

Town of Oriental – Board of Commissioners Meeting  
March 2, 2010

The Oriental Town Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at 7:00 pm the Oriental Town Hall.

Present were: Mayor Sage and Commissioners Venturi, Styron, Johnson and Bohmert  
Manager Cahoon and Recording Secretary Wagoner  
Town Employee Artley  
Chief Casassa  
Planning Board member Hardison  
Tree Board Chairman Miller  
Bay River Representative Inger  
9 members of the public

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the December 30, 2009; January 5 & 28, 2010; and February 2, 2010, minutes. Second by Commissioner Styron. Vote 4-0.

The Closed Session minutes were not available for review and will be approved at the next meeting.

**PAWS REQUEST TO USE LOU MAC PARK -**

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the use of Lou Mac Park for the PAWS Dog Parade on March 27, 2010. Second by Commissioner Styron. Vote 4-0.

**ARTIFICIAL REEF PROJECT -** Mayor Sage gave a brief recap of the history of the project. Mr. Ron Zielinski and Mr. Wyatt Cutler, project coordinators, were present to request approval of the Oriental Artificial Reef ‘Special Project Ordinance’. This ordinance will allow them to spend \$17,540 for reef materials. This money was raised for the project and sits within the General Fund monies under line item #250.

MOTION: Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the OAR Ordinance. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Motion was amended to include correction to dollar totals. Vote 4-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to authorize the town manager to issue a purchase order for \$17,540 for the reef materials. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

**TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT –** Mr. Scott Davis was not present. Mayor Sage reported that the South Avenue case is now finished.

**TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT –** A copy of his reports are in the minutes book. Regarding the Mosquito Grant;

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion authorizing the town manager to sign all documents pertaining to the Mosquito Grant. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Regarding health insurance coverage for town employees;

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to renew the Blue Cross / Blue Shield Health Insurance coverage. Second by Commissioner Styron. While the Board is approving the renewal, this will be revisited during the budgeting process. Vote 4-0.

Regarding the River Neuse Absolute Auction – Mr. Cahoon asked whether the auctioneers ought to be informed of the conditions of the Special Use Permit issued to the River Neuse Suites prior to the auction. He was advised to send them a copy of the conditions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD -**

- Ms. Nancy Inger asked about the Artificial Reef – what happens if it moves? (The State will own the reef and the Marine Fisheries will be responsible for its upkeep.)

- Ms. Kathy Kellam and Mr. Al Herlands asked why Grace Evans' name was dropped from the revised agenda to be nominated to the Tourism Board. Both felt the 'attend two meetings prior to appointment' should be waived for Ms. Evans considering all that she has done for the town.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT** – Mr. Hardison gave the report, a copy of which is in the minutes book.

Regarding the formation of the Comprehensive Plan Committee;

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to form a 7-member Comprehensive Plan Committee consisting of the four Planning Board members, Commissioner Bohmert and two citizens of Oriental. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

**TOURISM BOARD REPORT** – A copy of the report is in the minutes book.

MOTION: Commissioner Styron made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Jackie Wall to the Tourism Board. Second by Commissioner Bohmert. Vote 4-0. Her term will now expire March 2013.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to appoint Mrs. Missy Baskervill to the Tourism Board. Second by Commissioner Styron. Vote 4-0. Her term will expire March 2011.

MOTION: Commissioner Styron made a motion to appoint Mrs. Grace Evans to the Tourism Board. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 4-0. Her term will expire March 2011.

**PARKS & REC MEETING** – They met but did not have a quorum. This committee needs 3 more members.

**TREE BOARD REPORT** – Chairman Miller was present to give the report a copy of which is in the minutes book.

MOTION: Commissioner Bohmert made a motion to approve the Arbor Day Resolution. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

**BAY RIVER REPORT** – Mrs. Inger was present to give the report, a copy of which is in the minutes book.

She also stated that Oriental's failure to pay Bay River for three months created a cash flow problem. She was assured that there would be no more late payments.

**POLICE REPORT** – A copy of the report is in the minutes book. Mr. Cahoon reported that the police website has now been updated.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** – A copy of the financial statements are in the minutes book. Commissioner Styron pointed out a few posting errors that Mr. Cahoon will look into and reprint the statements for distribution on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**INTERNAL CONTROLS** – Discussion tabled until the next meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Johnson made a motion to go into closed session according to GS 143.318.11 (a) (6) to discuss a personnel matter. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 4-0.

-- CLOSED SESSION --

Upon returning to open session, Mayor Sage stated that the Board would continue the meeting until Monday, March 8 at 4:00 pm.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENT PERIOD** – None

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS** – Mayor Sage presented a proclamation for consideration;

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a motion to approve the proclamation for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Commissioner Johnson asked the Board to set its first Budget Workshop meeting. The first two were set for Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at 8:00 am and again on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at 8:00 am. He also acknowledged Mr. Valinoti's email regarding fires in the Dolphin Point area though no action was taken.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was continued until March 8, 2010, at 4:00 pm.

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William Sage, Mayor

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Randall Cahoon, Town Manager