

To the Tillamook County Board of Commisioners:

David Yamamoto

Erin Skaar

Mary Faith Bell

I am writing you to vocalize my adamant support of Oceanside's incorporation, an Oceanside that includes the entirety of its boundaries. Having grown up in the Oceanside community I have seen first hand dramatic changes, both positive and negative, but we have always faced these changes as a community and I see incorporation and local control as the next logical step in these efforts. While I spent my twenties living away from Oceanside, and Oregon, I have moved back now with the hope of raising a family in the town that meant so much to me growing up and helped to shape the person I am today. But I fear the current trajectory of our community as homes around me become little more than investment opportunities and the children in our community grow up without friends to play with in their neighborhoods. While growing up the neighborhoods our friends lived in was of little importance to us, we would trek up the tire trail to meet with friends in Avalon or head towards Radar road to play in the woods that connect our neighborhoods.

Much of the discussion has turned to the question of incorporation's "value" for varying neighborhoods. These values have been placed into financial terms, with varying neighborhoods identifying individual areas of improvement where one neighborhood may see greater benefit than another. While financial terms are an obvious route for these discussions because they are quantifiable, I feel that the benefits are more nuanced than this. As a society we have decided that democracy and representation by our peers are the bedrock of modern civilization, yet in this debate we are trying to define the benefits of democracy by its cost. In the spirit of democracy these decisions should be made at the ballot box by the people who live with our current level of control on a daily basis.

These to me are the benefits of incorporation that are most difficult to quantify financially, how can one create a line item of childhood experience? Place a financial value on democracy? Without incorporation, without the ability of Oceanside and this community to steer our own future, I see no way for us to sustain the vibrant experience of life that keeps us here, for adults and children alike.

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Oceanside Neighborhood Association
www.oceansidefriends.org
Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting — December 11, 2021 — Zoom Format

President Jerry Keene called the online meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 11, 2021. At that point in time, per Zoom registration and polling, 196 ONA voting members were in attendance, plus approximately 9 members who joined by telephone. (Additional ONA members joined the meeting later.) The meeting quorum of 35 was met.

Special Meeting Purpose:

The purpose of this special meeting was to vote on the Task Force's Incorporation Report.

Background:

In the summer of 2021, ONA President Jerry Keene sought and obtained the board's approval to form the Incorporation Task Force, charging it with investigating and recommending whether incorporation of Oceanside is a feasible option worthy of community consideration and debate as a way to preserve and enhance the quality of Oceanside's civic life. The Task Force's report, including its findings and conclusions, is available on the ONA website. A link is provided here:

[Incorporation Task Force Report \(22 Nov. 2021\)](https://www.oceansidefriends.org/wp-content/uploads/Incorporation-Task-Force-Report-Revised-Final-11.22.2021-with-links.pdf)
<https://www.oceansidefriends.org/wp-content/uploads/Incorporation-Task-Force-Report-Revised-Final-11.22.2021-with-links.pdf>

Informational emails sharing the Task Force's findings about incorporation were sent to the community via six Oceanside Neighborhood Association Newsletters beginning in October, 2021. Additional information and conversation were conducted over four Zoom sessions, each lasting about 90 minutes: December 4 (the regular ONA meeting) and the evenings of December 7, 8 and 9, 2021. Comments from the community were discussed in these Zoom meetings and in subsequent ONA newsletters.

Jerry covered the reasoning behind the wording of the three motions, or polls, to be voted on at this meeting. (These were sent out in advance via the ONA Newsletter.) Based on questions posed by community members and the incorporation survey results, there appeared to be three main camps of opinion: 1) people who want to go forward with the incorporation process, 2) people opposed to having Oceanside incorporated, 3) people interested in incorporation but wanting more time to evaluate and discuss findings in the Task Force Report.

Therefore, the following three motions were an effort to parse the interest of the Oceanside community with regard to incorporation:

- 1) The ONA Membership approves the Task Force conclusion that "incorporation is a feasible option worthy of community consideration and debate."
- 2) The ONA membership should immediately announce support for incorporating Oceanside.
- 3) The ONA membership should defer and reschedule a vote on incorporation until the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners invites public comment at an incorporation hearing.

Process:

After each motion was proposed and seconded, 30 minutes of discussion would be allowed. Members would write their comments and questions in the "chat" section of the Zoom format. Jerry would read each and comment on them as appropriate. When it was time to vote, two minutes would be allowed for members to answer the poll. Screens where more than one member was present and voting were asked to turn on their video cameras so the number of votes could be verified. Once the poll was closed, no further votes would be accepted. Results would be shared with participants, and a provisional result declared. The ONA Credentials Committee would verify the votes after the meeting, screening out unregistered voters and duplicate votes.

The **First Motion** was made by Blake Marvis and seconded by Sue Wainwright:

The ONA Membership approves the Task Force conclusion that "incorporation is a feasible option worthy of community consideration and debate."

Jerry explained that a Yes vote on this measure would not commit the ONA to supporting incorporation, but it would authorize further "community consideration and debate." This would also clear the way for organizers to file the paperwork necessary to gather signatures on an incorporation petition. The petition would lead to hearings before the Tillamook County Commissioners who would decide if incorporation would be placed on the ballot. If the ONA rejected this motion, activities to pursue incorporation would end.

After 30 minutes of discussion, a vote was called.

Motion 1:

Provisional results:

228 votes. 172 **Yes (75.4%)**, 56 **No (24.6%)**

Verified Results (per Credentials Committee review of votes):

221 votes. 164 **Yes (74.2%)**, 57 **No (25.8%)**

Based on results, Motion 1 passes.

The **Second Motion** was made by Sharon Brown and seconded by Susan Wainwright:

The ONA membership should immediately announce support for incorporating Oceanside.

Jerry explained that a yes vote would mean the ONA would go on record supporting incorporation in materials that would be submitted to the county commissioners. Rules allow a minority report, so if someone feels strongly about this, they could put together an opposition statement to be included in the packet to the commissioners.

After 20 minutes of discussion, a vote was called.

Motion 2:

Provisional results:

211 votes. 128 **Yes (60.7%)**, 83 **No (39.3%)**

Verified results (per Credentials Committee review of votes):

199 votes. 124 **Yes (62.3%)**, 75 **No (37.7%)**.

Based on results, Motion 2 passes.

Based on "Yes" votes for Motions 1 and 2, Motion 3 became moot.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

The next regular ONA meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 10 am via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Horton
ONA Secretary

A video recording of this meeting will be retained for a limited time. To review it, please contact the ONA at oceansidefriends@gmail.com.