

Town of Oriental – Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 7, 2012

The Oriental Town Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7:00 pm at the First Baptist Church.

Present were: Mayor Sage and Commissioners Bessette, Johnson, Styron, and Summers
Commissioner Venturi arrived after the approval of the agenda
Town Manager Maxbauer and Deputy Clerk Wagoner
Town Attorney Davis
Interim Police Chief Moore
LRPCII member Dee Sage
Tourism Board member Evans
Twenty members of the public

Mayor Sage established quorum, opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA -

MOTION: Commissioner Summers moved to approve the agenda. Second by Commissioner Johnson. Vote 4-0.

TAX ASSESSMENT REVALUATION – Mr. Tim Cain with Assessment Solutions was present to talk about assessing property values. North Carolina requires that the revaluation occurs at least once every 8 years and Pamlico County’s was last done in 2004. While the State predicted a rate increase of approximately 37½ %, their estimate is 25% however the damage sustained from Hurricane Irene played havoc on that estimate. Mr. Cain asked that when everyone receives their revaluations to review them carefully and notify them of any storm damage that was not included. The appeals process has been extended to ensure everyone has ample time to contest the revaluation. They will be located in the Brinson Building in Alliance.

CONSENT AGENDA -

MOTION: Commissioner Summers moved to approve the 12/29/2011 Agenda Workshop; the 1/3/2012 Town Board Meeting; and the 1/13/2012 Special Meeting minutes as well as Commissioner Venturi’s appointment to the ECC Board. Second by Commissioner Bessette. Vote 5-0. The 1/13/2012 Closed Session minutes were unavailable and will be approved at the next meeting.

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL RETREAT - Mayor Sage reported that the board met for a first time ever Council Retreat where the town’s goals, challenges and projects were reviewed and prioritized. The #1 project was the rebuilding of the town hall and the board will meet on 2/13/2012 to review the proposed plans.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD -

- Mrs. Dee Sage shared a press release concerning the STEP 2 upcoming open forum on March 2,

1012.

- Mr. Peter Ritchie made comments about the Oriental Police Department.
- Mrs. Grace Evans made comments on the proposed land negotiations with Mr. Chris Fulcher.
- Mrs. Carol Small also made comments on the proposed land negotiations.

NEW BUSINESS – SOUTH AVENUE PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS -

MOTION: Commissioner Summers moved to go into closed session in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) and (5) to discuss the proposed property negotiation. Second by Commissioner Venturi. Vote 5-0. (8:02 PM)

--- CLOSED SESSION ---

Back in open session at 10:22 PM;

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi moved to continue the Town Board Meeting until Monday, February 13, 2012, at 8:00 AM. Second by Commissioner Styron. Vote 5-0.

William R. Sage, Mayor

Robert J. Maxbauer, Town Manager