



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 6, 2024, 1PM
507 Church Street, Oriental, NC
Mayor Sally Belangia officiating

1 The Town Board of Oriental special meeting was held on Wednesday, Nov 6, 2024 and was called to order at 6PM.
2 Mayor Belangia determined a quorum to be present. The meeting was open to the public. The documents for the
3 meeting were available through the Town's website at www.TownofOriental.com.

4
5 Present: Mayor Belangia (SB), Commissioner Overcash (CO), Commissioner Roe (FR), Commissioner
6 Crosser(BC), and Commissioner Litzenberger (BL) Town Manager Diane Miller (DM), Dep Finance Officer Lisa
7 Millington (LM), Mayor Pro Tempore Price (AP), and several members of the Public were present. Mayor begins
8 with the Pledge of Allegiance. 55 Members of the Public in attendance.

9
10 BL makes a motion to amend the agenda to move the item number 10 to a workshop. CO seconds that in discussion.
11 Commissioner Roe came to us in a group and it was voted on unanimously to go to a workshop.
12 2-3, Price, Roe, Crosser dissenting.

13
14 BC makes a motion to remove the audit meeting minutes October 25th from the Consent agenda and move them to
15 the regular agenda. FR Second. 5-0.

16
17 Public Comment:

18 6:05PM Jennifer Pawlikowski, 1214+ Lupton Dr. Against moving elections. Against rule changes (Roberts to Allen).

19
20 6:07 Ann Rost. Against election moving. Against rule changes.

21
22 6:09 Elizabeth Cordes. Mine is really mundane compared to all of this. There are three new businesses about to open
23 soon on Broad Street. More exceeding the speed limit. More signs, Crosswalk. On Hodges Street- more visibility.

24
25 6:12 Buddy Kelly, 1002 Neuse Drive. Opposition to the Trey Allen purple book rules. Definitely opposed to adding
26 an extra year to elected.

27
28 6:14 Bob Webster, 2109 White Farm Road. Against rule changes.

29
30 Carol Small, 109 Pineview Drive. Against rule changes. Against Financial liaison.

31
32 6:16 Roger Huth. Against election changes. Willing to contribute \$700.

33
34 6:20 Greg Bohmert 311 Midget Street. For election movement. For financial liaison.

35
36 6:22 Bill Kepp 420 Brayden Road. Against election changes. Against rule changes.

37
38 Cooper-200 Whitaker Point Road. Against election changes. Against rule changes.

39
40 6:27 Paul Jordan, 1204 Lupton. Against election changes. Dysfunctional Board is not hearing the public.

41
42 Larry Summers, 1071 Unit Whittaker Creek Road. Against election changes. Against Financial liaison.

43
44 Bob Miller 5613 Styron Drive. Against election changes that extend terms of this Board.

45
46 6:35 Jennifer Roe. 502 South Avenue. Board should choose a set of rules.

47
48 Consent agenda.

