

Town of Oriental
Town Board Meeting
November 13, 2013

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Board, Town of Oriental was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM. Mayor Sage determined a quorum was present and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Sage, Commissioners Bessette, Johnson, Styron, Summers, Venturi and Summers, Town Manager Cutler, Deputy Town Clerk Beyer, Police Captain Moore, and members of the Public.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion that the Agenda be approved as presented. Commissioner Venturi seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Johnson made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the corrections to the Minutes from the Agenda Workshop Meeting. Commissioner Bessette seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Sage then opened the Public Hearing, as well as Public Comment concerning the proposed GMO changes.

Katie Pugh questioned the RV parked at the Captain's Quarters Bed and Breakfast. Based on the proposed GMO change concerning vehicles, boats and RVs being parked at businesses, she asked if this RV would be grandfathered. Mayor Sage stated that if it is legally parked, then it is permitted to park there.

MOTION: After no further public comment, Commissioner Summers made a Motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Johnson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Sage presented the two proposed GMO changes to the Board for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to adopt the proposed changes to the GMO as written. Commissioner Bessette seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

There was no Public Comment.

Mayor Sage then moved on to the proposed changes to the General Ordinance. The addition of Chapter S would place all Town rates and fees in one central place, making them easier to locate. The amendment to Chapter K, Water Service, concerns the billing cycle being changed. As of January 2014, the billing cycle will run from the first of the month to the end of the month.

MOTION: Commissioner Johnson made a Motion to adopt the new Chapter S and the amended Chapter K in the General Ordinances. Commissioner Venturi seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Town Manager Cutler presented his Manager's Report, beginning with the Financial Statements. He stated that the FEMA money received should have been recorded in the previous Fiscal year, and will need to be taken out of this year and treated as a receivable.

Town Manager Cutler also made some changes to the way items were coded for payment, which would simplify monthly reconciliation. A Budget Amendment stating same is provided to the Board for approval; a copy of which is attached to the Minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment containing the changes to the coding numbers. Commissioner Styron seconded the Motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Town Manager Cutler provided the Board with a cut sheet outlining the purchase of additional chairs for the large board room at a cost of \$54.99 per chair. This item will be tabled until the December meeting pending further research on a less costly chair.

Town Manager Cutler provided an update on the Water Plant renovation and upgrade, stating that additional resin had to be purchased for the softener and will be installed this week. The meter base had to be replaced, and the new pump has been installed.

Discussion moved on to the tennis courts, which the weather conditions have prevented the coating from being put down. The underlay coat has been put down, then the top coat will be applied, then the striping, then the net will be reinstalled. The paint must have a minimum outdoor temperature of 55° and no rain forecasted for successful application.

Concerning the Town Dock, Town Manager Cutler stated that CAMA has passed this onto the Army Corps of Engineers, and that the permitting process is held up pending their approval of the dock extension. Town Manager suggested that perhaps just finishing the dock as is and extending it later may be advisable. The Midyette Street dock repairs and upgrades is awaiting the recommendation of the Harbor Waterfronts Committee. Work on this dock will be done in house, and not contracted out. The South Water Street dinghy dock's railings will be removed, which will make the entire dock available for use.

The next item on the Manager Report concerned the dedication plaque for the Town Hall. It was discussed in the October meeting to make the new plaque similar to the original one. A digital sample was provided to the Board, and with the exception of correcting the spelling of Robert Maxbauer's name, the plaque was approved by the Board. Total cost for the new plaque would be approximately \$900.

MOTION: Commissioner Johnson made a Motion to accept the plaque with correction. Commissioner Bessette seconded. Commissioner Summers voted Nay. Motion passed 4-1.

The flag pole has been received and the Public Works director has indicated an install date within the next few weeks, weather permitting.

The Auditor's Report most likely will be available for the January, 2014 meeting.

Regarding the radio read water meters, there are approximately 100 of these meters installed, but most are not working. A central reader, which would read the meters from a remote computer, proved to be a costly effort. The radio read meter project is recommended to be projected for the next budget year.

Concerning Christmas bonuses the Board tasked the Town Manager with providing a monetary recommendation at the November 26, 2013 Agenda Workshop meeting.

With Heidi Artley as Assistant Town Manager, the schedule for Town Manager Cutler and her are as follows: Heidi will work Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, and Wyatt will work Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The schedule may vary as needed.

The heated floor in Town Hall is currently not working due to a small pump that has failed. This pump is about \$40 and will be replaced by Public Works personnel.

The next Agenda Item discussed was the Police Report, presented by Captain Moore. He indicated that the month of October was a quiet month, and reminded all that 911, when dialed, was dispatched directly from the Pamlico County Sheriff's Department. If the Town residents are suffering a true emergency, Captain Moore said they need to dial 911. If it is a non-emergency situation, residents can dial Captain Moore's cell phone at 252-675-1859.

Commissioner Venturi then presented the next Agenda Item, the Croatan Bicycle Plan Resolution. There will be a bicycle route planned from Maine to Florida, with Oriental being a component of this route. Commissioner Venturi asked that the Board approve a Resolution that supported this bicycle route.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to approve the Croatan Bicycle Plan Resolution as presented. Commissioner Summers seconded the Motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Sage then announced that there will be 4 seats available on the Planning Board. Those wishing to serve on the Planning Board should provide a short letter of intent, and these candidates will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting on November 19, 2013.

Commissioner Venturi announced that a Harbor Water Fronts Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 18, 2013 at 5:30 at Town Hall. The purpose to this meeting is for presentation of the HWC Plan.

Mayor Sage then opened the floor to Commissioner Comment: Commissioner Bessette announced that the local Boy Scouts Troop would be attending the next Town Board meeting to present the colors. This endeavor would earn the boys their Citizenship Badge.

Commissioner Venturi then thanked Commissioners Bessette, Johnson and Styron for their service for the past two years.

Mayor Sage reminded all that the next Agenda Meeting would be held on November 26, 2013 at 4:00 PM.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Sage asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bessette seconded. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Bill Sage, Mayor

Wyatt Cutler, Town Manager