



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
 Tuesday, February 10, 2026 6PM  
 507 Church Street, Oriental, NC  
 Mayor Sally Belangia officiating

1 The Town Board of Oriental regular meeting was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026,  
 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 Chris Moffat (CM), Commissioner Cooper  
 6 (IC), Commissioner McGuire (DMc), Commissioner Lou Ostendorff (LO), MPT Paul Jordan,  
 7 Town Manager Diane Miller(DM), Finance Officer Lisa Millington, Chief Wichrowski, and  
 8 members of the Public. Mayor calls the meeting to order and starts with the Pledge of Allegiance.  
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10 **Regular Meeting Minutes**

11 all documents were available on the Town’s website ([www.TownofOriental.com](http://www.TownofOriental.com)).  
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13 **Present**

- 14 • Mayor Sally Belangia (SB)
- 15 • Commissioner Chris Moffat (CM)
- 16 • Commissioner Cooper (IC)
- 17 • Commissioner McGuire (DMc)
- 18 • Commissioner Lou Ostendorff (LO)
- 19 • Mayor Pro Tem Paul Jordan (PJ)
- 20 • Town Manager Diane Miller (DM)
- 21 • Finance Officer Lisa Millington
- 22 • Chief Wichrowski
- 23 • Members of the Public
- 24 draft minutes

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26 **Agenda Approval**

27 Mayor Pro Tem Jordan moved to amend the agenda to add **Item 6B – Change in Compensation**  
 28 **(Public Works)** regarding staff member Jerry obtaining ORC wastewater certification.

29 Commissioner McGuire seconded.

30 **Vote: 5-0, Aye.**

31 The agenda was approved as amended.  
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33 **Public Comment**

34 **Larry Summers**

- 35 • Announced the 16th Annual Chinese New Year celebration on February 21 at 2:00 PM  
 36 (Year of the Horse).
- 37 • Requested more detailed monthly financial reporting for the Board.

38 **Breana Litzenberger**

- 39 • Thanked Town staff and local businesses for their efforts during the recent snowstorm.

- Expressed appreciation for communication updates and community support.

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## **Consent Agenda**

Approved:

- Regular Board Meeting Minutes – December 9
- Workshop Meeting Minutes – January 29
- Closed Session Minutes – December 9
- Closed Session Minutes – January (date unspecified)
- Request from Mike Ms to use Lou Mac Park as rest stop (September 19)

Motion by CM, second by PJ.

**Approved.**

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## **Presentation – Register of Deeds, Lynn Lewis**

Ms. Lewis presented information on increasing real estate title fraud scams, including:

- Explanation of recording requirements.
- Introduction of the Pamlico County Fraud Alert notification system.
- Importance of title searches and title insurance.
- Discussion of proposed Senate Bill 423 related to fraud victims.
- Reminder that North Carolina is a race state (first to record prevails).
- Encouragement to monitor properties, including vacant or secondary homes.

Discussion followed regarding GIS updates and fraud prevention measures.

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## **Police Department**

### **Swearing-In of Chief Wichrowski**

Mayor Belangia formally swore in Chief Wichrowski following Board authorization at the January 29 workshop.

### **Police Report**

Chief Wichrowski reported:

- Coordinated storm response with Emergency Management and county agencies.
  - Limited incidents during the snowstorm.
  - Appreciation for community cooperation.
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## **Public Works – ORC Certification**

Jerry (Public Works) obtained certification as backup ORC for wastewater discharge, bringing the Town into state compliance.

Motion by PJ to increase Jerry’s salary by \$1.00 per hour.

Second by CM.

**Approved.**

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## **Manager’s Report (Highlights)**

### **Water Treatment Rehab (TRC)**

- Valve project pre-bid conference rescheduled virtually due to snow.
- Bids due February 25; anticipated award March 10.

### **CycleNC**

- Scheduled April 24–26.
- Coordination underway for logistics, vendors, entertainment.

### **Generator**

- 87       • Experiencing error codes; installers to inspect.

88       **Chapter K (Utilities)**

- 89       • Cutoffs delayed due to storm.  
90       • Proposed revisions for flexibility during emergencies.  
91       • Drainage issue on Windward Drive discussed (culvert installation concerns).

92       **Water Loss During Storm**

- 93       • Significant increase in water usage due to frozen/broken lines.  
94       • Town offered free shutoff service prior to storm; limited participation.

95       **Financial Report**

- 96       • Property tax collections increased to 86%.  
97       • Sales tax slightly down (two months behind reporting).  
98       • General Fund up \$287,000.  
99       • Water Fund positive; includes PFAS settlement funds.  
100      • Occupancy tax revenues up \$1,800 from last year.  
101      • Powell Bill funds fully received.