49

50 FR: moves that we approve the amended consent agenda. BC seconds. 5-0.
51
52 BC: makes a motion to hold on the minutes. Manager notes we did not tape the meeting.
53
54 BC: would like to wait for a period of time to revise, to include the action items that were not listed on the meeting
55 minutes. They pertain to the auditor's discussion and articulation of our three significant deficiencies of material
56 weakness. I think I can work with manager Miller quickly and get that done by next meeting to have the minutes. 5-
57 0.
58
59 Public Hearings: You have two properties -short term rentals. Because we have not done anything to change the
60 rules. Those two properties are following the old rules where adjacent abutting owners are the ones who bear the
61 burden. Having checked with police and having gone through everything with the planning board, everything is
62 complete. We, the planning board, find no objection to those. Advertisement went out in paper as required. We have
63 done all the due diligence for this project.
64
65 FR moves we open the public hearing. CO seconds. 5-0.
66 SB: two letters to read for the public hearing.
67
68 "Hi, Diane. My husband and I were hoping to attend the meeting, but neglected to remember about a prior
69 commitment. Would you be kind to contribute our thoughts below the one positive aspect to an air B& B property as
70 a neighbor? The answer is that all gas are temporary. Should you have some guests one weekend that will soon
71 depart.
72
73 We all have neighbors. Some of us can say that one neighbor might be a godsend while another may not. Either way,
74 they are permanent, and guests are not. Good fences make good neighbors. We believe anyone making money off
75 their property could certainly install a privacy fence so the various guests, are not constantly amusing themselves
76 with our silliness next door.
77
78 I think it would be reasonable to put a limit on the frequency of number of days in, can rent in a month. Example,
79 town ordinance stating it may rent 15 out of 30 days. That way permanent neighbors may benefit from a less frequent
80 revolving cycle. Thank you, Lisa Anderson and George Tucker."
81
82 And one more letter real quick.
83
84 "Hope this finds you well. We, Oriental parsonage, LLC, have no objections to the issuance of the SUP at 400 mil
85 Mildred Street. Alec Sharp."
86 Okay, let's begin. Okay. The town commissioner shall issue the requested permit unless the permit is not within its
87 jurisdiction. Well, the property is within the jurisdiction.
88
89 Does the public have any comment on jurisdiction of this application?
90
91 Any commissioners questions? All right. The application is complete. The application has been deemed complete by
92 the Land Use Administrator and the Planning Board. Does the public have any comment? Any commissioners?
93 If completed as proposed, will not comply with one or more requirements of the GMO. Does any of the public have
94 any evidence? to offer concerning compliance with the GMO.
95
96 Will materially endanger public health or safety. Does any member of the public have a comment?
97 Will substantially inquire the value of adjoining or abutting property. Does any member of the public have any
98 evidence to offer that indicates that the project will injure the value of the abutting property?
99
100 Will not be in harmony with existing uses development in the area. Does any member of the public have any
101 evidence that the project is not in harmony with the existing uses in the area?
102 Will not be in conformity of the land use plan or other plan officially adopted by the town. Does any member of the
103 public have evidence?
104

105 Project is not in conformity with the existing plans. Any commissioner comments? Yes. Do we have a right to make
106 them put up a fence? Is that what he said? We don't. We can't do that. Well, I'm dying here. I don't know. Didn't for
107 the ice shack. Put the application trees up. So I think actually we could, but I'd need to go back to the form board to
108 get the, run it through them and everything. Because you've got to talk about setbacks and things like that.

109
110 DM: Yes. You can add a stipulation.
111 AP: We've added it on SAILCRAFT where they had to have the greenery and fences. It has to be amended to it.
112 And it has to go back to the, the board. If you want to do that. In this case, they're already going to put a fence up,
113 right? Yes. We don't have to worry about it, but in the future, we can think about it, get the planning board and you
114 and I out of there to look at it and say, yeah, I think we need a fence.

115
116 FR: I didn't hear the letters until tonight. I didn't pay attention to him. I may have heard him. Didn't she say she'd put
117 up a fence? Any other questions?

118
119 SB: Do I have a motion to close the public hearing? CO: I move we close the public hearing. FR: Second. Any
120 discussion? All those in favor say aye. Aye. Opposed? Okay. Nay. 4-1. Yes, Commissioner.

121
122 AP: I make a motion to approve the issue. Application is within our jurisdiction. Application is complete.
123 Application will comply with our GMO. No evidence was submitted here or at the planning board meeting that this
124 would materially endanger the public health and safety. It will not substantially injure the value of joining or abutting
125 property. Thank you for your time. It will be in harmony with existing development and uses within the area in which
126 it is, it has to be located. It will be in general conformity with the land use plan and other official, other plan officially
127 adopted by the town commission.

128
129 Got a motion. Second. BL: Second. Any discussion? I have a question for the town manager. There's a letter about a
130 fence. One of the neighbors wanted a screen or a fence or something. On these kind of SUPs and this thing, can we
131 say you've got to put up a fence or a screen? DM: There's a provision for it. You can attach conditions to an SUP.

