



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 27, 2024 @ 8:00 AM

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia Officiating

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Public Comment: *Each speaker is asked to limit comments to three (3) minutes. Please wait to be recognized by the Mayor prior to speaking. Direct comments to the full board, not to an individual board member or staff member. Although the Board is interested in hearing your concerns, speakers should not expect Board action or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the Public Comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate town officials or staff and may be scheduled for a future agenda. The Mayor may choose to take Public Comment at the time of discussion of each item on the agenda.*

3. Award of Bid/Authorization to contract: (Tab 1) *The Board shall decide which bid option (repair or replace) and to whom it will be awarded. Attached bid sheets and bids for use. Cahoon Construction has submitted the lowest responsive, responsible bid for both options at \$13,800(repair) and \$28,270 (rebuild). Following meeting with CAMA District Manager Kelly Spivey and Field Representative Jessica Thomas on 2/20/24, **the Town will NOT need any permit to replace less than 50% of the substructure on the dock.** Substructure does not include decking- the entire deck can be replaced-or not- and does not affect the need for a permit. If more than 50% is replaced, a general permit (requiring 60-90 day permitting) would be required. Additionally, the Board could choose to replace any portion less than 50% in any subsequent year with no permit.*

Management recommends the repair option for reasons listed:

- 1. Scheduling can be in the next month, 3 days construction.*
- 2. With the USDA improvement application a year in, and hopeful to be funded, the entire dock would have to be replaced as part of that project to meet new potential grade of street- as part of that project.*
- 3. Negotiate with the selected bidder for additional cost of total replacement of decking.*

Noting: Staff will do as directed by the Board.

4. Personnel Direction: (Tab 2) *The Manager requests direction (portions of personnel policy excerpted) for solicitation for new employee following the resignation (attached) from Public Works(PW) Director/ Water Treatment Plant Operator in Responsible Charge(ORC) Andrew Cox. Currently, Mr. Cox fills both positions. Part of the decision to resign is due to the workload required to maintain both positions and inability to effectively stay ahead of state requirements and additional duties, exacerbated by the previous resignation of a PW employee and subsequent failure to fill that position and further reduction in force due to that failure. ORC/PW Director Cox recommends that the duties be split between two individuals.*

The state has been notified as required that our ORC's resignation is effective March 16. We will need to have an ORC in place at that time to continue to operate the water plant. It requires a B-Well certification and also a B-Distribution certification. Our most likely replacement candidate currently holds C-Well and C-Distribution licenses, as well as Backflow and Cross Connection(BFCC) license. Your ORC and BFCC ORC cannot be the same individual. In order to continue to operate the plant, we will need to contract those services at least until we can get our own certified, or hire someone with those licenses. The only other option is to close the plant, open the connection to Pamlico County water, and purchase water from the County if they are able to supply, keeping in mind they

will be starting rehab of their Kershaw Rd plant shortly. Admin Director Tammy Cox is looking for the next opportunity for B-Well and Distribution classes available.

5. Commissioners Comments

6. Adjourn Next meetings scheduled as **March 5, 2024**