

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Minutes of April 26, 2022*

Present: Tamara Fairbank, Aaron Allen, Betsy Coble, and Sandi Pierson (clerical)

Others: n/a

Meeting opened at 6 p.m. Attendance taken by the secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- The minutes of April 12, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.
- The nonpublic minutes of April 12, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.
- The second set of nonpublic minutes of April 12, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.

MS-535: Tamara motioned to approve and sign the MS-535 (Financial Report of the Town) ending December 31, 2021 as submitted by Cohos Advisors. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Sandi will upload it to the DRA web portal the following day.

MS-60: Betsy motioned to approve the MS-60 (Audit of the Town) ending December 31, 2021 as submitted by Cohos Advisors. Seconded by Tamara. Motion passed unanimously in favor. The Board thanked Treasurer Trish Weekes for the annual work she does with Cohos in completing the audit.

Purchasing Policy: Aaron motioned to approve and sign the Purchasing Policy as revised at the last meeting. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Land Use Change Tax (LUCT): The Board signed a Land Use Change Tax warrant (A-5) for \$3,650.00 for Alan Kharsyntiew and Susanna Rumbai/365 Tuttle Hill Road/Map 4, Lot 14-F as approved at the last meeting.

Yield Tax: The Board approved and signed a Yield (Timber) Tax for \$2,239.30 for Terhune Family Partnership, Ltd./Town House Road/Map 3, Lot 10.

Other:

- A letter was received from Mitchell Municipal Group re: Right to Know laws that are pending legislation. After discussion it was agreed that Betsy will be the point person for “right to know” issues that affect the town.
- A forest management plan was received from Judith Lindahl. Tamara said the Judith would like to discuss the document at the next meeting.

- The town's equalization values were received from the DRA. The value of \$37,359,938 is used to set the rates for the county tax and school tax. The value less utilities of \$36,507,552 is used to set the State Education tax rate.
- A notice was received regarding the herbicide spraying schedule on NH Electric Co-op power line corridors from Vegetation Control Services, Inc. After discussion the Board directed Sandi to scan the information and send it out on the town's listserv. For environmental soundness, especially nontoxicity to pollinators, Sandi asked the Board to consider a warrant article prohibiting the herbicidal application by utility companies to the pole corridors in Orange.

Other Select Board business:

- Tamara would like to wrap up the regular Board meetings by 7 p.m. If a substantial issue is on the agenda, a special meeting can be scheduled.

Action items:

- The Board revisited the abatement filed by Aaron Allen/127 New Colony Rod/Map 3, Lot 31. Tamara said she viewed the contour of the land in question. Tamara and Betsy agreed they were not familiar with how Avitar classifies the contour of the land. Since a rep from Avitar will be in the office on Monday morning, Tamara and Betsy will confer with him at that time to get a clearer idea of how the property is assessed.
- Propane pre-buy: Aaron will follow up at the end of May.
- Aaron has completed the task of disposing of old plastic culvers left on the roadside following FEMA work.
- Tamara will contact a locksmith to see if they can open and retrieve the combination to the safe in the town clerk's office.
- Sandi shared information about rest room renovation in regards to ADA guidelines. For renovations, ADA guidelines may be followed to the extent that an existing facility allows for.
- The trash situation at a residence on Peaslee Road will be on the next meeting agenda.

Secretary's report:

- The town's records were picked up from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission.
- Presently there are only two active members. Three residents have expressed an interest on being on the ZBA. Their nominations will go on the next meeting agenda.

Reports from Boards and Committees:

- Tamara said the Historical Commission will meet on May 2 at 7 p.m. at the Town House. Sandi noted that Dorothy Heinrichs and her sister Jane Masters have donated a lot of high quality books for the Historical Commissions upcoming book sale.
- Tamara said the Cemetery Commission will meet on May 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town House.

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Meeting adjourned 6:55 p.m.

Tamara Fairbank, Chair

Aaron Allen

Betsy Coble