Approved unanimously.

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58 **8. Approval of Agenda**

59 Motion made by LO, seconded by IC, and approved unanimously.

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61 **9. Public Comment (New Business)**

62 **Pickleball Court Expansion – Lupton Park**

63 **Pat Allen** and **Tony Noel** spoke on behalf of the Pamlico Pickleball Facilities Committee,  
64 requesting expansion from two to four courts and coordination with paving work scheduled next  
65 year.

66  
67 **Special Olympics Polar Plunge Request**

68 **Jesse Aldridge** requested approval to use the Town Beach for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge  
69 on **January 31, 2026 at 1:00 PM.**

70 Motion made by IC, seconded by PJ, approved unanimously.

71 Accessibility improvements were discussed, including beach mats and wheelchairs; information  
72 was referred to the Harbor & Waterfront Advisory Committee.

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73  
74 **10. Organizational Assignments**

75 Motion approved designating board liaisons and signing authorities, including:

- 76 • Chris Moffatt – bank statement reconciliation
- 77 • Sally Belangia & Paul Jordan – check signing officials
- 78 • Diane Miller & Lisa Millington – staff signing authority
- 79 • Iris Cooper to be HR Liaison
- 80 • Chris Moffatt and Lou Ostendorff to the Tree Board
- 81 • Paul Jordan and Don McGuire to Parks and Recreation.
- 82 • Paul Jordan and Don McGuire to Harbors and Waterfronts.
- 83 • Chris Moffatt and Iris Cooper to Planning Board
- 84 • Lou Ostendorff and Don McGuire to Water Advisory Board.
- 85 • Iris Cooper and Paul Jordan to Tourism Board.
- 86 • Approved unanimously.

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88 **11. Meeting Schedule Amendments**

89 Board voted to cancel the **January 13, 2026** regular meeting and meet instead at the **January 29,**  
90 **2026 workshop** by Motion from CM, Second by PJ. Passed unanimously.

91

92 **12. Code of Ethics Resolution**  
93 Motion made by IC and seconded by CM to adopt the Board’s Code of Ethics resolution. Passed  
94 unanimously.

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96 **13. Board Appointments**  
97 Appointments approved as presented, including:  
98 • Rob McDonald – Board of Adjustment alternate  
99 • Ann Rost – Board of Adjustment seat  
100 • Breena Litzenberger – Harbor & Waterfront Committee  
101 • Roger Huth Water Advisory Board chair appointment  
102 Motion by CM, Second by DMc, passed unanimously.

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103  
104 **14. Audit Response – Financial Indicator of Concern**  
105 Town Manager explained concern regarding depreciated water fund assets and ongoing  
106 infrastructure improvements funded by grants.  
107 Board approved response by Motion by LO and second by PJ, passed unanimously and signed  
108 required documentation.

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110 **15. January Workshop Topics**  
111 Board agreed to cover:  
112 • Tree Ordinance Revision  
113 • Chapter E Harbor/Waterfront updates  
114 • Rules of Procedure

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116 **16. Police Report**  
117 Officer Wichrowski provided updates, including the upcoming **Santa Ride** on December 18–20  
118 (rain date Dec. 21).

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119  
120 **17. Town Manager Report & Financial Update**  
121 Manager Miller reported on:  
122 • Volunteer appreciation event  
123 • Whitaker Creek project nearing completion  
124 • Spirit of Christmas events  
125 • County tax revaluation presentation on December 16  
126 • Financial performance updates for General Fund and Water Fund

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128 **18. Mayor & Commissioner Comments**  
129 Commissioners expressed appreciation to residents for civic engagement.  
130 Mayor Belangia highlighted Spirit of Christmas weekend events and decorations.

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132 **19. Closed Session**  
133 Motion approved to enter closed session for personnel matters pursuant to NC General Statute  
134 143-318.11(a)(6) by PJ, Second by LO. 5-0.

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137 **20. Adjournment**  
138 Following closed session, the Board reconvened and adjourned at 7:02PM.  
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Sally Belangia , Mayor

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Diane H. Miller, Town

Manager/Clerk

Approved , 2026



## ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING

Thursday, January 29, 2026 9AM

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia officiating

1 The Town Board of Oriental regular meeting was held on Thursday, January 29, 2026, and  
2 was called to order at 9AM. Mayor Belangia determined a quorum to be present. The meeting  
3 was open to the public. All documents for the meeting were available through the Town's  
4 website at [www.TownofOriental.com](http://www.TownofOriental.com). Mayor starts with the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 **Present:** Mayor Belangia(SB), Commissioner Chris Moffatt (CM), Commissioner  
6 Ostendorff (LO), Commissioner Cooper (IC), MPT Paul Jordan (PJ), Commissioner McGuire  
7 (DMc)Town Manager Diane Miller(DM), Finance Officer Lisa Millington, Officer Wichrowski,  
8 and members of the Public.

### 9 10 **1. Call to Order**

11 The Town Board of the Town of Oriental met in regular session on **January 29, 2026**, at the  
12 Town Hall.

13 Mayor called the meeting to order at **9:00 a.m.**

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### 14 15 **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

16 The Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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### 17 18 **4. Welcome and Introductions**

19 The Mayor welcomed attendees and recognized **Scott Davis**, Town Attorney, noting his  
20 upcoming **30-year anniversary** of service to the Town next month.

