



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7pm

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia Officiating

6 The Town Board of Oriental Town Board Meeting on December 3, 2019 was called to order at 7pm. Mayor
7 Belangia determined a quorum to be present and called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

8
9 PRESENT: Mayor Belangia, Mayor Pro Tempore White, Commissioner Overcash, Commissioner Simmons,
10 Commissioner Price, Commissioner Dammeyer, Town Manager Diane Miller, Director of Administrative Service
11 Tammy Cox, Officer Nic Blayney, Administrative Assistant Mary Barnes, Administrative Assistant Heather Hall,
12 and Members of the Public.

13
14 1. Approval of Agenda:

15
16 Mayor Pro Tempore White made a MOTION to accept the Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Overcash. Motion
17 passed 5-0.

18
19 2. Consent Agenda (Tab 1)

20 a. Consider Approval of Minutes from Town Board Meeting November 5, 2019

21
22 Commissioner Overcash made a MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Simmons.
23 Motion passed 5-0.

24
25 3. Public Comment Period : NO member of the Public signed up or asked the Mayor to speak.

26
27 4. Planning Board Requests that the Town Board schedule a Public Hearing for the adoption of the proposed Solar
28 Ordinance. The draft will be available for review in the required timeframe. Significant revisions were made to the
29 draft in the Planning Board's November meeting, and, due to the fact that a significant portion of the County's
30 Ordinance are to be copy/pasted in, and also that the parameters included are to be fit into the NC recommended
31 template for such Ordinances, as well as additions to the definitions section that cause renumbering, it will take a bit
32 to get all the pieces into place. Finally, we try not to schedule Public Hearings in January due to people vacationing
33 and also that required notice is for two consecutive weeks and our paper traditionally skips Christmas week. While
34 we could make the statute by publishing notice in the New Bern paper, this may not serve the purpose of distributing
35 that information to our residents most effectively, and encourage more public participation.

36
37 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** makes a MOTION to set a Public Hearing for the February meeting. **Commissioner**
38 **Simmons** seconds. 5-0.

39
40 5. Budget Amendment. The budget amendment offered covers expenditures and reimbursements from both Florence
41 and Dorian. The November bill from Waste Industries took us past the budgeted amount for green waste removal for
42 the year, so we are required to do the amendment. We are also meeting with FEMA on our Dorian claim, which will
43 include preps, debris, labor, equipment, and contracted pruning. Lastly audit fees were overestimated last year, and
44 not enough allocated this year to cover the costs to get us caught up. Our audits are current and the 18-19 was just
45 accepted by the State Treasurer this week. We were made to understand that a fixed cost estimate accepted was the
46 amount to be forwarded. This may not be the case any longer. Tourism additional expenses were also increasing
47 their line, funded by their restricted reserve as proceeds from Occupancy Tax.

48
49 **Commissioner Overcash** made a MOTION that the budget amendment be approved. **Mayor Pro Tempore White**
50 seconded. 5-0.

51
52 Other Old Business before swearing in new Board was requested by Mayor Belangia. None having been heard,
53 Mayor Belangia asked to meet Commissioner Eric Dammeyer in front of the dais as he chose not to run for re-

54 election and would be leaving the Board this evening. She read the following from a plaque of appreciation prepared
55 for the Commissioner:

56
57 The Town of Oriental gratefully acknowledges Eric Dammeyer for his service to the citizens of Oriental as
58 Commissioner, December 2017-December 2019.

59
60 Commissioner Dammeyer thanked the Mayor and all he had worked with.

61
62 6. Swearing in: Manager Miller swore in Mayor Belangia, Commissioners White, Overcash, Simmons, and Price,
63 and new Commissioner Martin Barrow. (Certificates attached). The Board returned to the dais

64
65 7. Mayor Belangia asks if there is any additional item that needs to be added to the agenda moving forward. We do.
66 The Commissioners' assignments to various volunteer Boards needs to be addressed. **Commissioner Barrow** makes
67 a **MOTION** to add assignments to the agenda. **Commissioner Overcash** seconded the motion. 5-0.

68
69 8. Appointments: Staff offers no opinion as these are political appointments. Mayor Belangia has everyone's desires
70 for appointment. Three Commissioners chose Planning and cannot be appointed to all serve as liaisons to Planning.
71 Mayor Pro Tempore White gives up his previous position as liaison to Planning as Commissioner Barrow just
72 recently served on the Planning Board and is well in tune with their workings and issues. Mayor Belangia assigns all
73 Commissioners to at least one Board. **Commissioner Overcash** makes a **MOTION** to accept all appointments.
74 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** seconds. 5-0.

75
76 9. Planning Board Appointments: Commissioner Barrow is no longer Vice Chair of Planning and Member Lohmar
77 is also resigning. Mr. Dan Allen and Ms. Julie Rahm have entered applications to be appointed to the Planning
78 Board. Both can be appointed to come on in December. **Mayor Pro Tempore White** makes a **MOTION** to
79 approve the candidates for Planning Board. **Commissioner Barrow** seconds. 5-0.

80
81 10. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore: Mayor Pro Tempore White was nominated to continue as Mayor Pro Tempore
82 for another term by **Commissioner Overcash**. The Mayor asks for any other nominations. Having heard none,
83 **Commissioner Simmons** seconds the motion. 5-0. Mayor Pro Tempore White is sworn in (certificate attached).

