

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Select Board Minutes of April 16, 2024*

Present: Aaron Allen, Betsy Coble, Sandi Pierson, Catherine Souza (clerical)

Others: Gulley Dunlap, Anita Garland, Judith Lindahl, Glenn Miller, Kathy Stacy, Doug Weekes

The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. Attendance taken by the secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

Betsy Coble motioned to approve the minutes of the public meeting of April 2, 2024, seconded by Sandi Pierson. Motion passed 3/0/0.

Select Board appointment of open position on ZBA:

The ZBA needs one more member to fulfill the four-person compliment of full time members. An email has gone out soliciting a volunteer. Members of the Planning Board cannot fulfill the ZBA role. If anyone is interested, please see a member of the Select Board.

Town House Roof update and request:

The Iron Horse Roofing Company is contracted to cover the historic second story of the town house roof with standing seam. The Iron Horse Company has provided a quote of \$6920.00 to additionally cover (with standing seam) the single story addition which has significantly aged shingles. The work would be done at the same time as the primary roof mid-May 2024. To do so is beyond the scope of the LCHIP grant but may be advisable due to the reduced cost and the soon inevitable re-shingling of the single story extension.

Motion made by Sandi Pierson to authorize the cost of \$6920 for the roof on the single story addition with funding to come from the Town House Capital Reserve Fund, seconded by Aaron Allen. Motion passed 3/0/0.

ACTION: Catherine to draft the letter instructing the Trustees of the Trust funds to withdraw the funds from the Town House Capital Reserve Fund.

Timber Tax Approval:

For completed Baldwin 2023 Timber Cut (map1 lot 20): The Select Board approved and signed the tax warrant. Motion to accept by Aaron Allen, seconded by Betsy Coble. Motion passed 3/0/0.

March 2024 Treasurer's report and Select Board Reconciliation:

The document was reviewed by the Board and signed by the chair.

Other Select Board business and action items:

NH Electric Coop re-clearing project

- The NH Electric Co-op is beginning a right-of-way re-clearing project in the 2024 calendar year. All impacted residents will be contacted by the NHEC team. The Town House property is impacted.

Action Item list review:

- Action Items Completed:
 - Final decision on Historical Commission reorganization: Society or Heritage Commission.
 - Work is ongoing on the final solution. Current Historical Commission to periodically report back to the Select Board on progress.
 - Email the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update pdf file to the Select Board and post it on the Town website.

- Action Items open:
 - Disposal of old safe in Town Clerk's office (pushed to summer 2024)
 - ARPA Grafton Co funds: Septic project. Secure bids. (in progress)
 - ARPA Grafton Co funds: Bathroom renovation. Secure bids (in progress)
 - Town Warming Center Policy
 - Catherine discussed the situation with the Emergency Management Director, Doug Weekes. The proposal for now is: if an emergency happens and an Orange resident family is in need of a warming center, the Select Board and the Emergency Management Director will make a decision for the situation. The intent is to be helpful to a Town resident. The current concern is the septic ability to support multiple people over a longer period of time. The Select Board accepted the report.
 - Investigate options for a possible cell phone for the Road Agent
 - Visiting Nurses and Hospice of NH/VT 2024 donation (for May 7 meeting)

- Action Items New:
 - Letter instructing the Trustees of the Trust funds to withdraw the funds from the Town House Capital Reserve Fund for the single story addition roof.

Secretary's Report:

Nothing to report

Reports from Boards and Committees:

- *Cemetery trustees:* Meeting Wednesday April 17, 2024 at 6pm. The team is working on getting cemetery maps updated.
- *Road Agent report:*
 - Glenn is ok with residents cutting fallen trees but please do not leave in the waterway. Call Glenn to have the wood removed.
 - Plowing – ok to text Glenn for questions.
- *Historical Commission:* none
- *Planning Board:* none.
- *Conservation Commission:* none
- *Parks & Recreation:* Earth Day Event @ Williams Park, Saturday April 20, 2024 at 10:30am. Rain date April 21, 2024 at 11:30am.
- *Emergency Management:*
 - Doug requested the Select Board for a decision on the following: An additional street address has been requested for Rt4 map 1 lot 47. There is already a pre-existing residence with an assigned street address. The driveway for the new location has no dwelling in existence that complies with the town zoning as a permanent residence. The Town has the ultimate authority to determine street address.

- Aaron Allen made the motion to deny the street address, seconded by Betsy Coble. Motion passed 3/0/0. Doug to contact the resident.

Board comments:

- The Select Board offers their condolences to Nancy Pike and family about the passing of David Pike.
- Registry of Deeds and escrow account – The Select Board directed Catherine & Trish to investigate if an escrow payment of \$50 would be an acceptable way to manage the infrequent small registry bills.
- Shift the payment of Conexon Connect to pay from the website bill notification– The Select Board directed Catherine to pay from the website bill notification rather than waiting on the paper bill to avoid the late fee

Public comment:

Kathy Stacy:

- Does the Treasurer have the ability to pay online (ACH) to shorten the time for payment?

Judith Lindahl:

- Last fall, Judith asked if she could investigate the cost of re-wiring the Town House. David Stacy will check with contractors for quotes on electrical wiring for the Town House. More to come at a future meeting.

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Next Select Board meeting date confirmation: Tuesday May 7, 2024, at 6pm.

At 6:35pm Sandi Pierson motioned to go into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3-c to discuss a personnel issue and a tax exemption application. Betsy Coble seconded. Motion passed 3/0/0. Motion by Betsy Coble to come out of nonpublic session at 6:55pm, seconded by Sandi Pierson. Motion passed 3/0/0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Aaron Allen, Chair

Betsy Coble

Sandi Pierson

Select Board
Town of Orange, NH