

*Office of the Select Board  
Town of Orange, New Hampshire  
Select Board and Budget Committee Minutes of January 17, 2023*

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

*Budget Committee members:* Robert Proulx, David Stacy, Louis Shelzi

*Other:* Gulley Dunlap, Daniel Hazelton, Sharon Proulx

*Select Board meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. Attendance taken by the secretary.*

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*Minutes:* Betsy motioned to approve the minutes of January 3, 2023. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

*Building permit:* The Board reviewed a building permit application for foundation work: Dewey Mathis and Samara Pietre/54 Tuttle Hill/Map 1, Lot 18. Aaron motioned to approve the application. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Building Inspector Doug Weekes had reviewed and signed the application.

*Other:*

- A notice was received from the State of NH that they have deposited \$10,000 into the town's account for 50% of the Moose Plate grant.
- A letter of introduction was received from Executive Counselor Cinde Warmington. She wrote that she will be scheduling a meeting with the Board in the near future.

*Other Select Board business and action items:*

- Action items:
  - Updating tax maps: Avitar has not yet given a quote.
  - Richard Remacle's contract has expired as of December 31. Scott Sanborn reports he is following up.
  - The culvert near Kip Riley's residence has been addressed by the highway department.
  - Betsy and Tamara have visited Hilary Allen's property in order to make a decision on her abatement application. The abatement will be on the next agenda.
  - 9-1-1 signs: Sandi is near completion of listing the properties and areas in town that should have a 9-1-1 sign. A number of places will need to get designated 9-1-1 addresses.
  - Changing the locks at the Town House was tabled until after town voting.

*Secretary's report: n/a*

*Town meeting:* The Board discussed with Moderator Daniel Hazelton the location of town meeting. After public input and further discussion, Tamara motioned for town meeting to be at

the high school auditorium. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Aaron will check with the SAU Superintendent Martha McDonald on the availability of the auditorium.

*Reports from Boards and Committees:*

- Tamara stated that the Historical Commission will meet on February 6 at 7 p.m.

*Public comment:*

- Sharon felt the condition of the flag on the outside flagpole merited replacement. The Board concurred. Sandi will ask Skip to follow up.

*Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.*

*A 6:13 p.m., Tamara closed the Select Board meeting and opened the joint meeting with the Budget Committee.*

*Informational packets:* Handouts were available prepared by Bob Proulx which included a working draft of the MS-7 (showing all 2022 appropriations and expenditures) and a packet of general budget information.

*Budget Committee officers:*

- Bob Proulx motioned to elect David Stacy as Budget Committee Chair. David seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- Dave motioned to elect Bob Proulx as Budget Committee secretary. Bob seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

*2023 Proposed budget:* (All proposed figures were unanimously approved by all members on the Select Board and Budget Committee.)

- Salaries: \$39,000. Increased due to over-expenditure in 2022 and increase in auditor contract.
- Elections and Registrations: \$1,475. Voting for officers and town meeting are the only expenses this year.
- Deed recordation: \$200. Level funded.
- Revaluation of property: \$5,000. Increased based on 2022 expenditures.
- Legal expense: \$2,500. Level funded.
- FICA: \$3,500. Increased to cover salary line item increase.
- Planning and Zoning: \$300. Level funded.
- General Government Buildings: \$9,500. Increased due to rising heating costs.
- Cemeteries: \$6,000. Level funded.
- Insurance: \$2,716. As quoted from Primex.
- Memberships: \$1,800. Based on projected costs.
- Officer Expenses: \$7,500. Level funded.
- Ambulance: \$12,379. As quoted from Canaan.
- Fire: \$18,581. As quoted from Canaan.
- Building inspector: \$500. Level funded.

- Emergency Management: \$1,600. Includes funds for second purchase of 9-1-1 signs.
- Highway: \$110,000. Level funded.
- Solid Waste: \$13,611. As quoted from Canaan.
- Health Agencies: \$3,900. Based on donations requested from health agencies and estimated health officer salary.
- Direct Assistance (Welfare): \$3,000, Level funded.
- Library: \$4,000. Level funded, as requested.
- Culture and Recreation: \$200. Level funded.
- Timber Harvest Monitor: \$1. Level funded to keep category open in case it's needed.
- Conservation Commission: \$200. Conservation Commission Chair Aaron Allen felt \$200 was adequate.
- Tax Anticipation Note: \$4,000. Level funded.
- Buildings Capital Outlay: \$1,000. Level funded.

*Proposed Capital Reserve deposits for 2023:*

<i>Capital Reserve Fund</i>	<i>CRF balances December 31, 2022</i>	<i>2023 Appropriations</i>
Highway Equipment CRF	\$18,925.74	\$8,000.00
Town House CRF	\$33,509.50	\$10,000.00
Revaluation CRF	\$8,213.27	\$4,000.00
Town Roads CRF	\$49,574.44	\$15,000.00

*Anticipated Revenue:*

- Land Use Change Taxes: \$0.00. Land coming out of current use is not anticipated.
- Yield (timber) taxes: \$3,500. Based on the logging operations currently in progress.
- Interest and penalties on delinquent taxes: \$4,000. Estimated by tax collector.
- Inventory penalties: \$1,500. Based on average amount collected.
- Business licenses and permits: \$30.00. Based on 2022 figure.
- Motor vehicle permit fees: \$60,000. Decreased slightly from 2022 based on the continuing decline of new car sales.
- Other license, permits, and fees: \$100. Based on 2022 town clerk revenue figures.
- Building permits: \$100.00. Conservative estimate because only minor construction is foreseen.
- Meals and Rooms distribution: \$20,000. Based on 2022 figure.
- Highway Block Grant: \$28,000. Based on figures from the State.
- State Land Reimbursement (Cardigan State Forest): \$4,000. Based on the traditional revenues received.
- Voter Checklist: \$350.00. Based on 2022 figure.
- Interest on Investments: \$0. Nothing anticipated.
- Municipal fees: \$900. Based on 2022 town clerk revenue figures.

*Budget Summary to be deliberated at the public hearing:*

	2022	2023	
Appropriations	\$256,704	\$252,463	\$4,241 decrease
Capital Reserves	\$42,000	\$37,000	\$5,000 decrease
Total of above	\$298,704	\$289,463	\$9,241 decrease
Less revenue estimates	\$144,010	\$122,880	\$21,130 decrease
<i>Estimated tax effort</i>	\$154,694	\$166,583	\$11,889 increase

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

***PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET:  
JANUARY 31, 2023 AT 7 PM AT THE TOWN HOUSE***

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Tamara Fairbank, Chair

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Aaron Allen

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Betsy Coble