

ORTLEY BEACH VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, July 19, 2025

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – A call to Order was conducted by President, Anthony Colucci beginning the July 19, 2025 OBVTA general membership meeting.
2. Moment of Reflection - A moment of silence was conducted by the OBVTA Board of Directors for those military service individuals who have sacrificed their live and for those in Middlesex County who are suffering from the floods. 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, John Clarke, Debbie Barton, Joe Cantalupo, Cathy Crisafulli, Joan Strathern 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 June 21, 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 in the amount of \$1,220.00 and year-to-date \$8,930.00. Year-to-date memberships total 612 and there are 20 business memberships at the current time. Total income year-to-date amounts to \$9,107.00.

Total expenses year-to-date are at \$5,898.00 and for the month are \$826.00. Total cash on hand including money market and checking accounts and our CD’s amount to \$71,391.00.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously by the Board of Directors.

7. Board Member Mike Wymbs – Special thanks to longtime board member, Mike Wymbs. The OBVTA Board of Directors and the General Membership took some time to acknowledge and praise our long time Board Member and friend, Mike Wymbs. Mike has been a member of the OBVTA and served on the OBVTA Board for over 20 years. He has continued throughout the course of that time to work for the betterment of Ortley Beach and has helped us with a variety of projects including the removal of the old sewer plant, marches in Trenton, secure funding following Super Storm Sandy, helping OBVTA sponsor arbitration for the purchase of the Surf Club property, assisting on the two beach and dune replenishment programs, and many other issues involving the OBVTA. Mike has often fought and been a voice against Ocean County Utility Authority (OCUA) and have attempted to permit to use the OCUA property in Ortley Beach for passive recreation. He has always helped us coordinate with the Moose Lodge and/or helping with the Beach Jam. Overall, Mike Wymbs has been a strong supporter of the OBVTA and Ortley Beach.

On behalf of the OBVTA members, the Board of Directors presented Mike with a card and Moose money as a thank you for his long time support of the OBVTA. Hopefully, Mike will continue to support the OBVTA moving forward.

8. Member Comments – A variety of issues were discussed during our meeting based on member comments. This included discussions with regard to the Pickle Ball courts. At times, the Pickle Ball courts are very busy with 30-40 people playing and/or waiting at one time. The players have taken it upon themselves to put some plastic chairs so that they have a place to sit and wait as there are limited benches in the area. Nevertheless, it appears that the town has taken these chairs away and now there is next to no place to sit. The Board of Directors have indicated that they will follow up with the recreation department to see if more seating can be allocated in these areas. In addition, with regard to the Pickle Ball courts, the lights stay on very late into the night and a simple solution would be to have a timer installed and this is something that will be looked into with Toms River Recreation Department.

Another issue that came up was the succession issue. Recently, there has been some news that the New Jersey Supreme Court has supported the lower courts

ruling allowing South Seaside Park to continue to move forward in its attempt to succeed from Berkeley Township and joint with Seaside Park. A fairly lengthy discussion was had with regard to this topic and it was agreed that this would be considered and looked into in more detail moving forward.

There were some questions with regard to the EMS that they used to be on the island from 7:00 am and 7:00 pm and that there were more police patrols. Much discussion was had with regard to this between both the members and the Board of Directors. It appears from the membership that the police have been more prevalent this year than in years past and the EMS has done an excellent job in responding to issued more so than they have in the past.

School Board, Bankruptcy and taxes are a concern and discussion was had at the meeting as to how this will affect the taxes. It appears that our taxes will go up by an undetermined amount at this time. Depending on what the resolution is with the upcoming school budget.

There are continued parking issues in and around Mia's as many of the vehicles are parking on the streets and it is difficult and dangerous for people entering from 6th Avenue in and around the Bay Avenue area as the parking is blocking vision in these areas. This is a continuing problem and will be followed up with the town and/or Ocean County.

Some discussion was had with regard to the parking lot near the old Joey Harrison's Surf Club as to whether this can be converted into a park or not. Obviously, most if not all involved would prefer it to be some kind of recreational use in the line of a park but so far Toms River has not be amenable to changing the plans and are leaving it as a parking lot for the time being. This will be followed up with as well.

A hat and bag giveaway/raffle was conducted towards the end of the meeting which the General Membership thoroughly enjoyed being give these items.

9. Close of Meeting - A motion was then brought to have the July 19, 2025, General Membership meeting brought to a close and that was unanimously approved.