

Town of Oriental – Board of Commissioner Meeting  
March 1, 2005

The Oriental Town Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oriental Town Hall. Present were Mayor Styron, Commissioners Bohmert, Midyette, Moat and Wagoner.

Mayor Styron opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005 minutes as corrected. Second by Commissioner Moat. Vote 4-0

Planning Board Report: Mayor Styron introduced professional planner, Chris Padgett to the Board and thanked him for his help in working with the Planning Board. Mr. Padgett reviewed proposals and recommendations generated by the Planning Board.

After discussing which recommendations to address first, Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to hold a public hearing on the text portion of the proposed amendments to the GMO on March 29, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Oriental Town Hall. Second by Commissioner Moat. Vote 4-0

Financial Statements: Town Manager Cutler briefly reviewed the financial condition of the General Fund and Water Fund noting that:

1. Tax collection was just 13,000.00 short of the budget projection
2. The sale of four Town vehicles generated \$3500.00.
3. Expenditures exceeded revenue by \$180,000.00 the past month for the water plant upgrades but the Town would apply to the Rural Center for reimbursement of \$170,000.00
4. A budget amendment was needed to address some of these changes

BRMSD Report: Commissioner Midyette reported that Bay River was actively seeking solutions that would increase flow and the ability to add new customers. The proposed plan was to identify unused capacity and try to recover use. It is believed that some flow would be released in 90 days.

The Board discussed hiring a part-time Land Use Administrator. Commissioner Moat read aloud the proposed requirements for the individual filling that position and felt that funding should come from permits rather than from the taxpayers. Commissioner Moat made a motion to hire a LUA. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 4-0.

The Board discussed fees for sign permits, special use permits, etc. The Board tabled revising the fee schedule to allow members more time to review.

Town Manager Cutler informed the Board that the water plant renovations would begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March, at which time the Town of Oriental would go on Pamlico County water. He also informed them that the required notice to the citizens that Pamlico County water was in violation of a drinking water standard had been mailed.

The Board discussed closing the end of Academy Street to vehicular traffic. Residents from the Schoolhouse Apartments had requested that the street be closed to prevent vehicles from crossing over their property enroute to Church Street. It was the general consensus of the Board that this responsibility rest with the property owners and that they place a barrier on their property to prevent the ingress and egress of vehicles.

It was reported that Joe Valinoti had withdrawn his name and that Warren Bruce had applied as a potential replacement for the vacancy left by Joe Harris.

It was the general consensus of the Board that employee health insurance continue with the same plan as last year despite a cost increase.

Manager Cutler reported that the Town had received \$3500.00 from the sale of used vehicles and that a new 1 ton truck had been ordered.

Non-Agenda Items:

1. Commissioner Midyette made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Second by Commissioner Moat. Vote 4-0
2. Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to close that portion of South Ave. between Neuse and Freemason the last Sunday in March for sunrise services, one half hour before sunrise. Second by Commissioner Midyette. Vote 4-0

Commissioner Moat made a motion to enter closed session to discuss personnel matters. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 4-0

In closed session, the Board discussed the background checks on Eddie Reynolds and Jeff Casassa as related to employment of a Police Chief.

With a motion from Commissioner Bohmert and a second by Commissioner Midyette, the Board returned to open session. Vote 3-0 with Commissioner Wagoner having left the meeting.

Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to continue the meeting until March 4, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. in the Oriental Town Hall. Second by Commissioner Midyette. Vote 3-0

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Mayor

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Town Manager