

Town of Oriental – Board of Commissioners Meeting
July 10, 2007

The Oriental Town Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 10, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Oriental Town Hall. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and Commissioners Bohmert, Herlands, Inger and Venturi. Also present were Planning Board members Cox and Sage and 10 members of the public.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to approve the May 31 minutes. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the June 5th minutes. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to approve the June 6th minutes with corrections. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the June 7th minutes with one correction. Second by Commissioner Herlands. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to approve the June 28 minutes with one addition. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 5-0.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: Mrs. Sage gave the Planning Board report (copy of report is in the minutes book). Mr. Richard Creighton submitted a resume seeking a position on the Planning Board. As he has not attended any of the meetings, the Board requested that he attend two Planning Board meetings to see if really wants to join that board.

WHITTAKER HARBOR/ANNEXATION & ZONING: The commissioners discussed the Planning Board's recommendation that the property be zoned R3. Mr. Propst stated he requested that particular zoning so that he may "keep his options open".

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the annexation and zoning of Whittaker Harbor on September 4, 2007 and at the August meeting the Board will discuss the wording of the announcement. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0.

CATHOLIC CHURCH/ANNEXATION & ZONING: Commissioner Herlands requested that Mr. Cutler ask the town attorney for an explanation of the significance of their petition requesting certain vested zoning rights to be established. Should the property be annexed and then sold further down the road, would they have those rights in perpetuity? Are those rights transferable?

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the annexation and zoning of the St. Peter the Fisherman Catholic Church, on September 4, 2007 and at the August meeting the Board will discuss the wording of the announcement. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the annexation and zoning of the Parmley property on White Farm Road, on September 4, 2007 and at the August meeting the Board will discuss the wording of the announcement. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 5-0.

PIERCE CREEK LANDING PERMIT EXTENSION REQUEST - The Planning Board recommended granting the 6 month extension.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the extension. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 5-0.

SOUTH AVE LITIGATION UPDATE: Mr. Lacy Henry, his attorney and an engineer will ask to meet with the Board in August to present a possible resolution.

TOURISM BOARD REPORT – Report was given by Commissioner Bohmert.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to give \$235 to the Oriental Museum to help pay the cost of the Historical Walking Tour map. Second by Commissioner Herlands. Vote 5-0.

PARKS & REC REPORT – This committee did not meet. They have requested that the Town look into purchasing the triangular property on Factory and Neuse Streets.

MOTION: Commissioner Inger made a motion to pursue the town's opportunity to obtain property owned by the McCabe Family on Factory Street. Second by Commissioner Herlands. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Cutler was instructed to continue looking into the purchase of the old fire house on New Street.

FALL ARTS FESTIVAL – Marlene Miller and Judy Wayland presented details of the Falls Arts Festival, scheduled for Saturday, September 15 from 9-4. Rain date is September 22. This festival will be held in downtown Oriental. They requested that the roadway along the Town Dock bulkhead be closed to traffic the day of the event.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to barricade Hodges Street along the fenced bulkhead. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi amended the motion to include the rain date. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0.

ARTIFICIAL REEF UPDATE – Paperwork is moving along. The project is getting lots of support and some financial backing. (Tax deductible donations may be sent to the Town of Oriental.) The grant will be submitted by August 1, 2007.

BAY RIVER REPORT – Report was given by Commissioner Inger (copy of the report is in the minutes book). That Board met again on June 28, July 2 and 3. Art Hough was hired to replace Mr. Krauss and the transition is going along smoothly.

POLICE REPORT - Copy of report is in the minutes book.

TREE BOARD – A copy of the Annual Report is in the minutes book.

MANAGER’S REPORT –

1. Mosquito spraying has begun.
2. Pipeline construction on White Farm is continuing.
3. Rural Center – See enclosed information
4. Town Renovation – MOTION Commissioner Herlands made a motion for Mr. Cutler to proceed with obtaining a loan to finance the town hall renovation. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 5-0.
(Need to inform the First Responders that they need to vacate the end bay.)
5. Sea Horse Landing – FYI; Request for a 3 month extension on filing the final subdivision plat was granted by the Planning Board.
6. Pier Update – Should receive permit by August 23rd .

CHIEF CASASSA’S SICK LEAVE TRANSFER - Board feels it needs more information before reaching a decision.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made a motion to adopt the proposed Highway Safety Program Resolution supporting the contract in which we obtain funding for Sergeant Careway. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 5-0.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – Copy of statement is in the minutes book. Commissioner Herlands pointed out that the auditors recommend having an independent person prepare the financial statements for an added layer of financial oversight.

DRAINAGE ORDINANCE – Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to hold a public hearing on September 4, 2007 on the proposed Section 55A – Drainage Ordinance. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Mrs. Dee Sage pointed out that having so many public hearings on Sept. 4 might make for a long meeting, It was agreed to continue the meeting to the following night should the meeting run late.

Kathy Enzerink commented that the Lupton Park needed attention after an apparent wild party took place there over the weekend.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT PERIOD – Commissioner Herlands commented on Sylvan Friedman’s plans for the large property at the entrance of town. He feels that the Parks & Rec needs to move on contacting the Hattie Harrell estate concerning a possible bike path.

MOTION: Commissioner Herlands made the motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Inger. Vote 5-0. Meeting ended at 9:50 pm.

Mayor

Town Manager