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103      **Budget Amendments**

- 104      • Increased water sample testing (PFAS-related).  
105      • Capital project adjustment for Whitaker Creek dredging.  
106      • \$50 transferred to textMyGov for additional 25,000 texts.

107      Motion by PJ, second by DMc.

108      **Approved.**

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110      **NCLM Strategic Planning Workshop**

111      Motion by CM to allocate funds for up to five attendees (\$500 total).

112      Second by IC.

113      **Approved.**

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115      **Chapter M – Tree Ordinance Revision**

116      Board reviewed and adopted revisions previously discussed at the January workshop.

117      Motion by CM, second by IC.

118      **Approved.**

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120      **Commissioner Comments**

- 121      • Appreciation expressed to Chief Wichrowski and public safety personnel for storm  
122      response.  
123      • Reminder to residents to prepare for at least 72 hours following major weather events.

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125      **Adjournment**

126      Motion to adjourn by DMc, second by CM.

127      **Approved.**

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130      Sally Belangia, Mayor

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132      Diane H. Miller, Town Manager/Clerk

133      Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

*Mayor*  
Sally T. Belangia



*Town Manager/Clerk to the Board*  
Diane H. Miller

*Board of Commissioners*  
Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Jordan  
Commissioner Chris Moffat  
Commissioner Iris Cooper  
Commissioner Don McGuire  
Commissioner Lou Ostendorff

*Town Attorney*  
M. Scott Davis

**TOWN OF ORIENTAL**  
Post Office Box 472  
Oriental, North Carolina 28571  
252.249.0555

**Resolution 2026-02**

**WELCOME to the Oriental In-Water Boat Show & Nautical Flea Market**

For the seventeenth year, the Oriental Rotary Club will sponsor an annual In-Water Boat Show. The Funds raised from this event are used for scholarships for deserving students, and to aid other charitable organizations within our community.

The Boat Show is one of the major events of the Town of Oriental and provides an economic impact for the businesses in town. The Commissioners of the Town of Oriental would like to pay special tribute to the sponsors of the Boat Show and to all the volunteers and people who visit this event. Without their support, the Boat Show and all the good it accomplishes would not be possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Sally Truitt Belangia, Mayor of Oriental, do hereby proclaim April 10-12, 2026 as the Oriental In-Water Boat Show & Nautical Flea Market Weekend.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 10th day of March, 2026.

SALLY TRUITT BELANGIA, MAYOR, TOWN OF ORIENTAL

SEAL



**Resolution of Appreciation  
THE TOWN OF ORIENTAL  
Resolution 2026-03**

**WHEREAS**, the Articles of Incorporation for the Town of Oriental were duly ratified on the 4th day March, 1899, by the State of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, our Attorney, MICHAEL SCOTT DAVIS has been with us since March 20, 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Oriental presents many challenges that are not common for a Town of its size; and

**WHEREAS**, MICHAEL SCOTT DAVIS has seen the Town of Oriental grow and prosper with his guidance over 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Oriental is abundantly grateful for that guidance, defense, advocacy, and research that goes into his role as Town Attorney.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SALLY TRUITT BELANGIA**, Mayor of the Town of Oriental, do hereby proclaim Friday, March 20, 2026,

**MICHAEL SCOTT DAVIS DAY**

in the Town of Oriental, and encourage citizens to celebrate accordingly (as only Oriental does).

Witness my hand and Seal on this 10th day of March, 2026.

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Sally Truitt Belangia, Mayor

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Attest: Diane H. Miller, Mgr/Clerk

# Resolution 2026-04

## Arbor Day Proclamation

*Whereas,* In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

*Whereas,* the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

*Whereas,* Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

*Whereas,* trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

*Whereas,* trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

*Whereas,* trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

*Whereas,* trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,

NOW, THEREFORE, I Sally Belangia, Mayor of the Town of Oriental, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 18, 2026, as

# Arbor Day

In the Town of Oriental, North Carolina and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

*Further,* I urge all citizens to plant and care for trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

*Dated* this tenth day of March in the year 2026

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDINANCE 2026-329**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIENTAL CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF ORIENTAL,

**SECTION 1.** That **Chapter K** be amended as follows:

**CHAPTER K – WATER SERVICE**

**ARTICLE X – BILL COLLECTION**

Add:

**Section 7- Acts of God**

Any naturally occurring and uncontrollable event that prevents the office at Town Hall from being open within 5 days of the due date, late date, or cutoff date, allows the Town Manager discretion to move those dates out in order to accommodate in person payments that may have been prevented due to the event.

**SECTION 2.** That these changes become effective immediately following adoption.

**ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sally Belangia, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane H. Miller, Town Manager

Ordinance # 2024-329 \_\_\_\_\_