132
133 AP: We could. SB: The neighbor wants a fence, to be put up for the people that are running the Airbnb so that they
134 don't mingle over into their yard. And we're allowed to put a stipulation on the SUP to say that they have to put up a
135 fence in order for us to approve and give them the SUP. You can. Okay. That has a condition to the SUP. But it has to
136 meet setbacks and so forth. Right. And it would have to go back to the planning board meeting now. We couldn't just
137 say it now. Okay. Okay. Okay. Okay. I already made. He already seconded the motion. Did the motion go with the
138 buffer?

139 DM: No, it did not go with the buffer. It did not go with the buffer. It hadn't been voted on yet.
140 So we made it. We had a motion. We had a second. Discussion. I'm not amending it. Commissioner, I have a
141 question. If there is general consensus that we should amend it and put a fence in there, I'm just asking a question. I
142 don't know.

143
144 Good idea. So the question is, I guess, do we want to say for fence, now's our chance.

145
146 Alright. Discussion. Okay. So we have a motion and a second to approve this public hearing as stated. The SUP.
147 Commissioner Price and we did not. All right. All everybody understand. All those in favor say aye. Aye. Opposed.
148 5-0. The S U P Is granted.

149
150
151 Again, the planning board has discussed. No evidence was presented. There are no police reports that prevent us from
152 allowing it for safety reasons. As long as the public knows the way it is.

153 CO: move to open the public hearing. FR: second. 5-0.

154 SB: The public hearing is now open. The town commissioner shall issue the requested permit unless the permit is
155 not within its jurisdiction. And the property is within the jurisdiction. If, does the public or commissioner have any
156 questions?

157 The application is incomplete. The application has been deemed complete by the land use administrator and the
158 planning board. Does any have one have any comments of the application?

159 If completed as proposed it, it will not comply with one or more requirements of the chapter of the GMO. Does any
160 of the public have any evidence to offer concerning compliance with the GMO?
161 Will materially endanger public health or safety? Does any member have Public have any comment on
162 endangerment? Commissioner questions, okay.
163 Will substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property? Does any member have evidence to offer that
164 indicates that the project will injure the value of the property?
165 Will not be in harmony with existing uses development in the area. Any member of the public have any evidence
166 that the project is not in harmony with the existing uses in the area.
167 Will not be in conformity of the land use plan or other plan officially adopted by the town. Does any member of the
168 public have evidence that the project is not in conformity with existing plans? All right. Any questions?

169
170 AP: motion to close public hearing. BC: second. All right. Got a second. Commissioner Crosser. Any discussion?
171 All right. All those in favor say aye. Aye. Opposed?? 5-0.

172
173 The public hearing is closed. AP: makes a motion to approve the SUP. The application is within our jurisdiction.
174 The application is complete. The application will comply with our agreement. No evidence was submitted here or at
175 the planning board meeting that this would materially endanger public health and safety. It will not potentially injure
176 the value of adjoining or abutting property. It will be in harmony with existing development and uses within, and uses
177 within the area in which it is to be located. It will be in general compliance. Conformity with the land use plan or
178 other plan officially adopted by the town commission. BL: Second. 5-0. The SUP is granted.

179
180 Manager's report. The financial report,
181 You still need to appoint a replacement for Deb Curry to the Bay River Metropolitan Sewer Board.
182 We have the NOV for the June Copper Issue responding to the latest one.
183 Water billing for Oriental United Methodist Church has been off for some time. That was an extra zero in reading.
184 Letter to Bay River to see if they will refund the sewer portion. So the process is moving forward to get that
185 straightened out. The water was \$1,738.37, and the sewer was \$3028.12. .
186 Pamlico Progressives had a meeting here at Town Hall. We have a little bit of overtime to make sure that police were
187 there to take care of those things. Police schedule is already set a month in advance.
188 Your Coastal Advisory Committee representative, Mr. Szerlag, has finished his term and we need to replace him.
189 We had an unauthorized parade. The folks came and asked about having a parade and I told them they needed a
190 parade permit because we would have to close the street. They never came back. So once that started happening the
191 police went out to make sure that we didn't have any anybody hit for safety.