84
85 11. Police Report Officer Blayney

- 86 • Officer Blayney offers congratulations to the Board-
- 87 • Little activity during the holidays- some boat overstaying issues- fines paid.
- 88 • Larcenies reported out of Town Limits that we worked.
- 89 • More suspicious persons calls than usual/trespassing issues- still fairly quiet.
- 90 • "Porch Pirates"- issues caution to folks who have packages inbound- keep an eye out and on your
- 91 neighbors' properties also- track you packages and know when they are coming.
- 92 • Spirit of Christmas events- OPD will be on the porch at Town Hall prior to the parade with info to
- 93 distribute.

94
95 12. Manager's Report :

- 96 • Financials attached.
- 97 • Last FEMA community rating system ratings meeting in Alliance tomorrow- this is the project that
- 98 forwards our info to the NFIP people and affects our ratings for flood insurance- regulations we have,
- 99 procedures we do- adds to our drainage efforts- we have forwarded this information on several occasions.
- 100 Still awaiting the receipt of those. Our rating has slipped, these efforts trying to get us back. Preliminary
- 101 maps about to become official. A lot of structures here came out of the flood zones. The new maps do not
- 102 include info from Irene or Florence- so the data upon which decisions are made is skewed and the Manager
- 103 has concerns that the freeboard will be lowered to put some structures back into the flood vulnerability.
- 104 County is revising the ordinance and our concerns will be raised prior to the enactment. Encourages
- 105 everyone to pay attention and potentially attend the public meeting tomorrow evening to voice that concern
- 106 as well. The floodplain will be smaller, and then the freeboard is adjusted by the County. It will be
- 107 interesting to see the minimum height standards following the new maps. Commissioner Price notes that
- 108 this will prompt people to drop flood insurance- that's the manager's concern as well. Commissioner

109 Barrow asks if they have received the info we forwarded for additional measures enforced by our GMO and
110 our educational procedures and such that Oriental does that others do not. Mayor Pro Tempore White asks
111 about rates related to freeboard. Manager notes it's 2 different issues. People WILL come out of the flood
112 zone, rates will go down. In addition, new structures will be built to new maps, not necessarily to a
113 standard that keeps new structures dry.

- 114 • Christmas- Volunteer Appreciation party Friday- we could not possibly afford to pay for the expertise we
115 enjoy.
- 116 • Closed 24, 25, 26, January 1.
- 117 • New Program Manager will be here this week to assess our Dorian damages.
- 118 • Manager will be in Chapel Hill at NCCCMMA committee for sustainability meeting at School of Govt
119 Thursday.
- 120 • Dredge Spoils bid is out to clean out the spoils at Sea Harbour- we are leasing the site, which requires to be
121 cleaned out first and made ready to accept new spoils. Attorneys have that now. Hope to be dredged by
122 March 31.
- 123 • Tourism Group directs Spirit of Christmas- candle ornaments on a new tree to be put up in Lou Mac Park-
124 \$5 donation- funds to be forwarded to Ocracoke fund for recovery following the collection. Manager notes
125 that when we got slammed and Ocracoke did not during Florence, they forwarded extra supplies our way.
126 They were wiped out in Dorian, it's our turn. Also- Toys for Pamlico Kids box is here- we ask anyone
127 coming to Town Hall and Volunteers attending the party bring a new unwrapped gift for that box.
- 128 • Commissioner Price asks about the audit- ours is finished and a very few questions had been forwarded
129 from the Treasurer- Auditor is answering those.- One thing we will need to do additionally next year is
130 additional paperwork if receiving more than \$100,000 from the Federal Govt- which we will between
131 Florence recovery and the WPR project.

132
133 13. Auxiliary Boards: Workshop – Notes from the abandoned vessels workshop in Washington and our progress
134 toward enacting a local ordinance. Lisa will be asking for an amendment to existing law vice having a new local bill
135 for us separately. Will keep the Board informed of that progress. Mayor Pro Tempore White asks if the Ordinance
136 prepared by Dan Allen would be approved by this Bill. No. The local bill would allow us to enact the Ordinance-
137 the Town Board would do that following the local bill.

138
139 14. Commissioner Comments: Mayor notes that she will be lighting the star on the Harbor with Commissioner
140 Overcash. Admin Services Director Cox notes that the switch has been installed- the Mayor can do that when she
141 wants to. Question about Christmas lights. We've been working on this since the week before Thanksgiving- hung
142 all fixtures- lights switched on- nothing on Broad ST works. Apparently, old wiring was beat good in Florence,
143 dried out and was torn up during Dorian. Not until strung and tested did we realize every pole was affected. Duke
144 and private electricians continue to go back and forth on who can touch and repair the connections. Still hoping to
145 make it happen before the weekend.

146
147 15. Picture of the month: Shelf off the wall in our office- awaiting the installer to come rehang it.

148
149 16. Adjourn. Next meeting scheduled as January 7, 2020.

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151 Commissioner Simmons made a MOTION to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Overcash. Motion passed 5-0.

152
153 Meeting adjourned at PM

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157 _____
Sally Belangia, Mayor

Diane H. Miller, Town Manager/Clerk

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161 Approved _____, 2019 _____