

Town of Oriental
Town Board of Commissioner
February 4, 2014

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Board was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 7:00 PM. Mayor Sage called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM, determined a quorum was present and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Sage, Commissioners Overcash, White, Venturi, Summers and Winfrey, Town Manager Cutler, Police Chief Dwaine Moore, Water Advisory Committee Chairman Jim Barton, Deputy Town Clerk Jayne Beyer, and public.

The first item of business was approval of the Agenda. Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to approve the Agenda, with one addition, adding the Harbor Water Fronts Committee to the Committee/Board Reports as Item f. Commissioner Summers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The Consent Agenda was next presented for Board approval with the following corrections: to the January 7, 2014 Town Board Regular Meeting Minutes, page 2, paragraphs 4 and 5, add Commissioner White to the Nay vote in the Motions; page 3, paragraph 4, change sentence to read "The \$13,000 owed for the unemployment reimbursement to the Employment Security Commission will not be due and payable until the next fiscal year. A Resolution was also added proclaiming March 22, 2014 as Arbor Day.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to accept the Consent Agenda with changes as presented. Commissioner Summers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Sage then opened the floor for public comment. Mr. David Cox suggested that the newly amended Chapter E seemed unwelcoming and suggested referring to Annapolis, MD's Ordinances for docking. Ms. Grace Evans inquired as to the doggie doo bag dispenser that should be at the Wildlife Ramp. Town Manager Cutler indicated that a dispenser has been ordered for that site.

The next Agenda item concerned the Grant application for the amenities and upgrades at the South Avenue Town Dock. One of the buildings located on the property is the old boat house, which would be renovated and repurposed as a Visitor's Center. The boat house may need to be either turned on its foundation or moved to a different spot on the property to better accommodate visitors. If the building is kept behind the 50-foot setback line, it would be considered CAMA exempt and therefore not require a CAMA permit. There was also discussion of adding a bathroom facility on the property. A separate building would be constructed and would house a ladies room and a men's room, and would have the option of future additions such as a laundry facility and showers.

Town Manager Cutler was directed to coordinate with Commissioner Winfrey and create a design plan.

The next item concerned the Water Advisory Committee and their Amendment to Chapter K in the General Ordinance; attached for reference and incorporated herein.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to approve the Amendment to Chapter K, Commissioner Venturi seconded. Discussion followed.

The Board complimented the Water Advisory Committee on its efforts. Motion was put to vote and passed 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to dissolve the Water Advisory Committee and appoint the members of the Committee to the Water Advisory Board; those members being Chairman Jim Barton, 1 year term, Vice Chairman Jackie Mahan, 2 year term, Member Larry DeChesser, 2 year term, Member Warren Johnson, 3 year term, and appoint new member David Rittenhouse to a 3 year term. Commissioner Venturi seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to approve the Cross Connect Control and Backflow Manual as presented and created by the Water Advisory Board. Seconded by Commissioner Venturi. Discussion followed. Motion passed 5-0.

The Amendment to the General Ordinance, Chapter E was then presented by Commissioner Venturi.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to approve the amended Chapter E, entitled Town Docks. Commissioner White seconded. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to reduce the fines related to Section 4 Penalties. Commissioners Overcash, White and Venturi voted Nay, Motion did not carry.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to change the fines to the following: Article I General Rules, \$25/violation; Article II Public Overnight Docking Areas, \$50/violation; Article III Public Short-Term Docking Areas, \$25/Violation. Commissioner White seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

In reference to the original Motion concerning approval of the Chapter E amendments, Motion passed 5-0.

A Resolution was presented as the next agenda item regarding the sale of surplus vehicles belonging to the Town.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Discussion followed. The surplus vehicles are a 1985 Military truck which is inoperable, a Dodge Ram, which is in need of many repairs exceeding its worth, and a Nissan truck, also inoperable. The profits from the sale of these vehicles will be put towards a newer truck purchase for the Town. Motion passed 5-0.

The annual Retreat will be held Friday and Saturday, March 21 and March 22, 2014 at the Delamar Center at Pamlico Community College. The later scheduling was done to accommodate the new Town Manager.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to hold the Retreat on March 21 and 22, 2014 at the Delamar Center. Commissioner Winfrey seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Town Manager Cutler presented his Manager's Report, beginning with the financial statements. There was \$157,000 received from the January property tax collection, and several budget amendments will be presented at the March 4, 2014 Town Board meeting.

Concern was expressed by the Board regarding payroll overages and water plant repairs exceeding the budget as well. Town Manager Cutler indicated that there was some Powell Bill funds that could be applied to the Public Works overage. He estimated that an additional \$5,000 would be needed to apply towards the Water Plant repairs. Other large expenditures included the legal fees associated with the South Avenue lawsuit; currently the expended amount is \$40,086.

Water service will be temporarily disconnected February 4, 2014 on George, Town and Silverbrook, due to a hydrant replacement in the area. Notices will be handed out to each resident. Once necessary testing has been completed upon service reinstatement, another notice will be distributed that the water is safe to use.

Captain Moore presented his Police Report, commending the citizens of Oriental for their assistance in keeping the Town safe.

In reference to the Town Manager search, 2 additional interviews are scheduled for tomorrow, February 5, 2014. A decision hopes to be made quickly once the interviews are completed.

The Committee/Board reports were then presented, with Commissioner Venturi inquiring as to the status of the tennis courts. Town Manager Cutler indicated that the net was going up the following day, and the courts would be ready for use.

Commissioner White praised the Harbor Water Fronts committee and its efforts, and the Committee is hoping to present its Plan to the Board at the March 4, 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Summers indicated that the Water Advisory Board would be presenting a score card illustrating the status of the Plant. This score card would be included in the monthly minutes in the Agenda Packets for the Board.

Mayor Sage moved onto Commissioner Comment/Discussion. Commissioner Summers reminded all about the reception being held on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Village Gallery.

Commissioner Summers also reminded everyone that the next public meeting concerning the ferry tolls would be Thursday, February 13, 2014 at the Delamar Center at 7:00 PM.

Commissioner Summers also announced Paddling in Pamlico is tentatively scheduled for May 23 through May 26, 2014, and may include camping at the Town Parks.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to adjourn. Commissioner Winfrey seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32.

Bill Sage, Mayor

Wyatt Cutler, Town Manager