

Town of Oriental
Town Board Meeting
July 2, 2013

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Town of Oriental Town Board was held at Oriental Town Hall on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, beginning at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Sage, Commissioners Bessette, Styron, Venturi and Summers; Interim Town Manager Cutler, Town Attorney Scott Davis, Administrative Assistant Beyer, Police Captain Moore, and public

ABSENT: Commissioner Johnson

Mayor Sage determined that a quorum was present. He opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sage administered the Oath of Office and swore in the Town's newest police officer, Ben Barnett.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Styron seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

The **CONSENT AGENDA** listing approval of the Special Meeting Minutes from June 17, 2013, the Minutes from the Town Board Meeting, June 4, 2013 and the Minutes from the Town Board Meeting Recessed to May 8, 2013.

Commissioner Venturi noted an omission in the June 17, 2013 Public Hearing minutes and asked to have them removed for correction. Line Item Numbers will be added to the Powell Bill allocation and fund balance notations within the minutes. Commissioner Summers then made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as modified. Commissioner Venturi seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Sage instructed the public of the Town Board's Policy of limiting comments to 3 minutes at the Town Board meetings. Ms. Grace Evans inquired as to the arrival of the FEMA funds and whether or not that would change the budget.

RESOLUTION TOWN OF ORIENTAL WATER RATE INCREASE/FEE SCHEDULE: Commissioner Summers made a motion to accept the Amended Resolution 2013-03 outlining the Water Rate Increase and Fee Schedule. Commissioner Bessette seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

SOUTH AVENUE APPEAL AND LITIGATION: Town Attorney Scott Davis indicated that there is a hearing date of July 8, 2013 at 2:00 PM at the Pamlico County Courthouse. This hearing will concern a Motion to dismiss this lawsuit.

Mr. Davis then discussed the issue the Town is having with derelict boats. He stated that further research on his part is necessary before making any legal recommendations to the Town. He also indicated that there are three options the Town could choose concerning this issue: Obtain a CAMA permit for anchorage; extend ETJ out to a certain point; or draft a local Bill, where the State would cede land to give the Town authority.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Wyatt Cutler, Interim Town Manager, presented the Financial Report along with the Town Manager's Report. Mr. Cutler read over the financial statements and indicated that the Auditors would be at Town Hall on August 12, 2013.

Commissioner Venturi requested a line item be added to the Budget for the Tree Board's grant money and private contributions.

The Town expects to receive \$40,000 up front from FEMA, and another \$30,000 is in process.

The placement of a drop box for clothing donations at the Rec Park will need to be looked into further.

A Mutual Aid Debris Removal Contract has been signed with Pamlico County as FEMA requires a contract be in place for the Town prior to an event taking place such as a hurricane.

Work on the Water Plant will commence next week and in house staff will be utilized as much as possible.

POLICE REPORT: Captain Moore recapped the month as being a quiet one, but stressed the importance of safety during the Croaker Fest with an increase in visitors. Captain Moore said the Bike Rodeo was a tremendous success and is looking forward to other similar activities in the future.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES: The Harbor Water Front Committee will have a booth at the Croaker Fest and will be distributing surveys concerning the public's opinion on the water front.

NON AGENDA ITEMS:

ARTIFICIAL REEF PROJECT: Ron Zielinski presented a program concerning the Artificial Reef Project. He requested the support of the Town Board towards this endeavor, which would be illustrated through a Resolution.

WATER BOARD DRAFT ORDINANCE: Commissioner Summers presented a draft Ordinance concerning the formation of a Water Board. Mayor Sage suggested tabling this draft until the August meeting.

ONE STOP VOTING: The Board of Elections has notified the Town that paper work must be filed concerning our interest in the One Stop Voting. After discussion the Board felt that, since it has been at the court house in years past, it should remain at the court house. The Mayor requested it be thought over and discussed further at the August meeting.

TARPON TOURNAMENT: The committee has requested that Town Dock be closed the last weekend of July to accommodate this tournament. Also, one lane of traffic on Hodges Street has been requested to be closed to allow room for registration tents.

COMMENT AND DISCUSSION: Commissioner Summers stated that the Ferry tolls have been put on hold, but that the issue is still being argued at the House and Senate levels.

There being no further business, Commissioner Bessette made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Venturi seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

William R. Sage, Mayor

Wyatt Cutler, Interim Town Manager