



ORIENTAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 28, 2018 at 8am

507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

Mayor Sally Belangia Officiating

6 The Town Board of Oriental Town Board Meeting on June 28, 2018 was called to order at 8am. The Mayor Sally
7 Belangia determined a quorum to be present. She said we have a Public Comment period, if you wish to speak
8 please make sure you are signed up on the correct sheet.

9
10 Present: Mayor Sally Belangia, Mayor Pro Tempore White, Commissioner Overcash, Commissioner Simmons,
11 Commissioner Price, Town Manager Diane Miller, Deputy Finance Director, Administrative Assistant Jeannine
12 Russo, Officer Nic Blayney and Members of the Public. Commissioner Dammeyer was absent.

13 14 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

15 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** made a **MOTION** to approve the Agenda. Seconded by **Commissioner Overcash**.
16 Motion passed 4-0.

17 18 **1. Consent Agenda**

- 19 a. Approve Closed Session Minutes from Regular Town Board Meeting June 5, 2018
20 b. Approve Minutes from Regular Town Board Meeting June 5, 2018

21
22 **Commissioner Overcash** made a **MOTION** to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by **Mayor Pro Tempore**
23 **White**. Motion passed 4-0.

24 25 **REGULAR BUSINESS**

26 27 **2. Public Comment Period**

28 No Public Comment Period.

29
30 **Manager Miller** asked the Board to skip to Number 10 and announced that William Wichrowski has accepted our
31 offer and will be our new police officer and the state is processing paperwork, did not receive it in time to swear him
32 in. The Board does not need to swear him in; Manager Miller can do that, so when the paperwork does come in, he
33 will be sworn in. Even if he is not a sworn officer this weekend, he will be helping us as an employee of the Police
34 Department as we did with Officer Blayney when we were waiting for his paperwork. Manager Miller asked for all
35 to welcome him as our second full time police officer.

36 37 **3. Josh Gibson: 20 Years of Service**

38 Mayor Belangia, the Board and Town Staff, recognized Josh Gibson for his 20 years of service to the Town of
39 Oriental and was presented with a gift of two chairs and a table for his porch. Manager Miller spoke about Josh
40 stating he has our “institutional memory,” is our go-to guy when we need answers and his service is much
41 appreciated.

42 43 **4. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (Tab 2)**

44 Manager Miller stated this Ordinance is a Step 2 from the Pamlico County Hazard Mitigation Plan that was
45 approved in 2015. This was supposed to happen shortly after but communication was not clear. The Town
46 interpreted this as the County wanted us to incorporate facets of that Ordinance into our GMO so the Planning Board
47 did go through that and had this in mind when they did the changes to the GMO, for example, the new standards for
48 mobile homes, where you can and cannot build, etc. The County is asking for a Resolution that allows them to
49 enforce the Flood Ordinance as part of the Building Code in Town limits. No additional action from us is required.
50 This is an additional line on our Compliance Form that says “Have you checked with the County Building Inspector
51 to make sure that your design meets the Flood Prevention Ordinance.” This will be one of the documents that we
52 would reference when we do our Statement of Consistency from the Planning Board. There is a recommendation
53 from the Planning Board to accept the Resolution. Manager Miller also asked the Board to set a Public Hearing for

54 July 9 at 8am as it is a Land Ordinance and requires a Public Hearing. It will be posted so people can look at it and it
55 cannot be approved until we hold a Public Hearing.

56
57 **Commissioner Overcash** made a **MOTION** to hold a Public Hearing on July 9. Seconded by **Commissioner**
58 **Simmons**. Motion passed 4-0.

59
60 **5. Whittaker Pointe Restoration Project (Tab 3)**

61 Manager Miller stated a lot of progress has been made on the Whittaker Pointe project and has received a lot of
62 letters from businesses in addition to many pages of signatures on the petition in support of the project. Lisa
63 Thompson has worked on the NCDEQ application and Manager Miller has been working on the Golden Leaf
64 application. They will go in together tomorrow (June 29). There are three pages in Tab 3 – A Resolution that
65 supports the DEQ application along with a Conflict of Interest Certification and a second Resolution to support the
66 Golden Leaf application – with change to title. Mayor Pro Tempore White asked if we have accepted the land yet.
67 Manager Miller said we have not. We are in the process of this but a regular appraiser that does residential and
68 commercial property cannot handle this. The current owners are paying for an appraisal by a specialist in
69 undeveloped land. This affects us in that we are using the land value as a match to the grant and if we do not have a
70 current appraisal, tax value will be used, which is currently \$24,600. We believe the value is significantly higher
71 which would cover more of the match. DEQ requires us to wait to take possession and Golden Leaf requires us to
72 have possession.

73
74 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** made a **MOTION** to adopt both Resolutions with the changes to the title that says
75 Golden Leaf. Seconded by **Commissioner Simmons**. Motion passed 4-0.

76
77 **6. Budget Amendment/Project Conclusion (Tab 4)**

78 This is our final clean up, Water Front Enhancement Appropriated to cover the cost of the engineering for the
79 Whittaker Pointe design, to be hand delivered to us today, for inclusion with the application from Stroud
80 Engineering – this was previously approved. The other General Fund Fund Balance Appropriated for \$16,950,
81 which is the Raccoon Creek Flood Abatement Study and that is 100% reimbursable but is paid up front. Mayor Pro
82 Tempore White asked for clarification, from one fund to another.

83
84 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** made a **MOTION** to approve the Budget Amendment. Seconded by **Commissioner**
85 **Overcash**. Motion passed 4-0.

