

**Town of Oriental**  
**Town Board of Commissioners**  
**November 3, 2015**

The Town Board of Oriental Town Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 was called to order at 8:00 pm. The Mayor Warren Johnson determined a quorum to be present, and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT :** Mayor Warren Johnson, Mayor Pro Tempore Barb Venturi, Commissioners Summers, Charlie Overcash, Sandy Winfrey, and David White.

Members of the public and media.

Approval of Agenda;

**MOTION:** Commissioner Summers made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mayor Pro Tempore Barb Venturi seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

Consent agenda; Minutes from Thursday, October 1, 2015 were approved. Minutes from Thursday, October 6, 2015 were approved.

Mayor Johnson, read the Resolution of support by the Town of Oriental for the NCDOT 2015 bicycle & pedestrian planning grant initiative application. It was approved with the minutes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner White made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Overcash seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Johnson, Moved on to the naming of the town beach. Request made by the Bond family to rename the town beach to John W Bond Beach. Mayor Johnson read the resolution.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Overcash made a motion to approve the renaming of the beach. Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Johnson opened the floor to Public Comment, Stating it would be limited to three (3) minutes. Comments should be made to the board and not one 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.

Bill Hines, spoke about the water quality in Camp Creek area. You can check with Grace Evans she tested every 2 weeks early on and it was found that there were above normal levels of nitrates from septic & farm leaching into there. The testing was done more at the mouth. There is a little swirl that has occurred above there that has really flushed that whole area. So, anything

that would have been a concern quite frankly would have done moved on downstream. On a second note thank you for the new benches.

Grace Evans, She was upset about the dumpster at Wildlife Ramp. Said they are making a mess when they dump it and leave trash out. She would like it to be removed from that location. She also spoke about the sidewalks down Broad Street. There are places where there are no sidewalks and signs in the way and you must walk in the street. She would like to see this area added in when the town does the bicycle/pedestrian planning.

Mayor Johnson, past town boards have talked about putting a sidewalk up there but the funding didn't permit it. But who knows maybe it will all come to light again.

Gwendolyn Gibbs Wanted to speak about Midyette Street speed limit and she is happy to see that it is on the agenda. She would like to see 15MPH speed limits, stop signs & Reflective Asphalt Lettering. Said they are cost effective suggestions to be considered.

There being no further general comments, Mayor Johnson closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

The Board then proceeded to the next item on the agenda –Speed limit adjustment to Ordinance.

Mayor Johnson, Read an ordinance to amend the Oriental Code of General Ordinances that was prepared by Town Manager Miller. This is Chapter F, Article V, Section 13. Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi **MOTION:** to approve the amendment as presented. Seconded by Commissioner White.

Discussion called by Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Summers read Federal Highway Administration Excerpts from Traffic and Safety Information Series. He thinks stop signs is not a good solution. Commissioner Summers **MOTION:** That we remove the stop sign at Church Street and Camp Creek Drive. I am amending to take those two out of it.

There was no second. Mayor Johnson: continue discussion. Commissioner Overcash neither street are busy streets so he does not see a problem. And if cars roll through the stop sign we have slowed them down and that is what we want. Commissioner White spoke about stop signs he believes they will work. He agrees with Commissioner Overcash. If it doesn't work we can look at speed bumps/humps etc. Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi agrees with Commissioner White & Commissioner Overcash believes if we put in stop signs it will deter the boats from using that road. If we still find that there is still fast traffic going through there the Town Manager has shown us a traffic calming device.

Motion to approve the amendment as presented was voted on and passed 4-1.

Mayor Johnson wants to move on to the traffic calming device that Commissioner Overcash talked about. He asked for discussion on this.

Commissioner White say he thinks we should hold off on it. Commissioner Overcash stated the same. Commissioner Summers, **MOTION:** We put a speed hump across Midyette Street right where the current rumble strips are right now. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi, for discussion.

Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi, would like to see the proposed stop signs to be 4 way. She is also interested in traffic calming device and we may need more than one. We had the Town Manager look into it. I think we should do this in stages instead of spending money we may not need to spend.

Commissioner Overcash, since we have not had time to look it over I think the start is the stop signs. So, I am not going to vote for it.

Commissioner Summers, We are now only putting stop signs and that is not stopping them from continuing to speed down to stop signs. That is where we have the problem.

Town Manager Miller, spent time on Midyette Street, spoke to 2 fathers; there were young children playing in the street while talking to them. We have a concern about Midyette Street & 55. The children are somewhere between 55 and the first stop sign. We need to do this to protect the children in that area. I believe we need this and I urge you to vote for it.

Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Johnson, next on the agenda is the Election protocol which Town Manager Miller will discuss.

Town Manager Miller, December 1<sup>st</sup> we will start with refreshments to welcome our new board. Installation of the new Mayor and Commissioners. Clerk of Superior Court Steve Hollowell will be here to swear in the Mayor and Commissioners. The sitting board will approve minutes from October 29, November 3, 2015 & November 19, 2015. And attend to any old business that is still on the agenda. Then new mayor and board will be sworn in and will take over all new business. I had talked to you about having Organizational Meeting following the Public Hearing that I am going to ask you to set on November 19, 2015 after talking to Attorney and checking statutes all the organizational meeting is to swear in Mayor and pick your Mayor Pro Tempore that is it.