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### 21 22 **5. Agenda Adjustments and Approval**

23 A motion was made to amend the agenda by:

- 24 • Pulling the appointment request of **Mr. Rasmussen** to the Parks and Recreation Board to  
25 be considered at a future date
- 26 • Moving Item E to Item **8**

27 **Motion:** Approved

28 **Vote:** Unanimous

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### 29 30 **6. Public Comment Period**

31 The Mayor opened the public comment period.

- 32 • Barbara Miller, Chair of Parks and Recreation, addressed the Board regarding the  
33 **Pickleball Association proposal** for expansion at Lupton Mini Park, expressing concerns  
34 about inadequate parking, loss of mature trees, and recommending consideration of the  
35 Recreation Park as an alternative.

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### 36 37 **7. Resolutions**

#### 38 **Ethics Training Resolution**

39 A resolution was presented authorizing **Summrell Suggs Law Firm** to provide ethics training.

40 **Motion:** Approved

41 **Vote:** Unanimous

43 **8. Board Reports and Appointments**

44 **Appointments**

45 The following appointments were approved:

- 46 • **Mr. Wayne Riggs** to the Bay River Metropolitan Sewer District Board
- 47 • **Ms. Barbara Hong** to the Tourism Board

48 **Motion:** Approved

49 **Vote:** Unanimous

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51 **9. Manager's Report**

52 The Town Manager reported on:

- 53 • Upcoming **polar plunge event**
  - 54 • Extreme weather preparedness
  - 55 • Valve replacement project bids expected in February
  - 56 • County leadership meeting updates
  - 57 • Dinghy dock bid rejection due to high costs
  - 58 • Financial performance and fund balances
  - 59 • Planning Board request for a short-term rental special use permit hearing
- 

60  
61 **10. Public Hearing Scheduling**

62 A motion was made to schedule a public hearing for a Special Use Permit at **307 Vandemere** for  
63 the March 10 meeting.

64 **Motion:** Approved

65 **Vote:** Unanimous

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66  
67 **11. Workshop: Rules of Procedure**

68 Attorney Davis reviewed options for adopting Rules of Procedure, recommending use of the  
69 School of Government "Purple Book" model rules and updating the Town Charter.

70 Discussion followed regarding:

- 71 • Mayor voting and tie-breaking rules
  - 72 • Public confusion about procedural adoption
  - 73 • Charter modernization request to the legislature
- 

74  
75 **12. Ordinance Discussion**

76 **Tree Board Ordinance Update**

77 Janet China (Tree Board representative) presented proposed amendments, including:

- 78 • Clarification of private tree maintenance responsibilities
- 79 • Adjustments to Tree Board membership requirements
- 80 • Enforcement provisions for damage to Town trees

81 Board consensus was to bring the ordinance forward for formal vote at the February 10 meeting.

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82  
83 **13. Closed Session**

84 The Board entered closed session pursuant to **NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6)** for personnel matters.

85 **Motion:** Approved

86 **Vote:** Unanimous

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88 **14. Return to Open Session**

89 Upon return, the Board took the following actions:

- 90 • Appointed **Officer Bill Wichrowski** as Chief of Police
- 91 • Approved advertising to hire an additional police officer
- 92 • Scheduled Tourism Board briefing for February 19 at 5:00 p.m.

93 All motions approved unanimously.

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95 **15. Adjournment**

96 A motion was made to adjourn.

97 **Motion:** Approved

98 **Vote:** Unanimous

99 The meeting adjourned.

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104 Sally Belangia , Mayor

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108 Approved , 2026

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Diane H. Miller, Town

Manager/Clerk

## Diane Miller

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**From:** Eli Foht <eli.foht@racedayevents.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:31 PM  
**To:** manager@townoforiental.com  
**Subject:** RE: Bike MS New Bern  
**Attachments:** Town of Oriental - Facility Forms 26 - Signed.pdf; D1 RS5 Agreement-Signed.pdf

Hi Diane,  
I got both the park reservation form and a release form filled out and ready for you. Those are both attached.

Thank you so much for assisting once again this year!

Let me know if there is anything else you need from us in the meantime.

Thanks!



Eli Foht

Director of Warehousing and Logistics  
2829 Royal Avenue, Suite 100  
Madison WI 53713  
O:608-509-2887 P:608-512-2081

*"We Make Weekends Awesome"*

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**From:** Diane Miller <manager@townoforiental.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2026 8:50 AM  
**To:** Eli Foht <eli.foht@racedayevents.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Bike MS New Bern

I'll take this to the Board at their next regular meeting February 10.

The park reservation form is online at townoforiental.com under residents and online forms. One of those next week would be GREAT!

## Diane H. Miller, MPA, ICMA-CM

*Town Manager  
Town of Oriental, NC  
507 Church St PO Box 472  
Oriental, NC 28571  
Ph: 252.249.0555*

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ORIENTAL

SAILING CAPITAL OF NC

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**From:** Eli Foht [<mailto:eli.foht@racedayevents.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026 3:23 PM

**To:** [manager@townoforiental.com](mailto:manager@townoforiental.com)

**Subject:** Bike MS New Bern

Hi Diane,

My name is Eli and I am working with the national MS Society to assist in production of their New Bern Ride this year. I wanted to reach out to you as rest stop #5 for the New Bern Ride last year was hosted at Lou Mac Park to see if that would be possible again this year on Saturday 9/19. If this is something that you could accommodate, we would greatly appreciate it! If there were any issues or concerns last year that you would like addressed this year, please feel free to let me know and I will ensure they are taken care of. If there is any paperwork, contracts or deposits that are necessary please let me know and I would be happy to get those filled out and back to you.

Thank you so much for your time!



Eli Foht

Director of Warehousing and Logistics  
2829 Royal Avenue, Suite 100  
Madison WI 53713  
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