

Residents of Oriental,

I want to make you aware of what's bubbling up around Commissioner Roe's upcoming vacancy. Three commissioners are trying to schedule a special meeting to "amend the rules of procedure" — not just decide the play for this one vacancy, but rewrite the entire playbook for how *all* future vacancies are filled. That kind of change should be handled in a workshop with transparency and care, not rushed through for short-term advantage.

When the Mayor said **no** to a Special Meeting, Commissioner Allen Price used his Mayor Pro Tempore title to call one anyway, scheduling it before Commissioner Roe's departure and while Manager Miller is on vacation.

Our attorney has been clear: Roe should not vote on anything regarding filling his own seat, and any amendment to the procedure, should include a tie-breaker. Yet the goal appears to be the opposite — to force a stalemate and leave the seat vacant, which is a disservice to the town. Luckily, state statutes prevented this last-minute maneuver.

You deserve better. You deserve commissioners who work together for the town, not manipulate rules for their own gain. Two of the commissioners behind this — Crosser and Price — are on the ballot this fall. In the months ahead, stay engaged: ask questions, press candidates for facts backed by data, and don't settle for vague answers. Be respectful but persistent. Our town deserves a board that puts residents first.