

*Office of the Select Board  
Town of Orange, New Hampshire  
Minutes of February 25, 2020*

*Present:* Tamara Fairbank, Aaron Allen, and Sandi Pierson (clerical). Dorothy Heinrichs was out of town.

*Others:* NH State Trooper Sean Smarz, NH State Trooper Kyle Mobley, Karen McFarlane and son Cameron.

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

*Minutes:*

The minutes of February 11, 2020 were unanimously approved.

The minutes of February 12, 2020 were unanimously approved.

*Meeting with State Police:* The Board met with NH State Troopers Sean Smarz and Kyle Mobley to discuss crime and crime prevention. Tam said she invited the troopers to meet with the Board because of the recent speculation that there has been an unusual amount of burglaries in town. Trooper Smarz said that the actual number of break-ins are not as high as presumed, it is the amount of items taken or recurrences at the same residences by people familiar with the home that have been the indicators. He said most of the burglaries are “opportunity crimes” whereas an offender is familiar with a property or knows at what times a home is normally vacant.

Sean spoke about how the State Police covers the town and said that although they investigate every complaint, the State Police force does not have the manpower or time to do significant patrolling. At this time the State Police are covering over 20 towns in Grafton County that have no police force or have just a part-time officer. Many times they work with a mutual aid partnership with area police forces and this helps investigating crimes in Orange because usually burglars commit crimes neighboring towns. He said the Sheriff’s Department and State Police may patrol on the request of the town at the cost of an hourly rate.

Sean gave safety strategies including security cameras and signs indicating as such. He said that if people see anything suspicious, they should email him at Sean.Smarz@dos.nh.gov. In an emergency, he said, always call 9-1-1.

*Septic:* The recent back-up of the septic was discussed. Aaron said it was the same problem as last year: the waste water is not getting into the leach field. After discussion, Aaron motioned to have JBC pump out the system at a cost of \$400 before town meeting. Tam seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

*Yield tax warrant:* The Board signed a timber yield tax warrant for \$132.37 for Robert Senter/Burnt Hill Road/Map 8, Lot 1-A.

*Investment policy:* The Board signed the 2020 investment policy as required by the DRA.

*Welfare:* Welfare Director Karen McFarlane briefed the Board on the repayment anticipation from welfare recipients of which the town has assisted in paying electric bills.

*Meeting:* The Board concurred to meet on 10 a.m. on March 10 due to voting.

*Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.*

*Meeting adjourned 7:15 p.m.*

---

Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs

---

Tamara Fairbank

---

Aaron Allen