192
193 We have always had overtime. We probably need to do a budget amendment and account for it.
194
195 DM: (answering BL) We do a cleanup budget workshop the last Thursday in June to make sure all of the departments
196 are in order. What Commissioner Crosser was talking about is bringing it in ahead to have it there to spend ahead,
197 where right this minute, I don't have to bring you a budget amendment until we are outside of the limits of the
198 department.

199
200 Lisa got her notary license and she will be sworn in tomorrow. Daniel, passed B well!!!!
201 DM: We hope that he will be named the ORC in December. He passed the B distribution for the September meeting.
202 May. Put in all of the paperwork to make him our ORC They only meet once a quarter. So in December, we're
203 hoping that they will appoint Daniel to ORC for distribution, well, and then he has filed an exceedance that will allow
204 him to be the back flow cross connection person as well. We're moving it as fast as we can. Meanwhile, it's costing
205 us \$2,500 a month.

206
207 -We are in the midst of our payroll system turnover.
208 -So, we're at 33% of the year. Revenues, solid waste fees are up to 34%. DMV tax is at 43%. The property tax is at
209 33 and we are behind. We are now two months behind on receiving sales tax from the state.
210 -The 43% is DMV. We're over with legal. We're over with police. And part of that is the overtime.
211 - Total revenues are up. But we have some expensive things coming. We had some telemetry that went down.
212 -Occupancy tax is going up. That's a good thing for Parks and Rec, probably waterfronts and tourism.
213 -And then there's the investments that we have in NCCMT

214 -This \$265,352 is a number that was carried from to 2015 turnover of software. The book was that much different,
215 but that exact number was carried for eight years. That was one of the deficiencies that the Auditor brought up in her
216 report. That we carried it for eight years. This is the number from the changeover of software. Noted year end HWAC
217 and Tourism numbers that were continuously carried, Depreciation and Powell interest also carried.

218 Manager couldn't make those, and neither could our Deputy Finance Officer. The auditor has to do that.

219 -The utility account has been slowly depleting and we didn't have an answer to that. The answer is we have every
220 reconciliation from every month from the time we turned over the software until today, except for the 2018-2019 year
221 Up to \$10,000. \$11,000 is the difference between the 2016 balance and the 2024 balance. The difference is \$639.55,
222 which is more than likely the year that we are missing that it was allowed to be thrown out. Each of those things that
223 are listed here are deducted from that utility balance. And that's why it slowly decreases. They're ACHs. They're
224 things like Checks. And for some reason, the bank just takes them from the utility. Thank you. You asked Lisa for
225 this, so I'm going to let her. And the bookkeeping with the bank just kept on putting the charges to the utility account
226 instead of to the general account where they were making the deposits. It's also anybody who's been on draft and
227 their draft bounced is what it is. Drafts don't come back that way. You have to go into the system, first citizen, look
228 for anybody who changed their account. So return offset draft is everybody's draft who bounced.

229
230 Go to the bank, move everything into one central depository with one account. We were told to have a central
231 depository. Just cleared the last of those adjustments out of the bank statement.

232
233 LM: So I looked into the investment options you could requested. You were looking at some short term as well as
234 long term. But we also met with the NCCMT representatives. North Carolina Capital Management Trust is where we
235 have our investments. We have three accounts with them currently. So, these are your investment options for a six to
236 nine month period.

237
238 Financial Investment: Looked at it, tailoring it between balancing safety and liquidity and a reasonable return. So, for
239 each one, the first one is your U. S. Treasury bills. I have given you So, benefits, drawbacks, and recommendations, if
240 this is something you would like to look at, I believe it's in your packet. Additionally, you've got your local
241 government investments and certificate of deposits.

242 So, there are restrictions on a lot of this because you are a local government. That's, straight up. But when you go to
243 investments of a certificate of deposit or T bills or any of that, there are additional restrictions.

244
245 Like, the bank has to be headquartered in North Carolina. You've got your money market accounts, business belongs,
246 and your short term maturities.

