

Town of Oriental
Town Board of Commissioners
September 1, 2015

The Town Board of Oriental Town Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 01, 2015 was called to order at 7:03 pm. The Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi determined a quorum to be present, and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT were: Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi, Commissioners Overcash, Winfrey, White, and Summers. **Absent:** Mayor Johnson

Several members of the public and media.

Consent agenda items H-P, from Thursday, August 27, 2015 , minutes from July 30, 2015, August 4, 2015 and August 10, 2015 were approved. Commissioner White stated the correction not items H-P, but items H-O. Consent agenda minutes presented for approval were A,B,C,D,E,F,H, and Q, from past dates of February 3, 2015 , March 3, 2015 and April 2, 2015 of Town Board minutes, that needed dates corrected and agenda meeting of February 26, 2015 that was never approved. Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi asked for a motion to approve.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a motion to approve consent agenda A,B,C,D,E,F,G, and Q. Commissioner Overcash seconded the motion. Commissioner White requested on agenda meeting dated July 3, 2015 to switch Commissioner White for Commissioner Venturi. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi opened the floor to Public Comment, hearing from Bill Hines first, Mr. Hines spoke in approval of accepting donation of Camp Creek land, and encourages the Board and Town to keep as a wild and wetlands to preserve the area. Mr. James Andrews of 702 Broad Street, his business address, spoke regarding an employee complaint regarding an incident on August 19, 2015 concerning his confederate flag missing. Mr. Andrews read a statement and when asked by Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi for a copy, refused without consent from his attorney. Mr. Andrews was very much upset with the Town Administration on how this was matter was handled. Mr. Andrews may obtain legal advice and services in this matter. Mr. Andrews stated that he has reported his complaint. Grace Evans suggested that the Town Board and Planning Board see Mr. Hines slide show he presented at the Pamlico Library. Ms. Evans spoke in regards to being upset about decommissioning of PEDRO on October 1, 2015, and the need of their services. She asked if the Town Board would consider writing a letter to the appropriate authorities to protest the PEDRO decommissioning. Ms. Evans asked the Town Board about statements made in regards to the closed session minutes, and if the SBI or Police

was contacted to ask questions to each individual who has a key to Town Hall, and that it would be beneficial to get this matter settled.

Commissioner Summers agreed in regards to PEDRO decommission and that Walter Jones was a good contact to reach out to, but we are at a disadvantage.

There being no further comments, Mayor Pro-Tempore Venturi closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

The Board then proceeded to the next item on the agenda -Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Summers requested at the August 4, 2015 meeting, the corrected page is brought to the Town Board how it will read when inserted in the policy. The corrected page is attached to the Board's package for this meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a Motion to approve the Personnel Policy on Floating Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Summers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The Town Board of Commissioners was to receive a presentation on the item #5-Camp Creek Land donation, but the presenter, Marsha Paplham was unable to attend meeting. The Town Board of Commissioner had a lengthy discussion on how to proceed at this time. Commissioner Summers wanted to accept the donated land, but Commissioner White stated we should not accept the property or make any motion until we as a Board gather more information.

Commissioner White stated he himself tried to view the property, but could not due to growth. Commissioner White stated the Town Board needed to ask the questions like what the Insurance liability costs are, the costs to maintain piece of property, and are there any environmental issues. A public meeting is the way to proceed for all to add comments for or against. Commissioner Winfrey and Commissioner Overcash tried to get within 50 feet of the property to view the status of the structure on the land, but they were not able to due to overgrowth. Commissioner Summers stated the attorney stated never refuse donated land unless there are environmental issues. Manager Miller explained there no cost to add the property liability coverage for the land or structure to our existing plan, but we need to display "NO TRESPASSING" signage and in the event, an individual trespassing on property should gets injured, that the burden of negligence is on that person, therefore the adjuster and attorneys will handle it from that point. Manager Miller stated if the Town Board didn't care if structure was destroyed in some form, then there would be no need to add property insurance. The Commissioners continue to express their plans on how to involve the public and ask the public to prepare a presentation or series of questions with a 5 minute limit to speak or present regarding the Camp Creek land donation.

Commissioner Summers made a motion to have a public hearing at next Town Board meeting, to discuss the possible action, regular comment and special comment, with 5 minute limit for question and presentation. Manager Miller informed Board that requires special publishing notices, and should be done during regular open meeting.

Motion died for lack of second.

The consensus of the Board is to have a separate agenda item with its own public comment signup and to limit it to 5 minute maximum to allow the public to express its questions or concerns, and any presentation on the Camp Creek Land Donation at the next Board meeting.

The Town Board discussed the South Avenue Net house with Manager Miller. Manager Miller stated the town's intent to move the net house, may have additional limiting circumstances. If so desired to move, we need to apply for a CAMA Permit. Commissioner Winfrey to meet with Building Inspector on September 7, 2015, to discuss option if we leave the net house or provision, historically without raising, the mechanicals need to be above flood level, therefore, level up and fix it right where it is. Commissioner Winfrey will get this information. Manager Miller stated we don't have to put plumbing in net house. Intent is to have a place to sit, check email, Wi-Fi, etc. Manager Miller was asked where the restroom is located on street side are they within the 50 ft, and it was stated it's within the 30 ft. line. No matter where we move the net house, it'll still be less nonconforming and CAMA will still not permit that. The Commissioners continue with a lengthy discussion if the net house should be moved, the ADA requirements, and are there any since it's a historical building, can we still have ramp, and many organizations volunteered to assist in this project.

