ORTLEY BEACH VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting
Saturday, October 17, 2026
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – A call to Order was conducted by Vice President, Paul Jeffrey, beginning the October 17, 2026 OBVTA General Membership meeting.

2. Moment of Reflection - A moment of silence was conducted by the OBVTA Board of Directors for those suffering around the world in military conflicts and also for Pope Leo. The moment of reflection was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call – Roll call was conducted by the Vice President, Paul Jeffrey and the following Board of Directors were present; Secretary, John Clarke, Joan Stranthern, Joe Cantalupo, Gail D'Amico and Ginny Morrisey.

4. Quorum – Secretary, John Clarke, determined that as 40 members of the membership were present at the meeting that a quorum was established.

5. Minutes – The minutes from the September 19, 2026 General Membership meeting were presented and accepted by a vote of the General Membership.

6. The Treasurer's Report was presented by the OBVTA Secretary, John Clarke. Dues payments for the month of September were $320.00 and year-to-date was $7,650.00. Total income for the month is $693.00 and year-to-date is $9,465.00. Total expenses for the month amounted to $2,659.00 and year-to-date is $12,217.00. Our total income year-to-date is -$3,443.00. Total cash on hand including our money in TD Bank and investments, amounts to $61,845.00. Our membership at the current time is 528 members and for the businesses are 19 members of which 15 are paid.

There was discussion concerning the membership and the total income running at a deficit over the last couple of years. There was some discussion as to whether to increase the membership for the 2027 year and also there was a variety of ideas and discussions about how to attract future members, membership drives, marketing ideas how to illicit our business memberships to become more active.

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

7. Guest Speakers – Our guest speaker for this meeting was supposed to be Councilman, Robert Bianchini. Councilman Bianchini was unable to appear at our meeting and, as such, we did not have a guest speaker.

8. Holiday Party – Debbie Barton is running the holiday party but she was unavailable for the meeting and, as such, John Clarke gave a brief description of the holiday party. The holiday party is currently scheduled for December 5, 2026 at The Moose Lodge and will take place between 6 and 10 pm. Payment can be made and mailed to the OBVTA P.O. Box and payments are due by November 22, 2026. Total cost for the event estimates to be approximately $3,580.00. Based on 80 attendees and charging $30.00 each that would be $2,400.00 of that $3,580.00. The OBVTA has a budget of $2,000.00 to contribute to offset the expenses for the membership and based on the current cost it leaves a remainder from our reserve of $820.00 so we should be in good shape for the party.

9. Holiday Decoration Competition – This year, the OBVTA is sponsoring a townwide Ortley Beach Holiday Home Decorating Competition. Gail D'Amico gave a presentation of the competition. There will be prizes given for houses that are most festive, most fun, most traditional and most beachy. Gail D'Amico and her committee are working to obtain donations from local businesses to be given out as gifts for each of those categories.

10. Police Chief Maier Retiring – It has been announced that Police Chief Maier will be retiring effective the end of this year. This will be the third Police Chief since the Rodrick Administration that is retiring. There is some concern that a public official, not necessarily a policeman, will take over rather than a trained officer. This has been done is some towns where a public service director is appointed to be in charge of the policy. The general consensus is that this is not an ideal situation in Toms River and the OBVTA will monitor this situation carefully.

11. Boardwalk Extension – There was some discussion on the boardwalk extension and generally speaking, the project is moving forward as the posts have been driven and some of the 2x10's to support the boardwalk itself have been

laid out. It is difficult to ascertain how high the pavilion will be but it is hopeful, based on the engineer's representations, that it will be high enough to see the ocean from the pavilion area.

12. Bay Boulevard – An update was given on the Bay Boulevard project in that as of today, Ocean County has not done any substantive changes to the area. Apparently, they are conducting studies with regard to the site lines and bushes and trees on the middle islands as well as studies for the cross walks. We have been assured in the past that the OBVTA will be kept in the loop of progress that is being made and at the current time, are waiting to see if those representations are accurate.

13. Dune Grass Update – John Clarke has indicated that as of the date of this meeting, Toms River did not have an update on when or if the dune grass will be delivered this year. They were not sure whether the storm had caused a setback or not. John Clarke contacted the county and after getting through several departments, it was finally determined that the planning department for Ocean County was in charge of this. Mr. Clarke spoke to an individual named Brielle, who indicated that the first shipment of dune grass will go to LBI on October 23, 2026 and the second shipment will go to our area hopefully two weeks thereafter. We are monitoring this situation and will notify the membership as to when the dune grass will be delivered so that we can organize another successful dune grass planting this year.

14. Other Issues Discussed at the General Membership meeting – There are some concerns that the traffic lights in the area on Route 35 are not properly synced up with the pedestrian crossing lights and we were asked to look into this issue. In addition, there are less garbage cans up along the beach this time of year as many have been taken out prior to the last big September storm and only a few have been returned. This is typical for the winter months up by the beach.

Another issues that was requested was that the hose from the Fielder Avenue area should be extended down the boardwalk so that watering of the butterfly gardens up and down the boardwalk are able to supported with water and to not be done at the houses of those along Ocean Avenue causing them some significant expense. With the building of the boardwalk extension, the OBVTA will

look into whether or not a water source can be run down the boardwalk to allow the watering of the butterfly garden.

Other issues discussed were membership dues and whether or not Venmo could be set up with our membership. Paul indicated that he would look into whether this is a viable option. Also, there is some concern with 5G towers going up in and around the Harding area. Apparently, in the area of #3 and #9 Harding, there are markings on the road that appear to be "4Z" which would seem to be an indicator that Verizon may be putting a tower in that area. Also, John Clarke met with Louann to discuss potential meeting dates for 2027 and will be discussing the same with her this upcoming week.

15. Close of Meeting - A motion was then brought to have the August 15, 2026, General Membership meeting brought to a close and that was unanimously approved.