247
248 Ultimately the investments that you have with the NCCMT is excellent return, very safe. I highly recommend it if
249 you're going to do any kind of investment. And we have access to it in the e group. The worst thing that we would do
250 is lose interest on pulling it out and you can pull money out same day.

251
252 For NCCMT, I don't think they were willing to give us percentages. It's based off of Four, four and a half, we can
253 know how it is with interest rate changes. But so we have a contact with the NCCMT who is perfectly happy to come
254 out and have a conversation with you about your concerns, where you, how much you would like to move, what you
255 would like to invest in.

256
257 The Auditor-She also talked about the first thing out of her mouth was NCCMT. That it's safe, it's easy to get your
258 money out, and it's high yield right now. So, here, here's what you have today. You have \$259,000 in regular market
259 values, and then, this is your general fund, and then the next one is your capital money.

260
261 So the bank charges. So your bank charges, you have two. You have your internal and then external. So your internal
262 credit card processing, and then you have your webpay, which you could consider your external. Those are where all
263 your bank charges were coming from. So every time somebody goes online to play their water bill, you're going to
264 get charged. You're going to get charged for the volume, you're going to get charged for the network, you're going to
265 get charged for the data. So these are all the different charges that we're looking at monthly. So, I know this is really
266 hard to see, but when you have different cards or banks- however they pay those things.

267

268 But, depending on how much they charge, then there's the amounts that ends up being added to. Here's your fees
269 charged, and that's a percentage of what they're paying. And getting a different one is just going to get us a different
270 cost. So that's represented on the enterprise fund. The bank fees are lumped together on the general because I
271 couldn't break it out. We do collect for that charge, but it's on one part of the statement, and we have the expense
272 that's on the other.

273
274 And if we put the money in the idle cash into NCCMT, we'd be very good shape.
275 We should be catching up if we get those revenues taxed from the summer and get caught back up on property tax.
276 Let's have a workshop. Investment, options, and allocation of idle cash, which we have quite a bit.

277
278 DM: You might want to take a week or two to see what the market's initial reaction is. BL: I'll just email everybody
279 good times for, and then we can post it as a special workshop. The critical timeline is how much are we going to be
280 investing? I mean, you have to, before you start talking to someone, they're going to want to know how much you're
281 going to be investing. And then if we want to meet with the people, then we'll email them after that.

282
283 Discussion on the planning board review about outdoor venues. They did not come to a conclusion. Very difficult
284 discussion. Kept coming back to several different points.

285
286 What you asked them was if you added a section 6.220 to match the 6.120, disallowing all indoor music and theater
287 venues in residential areas to make one match that says outdoor music and theater venues. What would the results be?
288 -So the results are that other recurring established events would not be permitted.

289 They talked about if you prevent them from having an entry fee, providing catering, adding restrooms, does
290 that make it a business? If you're business and residential, that's a change of use. It's not having an office where you
291 don't have any foot traffic.

292 We're talking about 60, 70 cars coming to them, charging admission, having a catering facility, having extra
293 restrooms. So that kind of looks like a business, which we don't allow in our, in the residential zones.

294
295 So the planning board was split. Some want to do nothing, some want to limit the number of events with an LUP.
296 Always back to, I would not want to live next to it. They also came back to, I can't believe we have to do this.

297
298 From Scott's recommendations, when you're looking at this, you've got to look at the most obnoxious example. And
299 Allison, in her young wisdom, brought us death metal music. And said this is the music that she prefers. And if she
300 played that for two hours, what would you think if you were the neighbor?

301
302 Neither side sees the problem with the other side. The folks that are doing the music don't see why it's a problem for
303 the people that don't want the music.

304
305 And the people that don't want the music cannot understand that these people live and die for music. So they just
306 cannot. But you could also exempt all of the events that are on your annual closing list because those were the ones
307 that we came up with that would also be effective. Like Miss Fay's birthday, where we closed the street. And the
308 watermelon cutting, and the witch's crawl. The ol' front porch, the Croakerfest, The boat show. They're still not quite
309 there with the recommendation on that one for you.