The consensus of the Board was to wait for feedback from Skip Lee to answer questions and concerns. Commissioner White asked Manager Miller the cost of the CAMA permit. Manager Miller stated the cost would be \$300.00. Commissioner White felt we should apply for permit regardless we move the net house.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a motion to go forward with CAMA permit. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Motion not passed 1-4, Commissioner White for it.

The Board of Commissioner received a request from Mr. John Allison to have Camp Creek Circle closed for a private party on September 18, 2015 from 4:00-7:00 PM. Mr. Allison has received permission from the owners of the sub-division, and is expecting over 100 guests.

MOTION: Commissioner Overcash made a motion to close the Camp Creek Circle for parking at a private party at Mr. John Allison residence. Winfrey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Town Manager Miller presented her Manager's Report next, and stated:

- the financial statements are included in the packet,
- the Heritage Day sponsorship form is in the packet if any would like to participate.

- the Ol' Front Porch group will be meeting at Town hall on 10th to organize the event and that Town Hall will be on of the many porches during the festival.
- the office sent 17 mowing letter out, regarding the ordinance about monthly mowing April through September.
- a letter was prepared by our ORC Charles Hardison and mailed in response to the Notice of Deficiency.
- Commissioner Summers, Chairperson Jackie Mahan , and WAB member Steve Serjeant attended the Water System Training and received great feedback.
- Public Works Director, Andrew Cox attended Physical Chemicals I and II and He will be taking his exam for that school next Thursday, September 10, 2015, and Tammy Cox attended Introduction to Local Government Finance school.
- introduced the new administrative assistant Virginia Barnett.
- update on the Bay River project
- Commissioner Venturi commented in regards to Bay River moving their equipment; behind the water plant; from the Women's Club and through the Labor day weekend due to more visitors in town.
- Commissioner Summers commented the Powell-Paving line is overdrawn by \$ 11,500, Manager Miller stated there would be budget amendment to correct this line.
- Commissioner Summers mentioned they budgeted to have a pole down at Hodges Street for the Spirit of Christmas, where he normally uses Mr. Sherrill Styron electric, and would like to know a status update on where approved pole should be. Manager Miller will follow up on this and get back to the Board,

Chief Moore presented his police report, stating there was a break-in on White Farm Rd. in the Rotary Trailers, Items missing extension cords, etc. This is an active investigation and the second larceny in last 6 months. The Village Hardware has video footage that is assisting with issuing a warrant for an arrest.

During the Commissioner Comment period, Commissioner Overcash mentioned in the Tree Board minutes to move trees from Neuse Drive to Net House/ South Avenue restroom and thought this was an excellent idea. Also, that the Board of Adjustment will have a hearing on September the 11th at 9:00 AM for a variance request. Commissioner White inquired about should the variance be brought before the Board of Commissioner, but Manager Miller reminded the Commissioner, N.C.G.S. revision in 2013 regarding Board of Adjustment vice Board of Commissioners and we have to follow General Statutes.

Commissioner Summers mentioned the Fire Department not allowing citizens to park there in the event of a storm, Commissioner Summers suggested to Ben Barnett to set up a meeting to discuss about No Parking within so many feet of Fire Dept. and a separate entrance.

Commissioner Summers and Manager Miller commented on a policy that would allow Town of Oriental or anybody to park on paved/gravel within 3 days before a major storm, only passengers cars and trucks and 3 days after the storm has passed, we can restricted on the policy, that we can have in place by next year before storm season. Commissioner Summers would like to see the benches that been talked about for years be put in place at the end of each street, near water, those streets are Factory, Neuse Dr., Wall, and King Street. We can purchase the benches from Nautical Wheelers at cost plus 10% and the benches need to be secured or pad lock. There was a lengthy discussion amongst the Commissioners and Manager Miller on where the benches should be paid from between the Parks and Recreation Department or Tourism.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a motion to allocate the funds from Tourism revenue in the amount of \$2,650.00 for the four benches. Motion dies for lack of second. Commissioner Overcash stated much confusion about which fund to use to pay for the benches, therefore let's make sure we have it the right way before we make a motion.

Commissioner Summers mentioned the Town of Oriental was topic of discussion at the Water summit due to Bay River spill and option to reduce or avoid these issues in the future. Also, he mentioned about having our water lines on GIS system and other information to having that done would be what materials the lines are made of, the year they were installed. Commissioner Summers stated he spoke with Mrs. Sharon Edmondson about different topics like Notice of Deficiency and on auditing, and on how to prevent credit card abuse.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Winfrey seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Barb Venturi, Mayor Pro-Tem

Diane Miller, Town Manager

Approved 10-6-15_____