

ORTLEY BEACH VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, August 16, 2025

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – A call to Order was conducted by President, Anthony Colucci beginning the August 16, 2025 OBVTA general membership meeting.
2. Moment of Reflection - A moment of silence was conducted by the OBVTA Board of Directors for those suffering in Ukraine and the hopes for a resolution of the same. The moment of reflection was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call – Roll call was conducted by the Secretary, John Clarke, and the following Board of Directors were present; Anthony Colucci, Paul Jeffrey, John Clarke, Debbie Barton, Joe Cantalupo, Cathy Crisafulli, Joan Strathern, Mike Stramandinoli and Gail D’Amico.
4. Quorum –President, Anthony Colucci, requested Secretary John Clarke to determine whether or not a quorum was present. Upon review of the members present for the General Membership meeting, it was clearly established that a quorum had been reached as far in excess of 40 members of the membership were present at the meeting thereby establishing a quorum.
5. Minutes – The minutes from the July 19, 2025 General Membership meeting were presented and accepted by a unanimous vote from the Board of Directors.
6. The Treasurer’s Report was presented by the OBVTA Treasurer, Debbie Barton. With regard to income/revenue, dues payments for the month were \$1,710.00.00 and year-to-date \$10,684.00. Year-to-date there are 22 business renewals with 6 expired in 2024. The money market today has yielded \$4.00 and the CD’s yielded \$456.00 for a total interest income of \$460.00. Total income for the month was \$1,961.00 and year to date is \$11,044.00.

Expenses for the month were \$811.00 and net income year to date is \$4,020.00

Total cash on hand including money market and checking accounts and our CD's amount to \$72,202.00.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously by the General Membership.

7. Guest Speaker Sherriff Mastronardy – We were fortunate to have Ocean County Sherriff, Michael Mastronardy speak at our General Membership meeting. Sherriff Mastronardy is an entertaining speaker whose presence is always very much appreciated by the OBVTA. Sherriff Mastronardy recounted many memories from the Sandy disaster and the recovery therefrom. He also provided the membership with updates indicating that this is his 17th year as Sherriff and apparently he has been elected for three more years. He gave updates on the gun ranges that assist all of the military personnel that were implemented in Ocean County and gave updates on the police and youth academies as well as the cadet programs. Sherriff Mastronardy discussed the issue a couple of years ago with regard to drones and how the Ocean County Sherriff's Department deployed their own investigation and drones in attempting to combat that issue. Sherriff Mastronardy was of the opinion that these drones were not just misreported aircraft but were actually through the Federal Government, most likely from Federal vendors. Sherriff Mastronardy discussed that the use of drones is moving fast and is becoming more prevalent in police protection and that those who remember the old Jetsons cartoon are actually seeing it come to life in some capacities.

Sherriff Mastronardy discussed the fleet of water going vessels including Sherp all terrain vehicles, boats, jet skiis, and

Questions were also raised by the audience as to speeding on the Bay Boulevard area and Sherriff Mastronardy indicated that Toms River is responsible but Ocean County will assist in attempting to alleviate this problem including patrolling that area as well as putting up warning signs for those going over the speed limits.

It should be noted that Sherriff Mastronardy stayed throughout the meeting and answered questions by many of those in attendance. Also, throughout the time, if an issue came up, there were several instances in which Sherriff Mastronardy reached out to a potential appropriate individual and resolved several issues for OBVTA while he was right there at our meeting.

8. Guest Speaker Chief Guy Maire – The OBVTA expressed great appreciation for Chief Maire attending our meeting and he was given a warm introduction by Sherriff Mastronardy. Chief Maire picked up on Sherriff Mastronardy's discussion of drones and indicated that they are being used, at times successfully, to locate missing children by the Toms River Police Department and police departments in the area.

Chief Maire started with a background of himself and indicated that he is married with four children and was actually originally hired by the Toms River Police Department by Sherriff Mastronardy himself. Chief Maire has served for 33 years on the Toms River Police Department and will replace acting Police Chief Peter Sundack. He indicated that he is a lifelong resident of Toms River, his children attended the Toms River school districts, and he is a lover of the Ortley Beach region.

Chief Maire touched on a variety of issues and the changes that have occurred during his time with the Toms River Police Department. One of the greatest changes he noted is how mental health is impacting our communities and how it is being handled in a variety of capacities. Chief Maire is of the opinion that we need to actively assist those who are suffering from mental health issues and endorses the idea of non-police officers arriving at the scene initially in an attempt to calm down those suffering these issues. Chief Maire went on to discuss the curfew that is in place with regard to juveniles. He indicated that it is temporary but there may be an ordinance in the works to make it more of a permanent matter. He felt that the curfew has greatly assisted law enforcement in the handling of juvenile issues including the pop-up parties in the past few years. Chief Maire addressed a variety of issues to the membership all from emergent EMS coverage, parking tickets, and traffic related offenses.

Chief Maire's presence was greatly appreciated by the OBVTA Board of Directors as well as the General Membership and we hope to see him as well as Toms River Officers at future meetings.

10. Member Comments – A variety of issues were discussed during our meeting in response to questions or comments by our members. These included dealing with the bushes in the Bay Boulevard area and the parking on Bay Boulevard both of which are greatly affecting line of sight for those pulling out

onto Bay Boulevard or across the Bay Boulevard areas. In addition, there were comments that there are no crosswalks on Bay Boulevard where Lavallette has six and we have zero. It will be looked into as to whether this can be addressed to make it safer to cross the Bay Boulevard areas where there are crosswalks.

As August is moving through, we recalled the success of the Christmas tree planting last year. Shell donations are being asked for and are asked if you have them to be taken to 216 Seventh Avenue, Ortley Beach, NJ, the home of Michelle Bucci, to assist in the Christmas tree planting this upcoming season. Discussions were had on the improvements at the Pickle Ball courts including the use of chairs now and the placement of screens, which are greatly appreciated. The lack of a handrail on Coolidge was also addressed and it appears that there was an oversight by Toms River as to whether railings would be placed at Harding Avenue or not. Apparently, they were placed on Harding Avenue but they only had enough handrails to include Harding and not Coolidge. This is something that will be worked on in the future but at the current time, there will be no handrails at the Coolidge Avenue beach access. Other issues addressed included the Ocean County Recycling, Bacon Bagels property, Gigi's movement to the Rockafella's location, trash at the Pickle Ball courts, discarded rails on the dunes, as well as the boardwalk issue which seems to be moving forward with the assistance of John Miele. Cathy Crisafulli discussed the PTR Program and indicated that if individuals are having trouble filling out the applications for the PTR Program, assistance can be given if they travel to the Senior Center in Toms River and they will help fill out the forms at that location.

11. Board of Directors Comments – An update was given by Joan Strathern with regard to the street scape program. John Miele, the Township Engineer, emailed her to say that the bid for the Ortley Beach Street Scape project has been sent to the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger, and started appearing in those papers on August 9th and will continue for three weeks. All bids that are submitted will be opened on September 4th at 10:00 a.m. by Toms River officials. Once a bid is selected, it will be sent to the State for approval. This is positive progress on the street scape issue.

12. Close of Meeting - A motion was then brought to have the August 16, 2025, General Membership meeting brought to a close and that was unanimously approved.