310
311 SUP process, you have in your package a draft that moves the burden of proof to the applicant.
312 You can either take this and schedule public hearing for your next meeting. Or you can wait because they are just
313 starting into the table of permissible uses, which part of that is removing some of the S's, removing some of the X's.

314 CO: makes a motion to make a public hearing at the next meeting for the change of the burden of proof. FR: I second
315 it. It just means if anybody chooses to come forward and get a special use permit, after you put those changes in,
316 they're going to shoulder a lot of burden. So to wait would be to their advantage.

317 And the direction we're going in is for short term rentals to be land use permits And the planning board will be
318 coming up with a list of requirements that you have to have to do a short term rental, including safety requirements
319 and notifying and having somebody on hand that they can contact you. 5-0.

320
321 I have a quick motion for a five minute recess. Five minutes BREAK

322

323 Police: With great pleasure that the Parks and Recreation Committee of the town of Oriental present to the town of
324 Oriental Police Department with a donation of \$251. This is a portion of the \$1,004 collected during our Fall Festival.
325 It was a lot of fun, it was informational. So, look forward to going to more public events like that. I wanted to give
326 you an update on the trailer. They were supposed to vote on it October 31st. I've emailed him my point of contact.
327

328 When we have our Christmas party on December 6th. for all of our volunteer folks that help us during the year. So if
329 you would be so kind as to bring an unwrapped toy something for a teenager for our Toys for Tots collection. And
330 then Monday, November 11th. We will not be here in observance of Veterans Day.
331

332 FR: move that we adopt Trey Allen's book. Suggested rules procedure for City Council. Fourth edition. Thank you.
333

334 BL: after asking us to move this to a workshop-We haven't had a workshop. And I had wrongly assumed it was
335 going to carry over, and it did not. And another commissioner was going to go around and find recommendations.
336 And the fact is we do not use Robert's Rules. The fact is we have no adopted rules. And we need some rules.
337

338 FR: Trey Allen's book is, to me it's very simple. One, state law trumps everything. We cannot do anything that's in
339 violation of state law. Two, we can add any rules that we want to vote on that don't violate the state law. And three, if
340 there is any question, then Roberts, then All it is, is a summary of Roberts rules. A short summary to help us, help us
341 run the meeting.
342

343 CO: There's three major parts here that I have issue with, that if we can correct those, I think we can move forward
344 with the rest of the book. Rule 25, it's on page 36 -the board, may speak more than twice on the same motion.
345 Members first speech on a substantial motion should be limited to 10 minutes and second speech on the same motion
346 to five minutes.
347

348 CO: Okay. After that, you're cut off. Let's just say after my two times of talking, some other board member came up
349 with something that I thought the public needed clarification on. I couldn't do it. So that's a major concern. -Page 47
350 Calling the question under Roberts, which we're operating on. That's a two thirds majority, meaning four people.
351 There's a reason for that. If three people, a majority, which gets moves back and forth right now, it's three
352 commissioners call the question and they vote three of them to call it. That means right then all debates cut off. You
353 have to vote on and they're going to vote for it. Next time it might be a different three, but I find that a bad rule.
354 Four out of the 5 -2/3rds per Roberts. Next public comment periods. Maximum time. We've got that provided. I'm
355 talking excuse page 60 provide for the designation of spokesperson for groups supporting or opposing the same
356 position. That means that none of you Tonight, if told to pick one representative, that person would be able to speak
357 only that person. If we can eliminate those three items, I'll go with the Trey Allen. The mayor has the option and the
358 mayor has done it in the past. The mayor that decides if she wants to change the voice or the number of voices heard
359 on a particular topic. You said if there's a group of you that were if one person will speak fine, but anybody
360 individually wanted to speak, they were welcome to. If we just amend the page 36, that no member may speak more
361 than twice. And then the page 47 calling the question, we just change that so that we are adhering to Robert's rules
362 rather than the Trey Allen. And page 60, we say that. Option of the mayor. Then we can accept it.
363

364 FR: I would like to amend the motion if possible to rule 25 limit cross out 25 and make that at the mayor's
365 discretion. Calling the question being Robert's rules of order. Two thirds, which in our case before people and
366 comments from the public, letting the mayor make that decision and call, but not restricting anybody on the public.
367 Two thirds of five. Two thirds of five would be four people. A simple majority, which is in this book, would mean
368 three could control the question. BL: And stop any debate. That's not fine with me at all. Okay, I'm acceptable with
369 those three things.