Mayor Johnson: Parks and Recreation Appointment. The Parks and Recreation Board requests that the Board of Commissioners appoint Ms. Lori Wagoner beginning December 1, 2015 to their membership to fill the spot vacated by the resignation of Mrs. Sue Magnuson. Mrs. Magnuson has been an untiring worker for Recreation in Oriental and we thank her for her service and welcome Ms. Wagoner and look forward to applying her dedication and experience with grants to our efforts.

Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi, **MOTION:** to appoint Ms. Lori Wagoner beginning December 1, 2015 to the Parks & Rec Advisory Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Summers.

Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Johnson: next on agenda is the Public Hearing (GMO) The planning Board offers to Public Hearing a revision of the GMO which is not substantive, but recodification and clarification of the existing document. The Board requests that the Town Board set Public Hearing for 7PM November 19, and that Town Staff make the draft document available electronically and properly advertise the Public Hearing. Commissioner Overcash **MOTION:** to accept this. Seconded by Commissioner White. Commissioner Overcash said nothing changed it is just made to be user friendly. The planning board has worked hard on this over the past year. I just want it to be known that nothing changed in the document. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Johnson: next is the Rededication of South Avenue. Everyone has documents with attorney's signatures. Commissioner White-**MOTION**, accept the authorization and we authorize Warren as our interim Mayor to sign the document for the Town. Seconded by Commissioner Overcash. Motion passed 5-0

Mayor Johnson: next on agenda is Camp Creek Offer Discussion. Based upon State Statue 160A-S75 Commissioner White made a **MOTION** that we recuse Mayor Pro Tempore Venture from the discussion because of the financial interest in the property. Seconded by Commissioner Overcash. Motion passed 4-0

Mayor Johnson reads the last letter regarding Camp Creek Property. Commissioner Summers believes we should accept the property. He restated what our Attorney said about the property. He stated what Bob Miller said we should accept it. We do not need a plan for it now but taking the property will leave for the next board or board down the road to do something with it. There is no raise in liability at this time. Commissioner White: I think we are ready to vote it up or down. I make a motion to vote it up or down tonight. Mayor Johnson we need to move to accept or move to turn it down. Commissioner Overcash: **MOTION:** to not accept. Seconded by Commissioner Winfrey. Motion passed 3-1, Commissioner Summers voting Nay. Commissioner White **MOTION:** to bring Barb back to the board. Seconded by Commissioner Winfrey. Motion passed 4-0

Mayor Johnson: next on the agenda is the Manager Report.

- Last budget amendment you passed was not entered before these statements were printed. It is now in there with Mayors signature.
- Andrew passed his B distribution and Jesse passed his C Well. We have the entire license we need for the water plant in house. We are filling papers with the state to make Andrew the B distribution ORC. This will save you about \$10,000 over the course of a year.
- The storm damage totals were \$1,085.00 damage to docks & fan on front porch. As well as maintenance items that we would need to get ready for recovery operations, or clean up afterwards. FEMA was here in the county our number were added in with the County I don't know if that means we will get that back but, we may get some of it reimbursed. The state has a copy of our receipts.

- Cost of the restroom: currently it sits under budget. Some of the things are not in proper place need Jesse to sit down and look at it. There are additional costs that are not in there. We have cement to be laid. We have about \$1,600 from the electrician left. We have a \$6,000 tab to Bay River that we will have to pay. Need to meet with Commissioner Winfrey to evaluate cost of the donated items. Tile will be going into the building today. We still need to purchase a fixture that is the only large cost left. We may bring this project in with money to spare. Date to open without rain is on or around December 1, 2015.
- November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting is at 7:00pm not 4:00pm. Town Hall will be closed some hours each day for the next two weeks for Logic training. We have posted dates and time on our website, Town Dock and I believe in paper.
- Jam session November 15, 2015 on the porch of Town Hall. Thank you letters from Ol' Front Porch Music Fest to the board & Town Hall. Thank you to Sheriff's office for Halloween.

Chief Moore-presented his police report, stating October has been a great month. Halloween was good, no incident, all went well. Things will change now that we have Midyette Street speed limit taken care of. There will be police presence there more now.

Mayor Johnson next we have the Committee/Board Reports.

Mayor Johnson: next we have the Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Summers the Veterans Day Parade will be on Saturday November 14, 2015 at 10:00am not Wednesday. It will start at Wells Fargo down Main Street which is 55. Veteran's luncheon (For Vet and Spouse) after parade and it is free to Veterans. Veterans Counsel said it will begin at 12 at Anderson Elementary School. Second, ECC meeting last week on bill writing & finance. We are going to be reporting in January for another meeting. Last, County meeting last night they have program for stream debris. The county got a grant for AFD Park behind the ball field. \$270,000 grant. Mayor Pro Tempore Venturi, This is the first meeting with the microphones and they are nice. Charlie did this with Roger and we thank them very much.

**Motion**-Commissioner Winfrey motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Overcash. Motion passed 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm.

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Warren Johnson, Mayor

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Diane Miller, Town Manager

Approved Dec 1, 2015