

ORTLEY BEACH VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – A call to Order was conducted by President, Anthony Colucci beginning the October 18, 2025 OBVTA General Membership meeting.
2. Moment of Reflection - A moment of silence was conducted by the OBVTA Board of Directors for those who have passed away in wars around the world. 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; President, Anthony Colucci, Vice President, Paul Jeffrey, Treasurer, Debbie Barton, Secretary, John Clarke, Joe Cantalupo, 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 established that a quorum had been reached in excess of 40 members of the membership were present at the meeting thereby establishing a quorum.
5. Minutes – The minutes from the September 20, 2025 General Membership meeting were presented and accepted by a unanimous vote from the Board of Directors.
6. Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's Report was presented by the OBVTA Treasurer, Debbie Barton. With regard to income/revenue, dues payments for the month were \$270.00 and year-to-date were \$11,170.00. Our year-to-date memberships are at 599. Our total income year-to-date is \$12,717.00.

Total expenses year-to-date come to \$10,625.00 and for the month, \$876.00. This leaves our net income year-to-date of \$2,092.00.

In addition, in our cash and monetary instruments, we have a total amount of cash including bank accounts and CD's amounting to \$70,274.00

As a side note, we have budgeted \$3,500.00 for the holiday party that is currently scheduled for December 6, 2025.

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

7. Toms River Police Chief – We were fortunate to have at our meeting as a speaker, Toms River Police Chief, Guy Maire, who has been the Police Chief since being sworn in on July 31, 2025. Chief Maire gave an excellent presentation indicating that it has been a busy first few months with the Toms River Police Department. He discussed the continued patrols and EMS Services that are taking place throughout Toms River and including Ortley Beach. He discussed the juvenile situation and indicated that it was a good summer in comparison to past summers with regard to disruptive juveniles and that the curfew is certainly working. He also indicated that the recent storm that we went through went well with no major flooding occurring in the Ortley Beach area. He then was presented with a series of questions including the speed and sight line issues that were on Bay Boulevard and indicated that he would speak with the county. Also, he will look into adjusting the parking issue that is taking place on Bay Boulevard, the potential one way street on Harding, the parking at Jerry's Produce Store, which some were complaining was too close to the curb, and a variety of issues that were presented to him by the membership. He indicated that he would look into these and other issues that were addressed and can be reached via email at chief@trpolice.org.

8. Boardwalk Update – Joan Strathern gave a brief update on the boardwalk moving forward. She was pleased to announce that based upon the involvement of the OBVTA and in cooperation with Toms River personnel including John Mele, that the boardwalk update is going out to bid and is moving forward. It looks like it will be taking place hopefully sometime before next season begins.

9. Holiday Party – It was discussed and presented by Debbie Barton that the holiday party will be taking place this year for the OBVTA on December 6, 2025. It will be taking place at the Moose Lodge and we will have the event catered. Details of the party will be going out via email as more information is agreed upon moving forward.

10. 2026 Project Ideas – Some project ideas that were presented to the Board of Directors by the General Membership included an area at the 3rd Avenue parking lot for ramps to be installed and a drop off area, hand railings on both sides of the access points for the beach, and at least one side set forth on Coolidge Avenue, attempts to get Bake N Bagels appearance more in line with what he hope to have in our limited business district, moving forward in assisting Dakan Homes on their Route 35 Surf Club property development, following up with updates and support for local businesses including the restaurants of Wasabi 35 and the move of Gigi's into the Rockefeller's building, Bay Boulevard crossing issues, sight line issues, and care for the Bay Boulevard area, dune grass installation (which we are not receiving any information from Toms River on).

In addition, it was discussed and agreed that a memorial for our recent passed longtime member, Mel Persi, was agreed that we would be planting trees in his memory and Paul Jeffrey generously agreed to undertake that memorial.

The Christmas Tree decorating is moving forward and they are still looking for additional shells, any donations can be dropped off in a pot in front of 216 7th Avenue.

Also discussed was that the Friends of Ortley Beach will be having a presentation on the Ciba-Geigy court case that will be presented by Save Barnegat Bay and is discussing the inadequacies of the New Jersey vs. BASF settlement. This will take place on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the St. Elisabeth Church on 3rd Avenue in Ortley Beach.

It was brought to the attention of the OBVTA that the flag at the Bayside Park was torn and ripped and needs to be replaced. Our President, Anthony Colucci indicated he would reach out to the town and have that corrected as soon as possible.

Discussion was also had regarding the pollinator garden was taking place on the Sunday following the General Membership meeting and that the dirt has been placed down there and that they are looking for volunteers to help seed the areas so that the pollinator garden may be ready and hopefully grow next spring. They hope to have the areas next to Fielder Avenue and North be completed in its next stage.

Also, comments from the General Membership included compliments to the OBVTA Board of Directors for all the hard work that is put in.

11. Close of Meeting - A motion was then brought to have the October 18, 2025, General Membership meeting brought to a close and that was unanimously approved.