86
87 **7. Chapter E Additions for Watercraft Racks (Tab 5)**

88 The Watercraft rules and lease agreement rules and Amendment to Chapter E, addition to our Docking Ordinance to
89 cover Watercraft Racks; has been vetted by our attorney. Will make available for public use unless there are
90 changes. There is a Resolution and an Ordinance to change Chapter E.

91
92 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** made a **MOTION** to approve the Resolution and to adopt the changes to Chapter E.
93 Seconded by **Commissioner Simmons**. Motion passed 4-0.

94
95 **8. Adjustments to Chapter H – Nuisance Ordinance for Dogs (Tab 6)**

96 Manager Miller compared our existing Ordinance to State Statute and made the appropriate changes. In addition, our
97 definition of habitual was not in line with other municipalities and counties. This was changed to something more in
98 line. Instead of being four times in one month, it is three times in six months. Manager Miller stated keep in mind,
99 the only thing the Pamlico County Animal Control officer can enforce is State Statute. The rest of the document is
100 State Statute and allows one of our officers to take reports and accumulate numbers on a specific animal that has
101 been harassing residents. One administrative change – from Police Chief to Oriental Police. Significant change
102 under Article 6 – Penalties, the state has revised where penalties were specifically allowable. Manager Miller stated
103 this Statute is usually not as graphic as this Statute is which says: To kill someone or break bones or disfiguring or
104 maiming. The penalty sections allows someone to go after anybody, with litigation, who suffers injuries from a dog.
105 Our wording is directly from state statute but had not been updated in some time.

106
107 **Commissioner Simmons** made a **MOTION** to update the Ordinance. Seconded by **Commissioner Overcash**.
108 Motion passed 4-0.

109
110 **9. Mini-Brooks Resolutions for Engineering Contract for Whittaker Pointe and Water Impact Fee studies**
111 **(Tab 7)**
112 Manager Miller referred to our last meeting on June 5 where the Board, after Closed Session, approved a contract
113 with Stroud Engineering for the design for Whittaker Pointe and did not include the Mini-Brooks Resolution that
114 goes with that contract. If we are contracting for engineering design services under \$50,000, with this Resolution,
115 we are not required to go to bid. The other project, the Water Impact Fee Study, was approved – and at that time we
116 were under time constraints – to secure the engineering firm to do our study at half the cost of the other companies.
117 The Mini-Brooks Resolution needs to go with that \$7,500 contract as well. This cost will be recovered in three new
118 constructions. Mayor Pro Tempore White asked to clarify that Manager Miller has discretionary authority under
119 \$50,000; this is correct.

120
121 **Mayor Pro Tempore White** made a **MOTION** to adopt both Resolutions as stated. Seconded by **Commissioner**
122 **Overcash**. Motion passed 4-0.

123
124 **10. Swearing in of new Police Officer (Tab 8) Pending approval paperwork from the state in a timely manner**
125 **for this meeting.**

126 See Manager’s comment below #2.

127
128 **11. Manager’s Report**

- 129 • We were officially released from our previous auditing contract allowing our new auditor to put his
130 contract through the LGC. Our 2015-16 audit is almost complete. Our 2016-17 fiscal year is balanced to a
131 number consistent for the final seven months and because we have been able to get that far, we will be able
132 to open our new fiscal year on Monday.
- 133 • Approximately 10,000 people will be inbound for Croaker Festival. The Robert Scott Bridge will be closed
134 from 3-11pm to all traffic other than emergency services due to the fireworks. Detour routes are posted and
135 were discussed. This year there is a rain date of Sunday for fireworks.
- 136 • The Board will be receiving a letter and information from the Franklin Partnership, as discussed at the last
137 meeting during closed session, offering their assistance on the Whittaker Pointe Project. This will be
138 considered as we move forward. Their assistance would be for permitting and federal and state issues we
139 would face.

140
141 **12. Police Report: (Tab 9).**

142 Officer Blayney presented a somewhat projected report, subject to change after the Croaker Festival. There have
143 been more EMS calls than usual, presumably due to the heat. There are less animal control calls than usual. There
144 were two larcenies at Dollar General, both people arrested. Things are going well, mostly information requests and
145 citizen assists. He will present a full report at our next Board Meeting. Manager Miller added that we will do a
146 welcome for Officer Wichrowski at our August meeting.

147
148 **13. Commissioner Comments**

149 Mayor Pro Tempore White commented that at the last meeting, many people spoke up for and against the Whittaker
150 Pointe Project and since then has not heard from any residents against it, only in support. Marsha Paplham spoke
151 about an event through the Tourism Board on July 19 at the Old Theater. There will be an informational symposium
152 to dispel any rumors and possibly start to collect donations for the Whittaker Creek Dredging, which will be the
153 focus of the meeting. Flyers will be handed out at Croaker Festival. Resident Susan King wished to thank Manager
154 Miller and the Board on the Dog Ordinance and hopes we do not ever need to use it.

155
156 **14. Auxiliary Boards (Tab 10)**

157 BRMSD - 6-21-18
158 Tree Board - 5-21-18

159
160 **15. Adjourn – Next meeting scheduled as August 7, 2018, 7pm at Town Hall**

161 **Commissioner Simmons** made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Seconded by **Commissioner Price**. Motion passed 4-0.

162
163 **Meeting Adjourned at 8:32am.**

164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173

Sally Belangia, Mayor

Diane H. Miller, Town Manager/Clerk

Approved _____, 2018 _____