

**Town of Oriental
Tree Board Meeting
September 4, 2012 9:00 am**

The Oriental Tree Board met on September 4, 2012 at 9:00 am in the Oriental First Baptist Church.

Members Present: Chairman: Bob Miller, Members: Bob Andrews, Dick Creighton, Ken King, Lynne Kaplan and Toni Leavitt.

Members Absent: Paul Olson

Mr. Miller opened the meeting.

Approval of minutes:

Motion – Chairman Miller moved to approve the August 3, 2012, the August 4, 2012 and the August 23, 2012 minutes. Second by Ms. Leavitt. Vote 6-0

Old Business: Town staff reported that Pamlico Tree Care has successfully removed a diseased and dying limb overhanging the home of Keith Crisco on the Neuse Street Extension at a cost of \$300.00. It was noted that a portion of the limb had fallen and damaged a section of Mr. Crisco's fence prior to removal.

Chairman Miller requested that a copy of a memo recently sent to the Town Manager and Town Board of Commissioners addressing a violation of the Oriental Tree Ordinance be attached to these minutes and become a permanent addition to the records.

Chairman Miller reviewed notes taken during the August 23, 2012 hazard tree survey and risk assessment.

1. It was noted that three dead pines near the Oriental Harbor Deli were in need of attention but it could not be determined if the trees were on the town's right of way or on private property. Staff was asked to make the determination and take appropriate action, either by notifying the property owners of the dangers or securing bids for their removal by the town.
2. It was noted that trees in front of the home of Ponce Ham at 402 Main Street might benefit from some pruning.
3. Piles of debris on Falcon Road, left by Progress Energy, needed to be addressed as well as the town's right of way on Midyette Street between North and Board Streets. Tree Board Members agreed to survey the right of way and assist public works in removal of vegetation.
4. Ken King pointed out that some Bald Cypress trees in the Recreation Park were not doing as well as the White Cedars in the same location.
5. It was also recommended that the large Oak Tree on the 200 block of Freemason be removed.

Staff reported that Pamlico Tree Care had submitted a bid for the Freemason tree removal in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Mr. Dick Creighton recommended that Crepe Myrtles also be planted on the west side of Broad Street.

Chairman Miller volunteered to update the survey list and to add more details as needed. It was also suggested that a letter be composed and sent to property owners informing them of damaged trees noted during the survey. He also suggested that the town establish a list of local tree trimming businesses in the area as well as establish guidelines such as requiring that all OSHA rules be followed, no climbing spikes be used and insurance certificates be provided by those the town hired to perform tree trimming services.

Mr. Miller reminded those present that the Tree Board, as part of its regular practice, would meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings of each week to address and perform tree maintenance as needed.

With no further business Mr. Andrews made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mr. Creighton.
Vote 6-0

Bob Miller, Chairman

Heidi Artley, Secretary