370 SB: And I would just like to say that the first couple of pages in this book is really for the city of Greenville. It's for a
371 big city. We're town of Oriental. I personally don't like it, but I have tried to follow it. Because there's so much in
372 here that Commissioner Overcash has just gone over to take out.
373

374 FR: motion to pass with amendments. BC: seconds. 4-1 Commissioner Litzenberger opposed.
375

376 Okay, number 11. FR: Adopt the motion to join the other municipalities in Pamlico County to move to even your
377 election. Joining the proposed bill submitted by Keith Kidwell in January session of the New York, North Carolina

378 Legislature will require no additional cost to Oriental as the legal work has already been done, resulting in lower
379 election fees and higher voter turnout.

380
381 AP: That's a motion. FR: I second.

382
383 So we like at the last election, we paid \$750. Total, if we were to burden the whole cost, what would it be? I can tell
384 you when we were the only one that had early voting and all the other things that you can have, it was \$4,500.

385
386 The only person that can give you that number is Board of Elections, and they're a little busy right now. It's January
387 session they're running to, they're putting those three up. It requires a resolution from you. In a conversation with the
388 attorney, he said you can, however you want to make that resolution, That the next election, you'll only be elected for
389 a year and then we're on even years.

390
391 I know that it's Vandemere, Minnesott, and Arapahoe are the ones that are going to even years. But that still leaves.
392 All the other incorporated municipalities, I just don't know who all elects what in all those other, there's Alliance and
393 Grantsboro and Bayboro, Mesic, Florence and in Lowlands. Board of Elections is the one that would answer those
394 questions. So, and it sounds like we have a time frame where we have to decide within. BL: If you don't do it for the
395 January thing, they would have to wait for the next session. But I have real strong feelings about this becoming or
396 looking partisan, I think that it's real easy when you Drive through town now you see everybody's political signs out
397 and if you saw a commissioner's sign next to a political sign, it'd be real easy to jump to a lot of conclusions.
398 Kannapolis, they had a resolution opposing house bill 64. And one of the things was, they said, if moved to even
399 years to coordinate with national and state elections, municipal elections would become partisan and driven by
400 national issues and candidates.

401
402 The bigger municipalities have already been moved on to. Because it is quite cost to a, 50,000 population
403 municipality to hold just the municipalities election.

404
405 Now, as Manager Miller said, we can write a resolution to suit us to do it. That's why it's brought up for discussion
406 because of the time frame put in front of me and the town manager at the Pamlico County Leadership Meeting.

407
408 So my amended motion, you have to motion to specify in your resolution to the general assembly. Make it for one
409 year term. Representative Kidwell is predisposed to do whatever this board wants. But we have a motion on the floor.
410 An amended motion. That At the next November election, we will vote for one year term for the next board.
411 November 2025. We'll go from December 2025 to December 2026. In November 2026, we go to even two year
412 terms.

413
414 BC: Okay, just so you know, just so you know, you run that risk, if everyone else goes to moving, to extending, we
415 could be the only one having elections. With a limited population. So you wanted to extend our current term. If we
416 do this to one year next November, we may be the only municipality having an election in November and will bear
417 the full burden of those costs.

418
419 Everybody except Vandemere or Arapahoe, Minnesott. FR amended his own motion. AP: second. 4-1, Litzenberger
420 objecting.

421 FR: makes a motion to change the town board meetings to the second Tuesday of every month so that the board will
422 have, the board and the staff will have time to adequately prepare financial statements. And have time for the board to
423 review because of exactly what you said. DM explains: I can't do your financial statement until the last day of the
424 month. BL seconds. 5-0. Manager Miller directed to send out new schedule.

425
426 FR: makes a motion that for the Financial Liaison Commission to review bank reconciliations as requested by Cindy
427 Randolph, our town auditor. These activities will continue for six months. Then Ms. Randolph will review the
428 financial procedures of the town after six months. Then we can decide if we should shift to an outside paid reviewer
429 or continue.

430
431 BC: We all have the responsibilities to participate in the financial reviews and understanding our financial statements.
432 Hence, we had the meeting with the auditor so we could gain a full understanding. I went directly to the manager with

433 questions. The auditor has to explain to the state what, how we're mitigating this issue. She would like to say we have
434 this individual as a commissioner, as a financial liaison.
435

436 DM: Important to note that those two deficiencies on the backside are issued to every municipality that is small.
437 Because, we couldn't put another person in our office. We should not try to afford that. And the other thing is that the
438 reconciliation problem that had been in the past has been fixed, I have reconciled everything since February.

439 There isn't an issue with Commissioner Crosser looking at the statement, my objection when we talked about this was
440 having somebody else putting their fingers on that software. And if you allow somebody else in there, then whatever
441 they do on that computer is tracked back to me. We, we have jumped through lots of hurdles to keep separations of
442 duties. I can tell you who did what, but it's printed off because at the bottom, you'll notice at the bottom of any of the
443 sheets that we print you off of Logic, it says report run by. We, we're going to get that deficiency and even after she is
444 looking at the bank reconciliations. But the audit, remember, the auditor doesn't work for me. She works for you. So,
445 I can't make adjustments that we carried for eight years until the auditor gives them to me. 4-1, Litzenberger
446 dissenting.
447

448 Mayor and Commissioner comments. AP: Commissioner Crosser. last Saturday was wonderful. Out at the park and
449 rec. I mean, it was a wonderful day. Police dog caught Charlie. The brewery had a fundraiser for the library. Yes. I
450 don't know how much money they raised.
451

452 FR: Yes A couple of comments. And It has cost this town thousands of dollars, and it should have been corrected a
453 long time ago. Lisa did an excellent job. Diane's got it caught up. I would like to say, let's move forward on this and
454 quit beating the dog. I even think David is pleased with the work on SUP, some of it. These are reasonable requests to
455 have rules, to have financial oversight, to give the staff time enough to do the work so far.
456

457 FR: Charlie and I have been trying forever to get something done on Hodges Street. Nick, really look at Hodges
458 Street and area before, before someone gets hit. And that's our street, so we can do a crosswalk, totally up to us.

459 DM: Commissioner Price had suggested those knock down things that say, state law -yield to pedestrians, and that
460 was defeated. The crosswalk was stopped because it was underwater for a lot of months.
461

462 DM: So, there is a new opportunity from BRIC, which is part of the Department of Public Safety NC it's all the
463 mitigation money. Keeping in mind that things like money that's already been allocated to places like Maysville and
464 Hallsville has been clawed back to go to the western part of the state. But there is a new opportunity that they have
465 extended the deadline for your letter of intent. And it's, it's all about mitigating problems and hazards.
466

467 BC: I would like to reinforce what Commissioner Roe said about Facebook and misinformation and rumors and
468 whatnot that's gone on in our town that's caused this dysfunctionality in our town. If you have an issue, come to the
469 meeting, call us, email us.
470

471 SB: Well, I wish this board would unite. As the President Elect said, we need to unite here. Congratulations Frank
472 Roe for getting your four items approved from a week ago. And it's like, Compromise did it. Working together.
473 Motion to adjourn. The state law on public meetings says they'll be done by Robert Rules of Order unless other rules
474 are adopted. You've been under public rules for a long time.
475

476 SB makes a MOTION to adjourn. CO seconds. 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:24PM.
477

478 _____
479 Sally Belangia, Mayor

Diane H. Miller, Town
Manager/Clerk

480
481
482 Approved _____, 2024

483