

*Office of the Select Board  
Town of Orange, New Hampshire  
Select Board Minutes and  
Budget Committee Public Hearing Minutes  
January 26, 2021*

*Present:*

- *Select Board:* Dorothy Heinrichs, Chair; Tamara Fairbank (Budget Committee ex-officio), Aaron Allen, and Sandi Pierson (clerical)
- *Budget Committee:* David Stacy, Chair; Robert Proulx, Secretary; and Louis Shelzi
- *Others:* Danny Hazelton, Sharon Proulx, Angel Buckwold, Michelle Goffreda, and Judith Lindahl

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

*Minutes:* The minutes of January 12, 2021 were approved as submitted.

*Municipal Property sale:* The Board signed a deed transferring 3.9 acres of vacant, landlocked land on Tuttle Hill to Charles Baldwin. Certified payment for the sale and a signed application for merging the acreage with Mr. Baldwin's existing property was received. Sandi notarized the Board signatures and will send the deed to the Grafton County Registry of Deeds for recordation and forward the voluntary merger application to Planning Board Chair Scott Sanborn.

*Town meeting:* Moderator Dan Hazelton spoke to the Board about this year's town meeting in regards to COVID-19 guidelines. He said the State will allow town meeting to be postponed until later in the year. Dorothy recapped Health Officer Doug Weekes' recommendations regarding the number of people that can be in the Town House and still be within the COVID-19 guidelines. After discussion, it was agreed that voting for town officers on March 9<sup>th</sup> (Article One on the ballot) will be held at the Orange Town House with the same COVID-19 measures as the voting days in 2020.

After discussion and input from Danny, Dorothy motioned to hold the business meeting (Articles 2-9) the following day, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., at a larger facility, with the options being the Canaan Hall (Canaan Motorsports building) or one of the schools. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Aaron will follow up on those options. It was noted that per RSA 39:1-b, the Select Board must arrange transportation, for those voters who need it, from the usual polling place (Orange Town House) to an out-of-town facility. Sandi will get options and price quotes from North County Transportation Services in Lebanon and Butler Bus Service, the latter which serves the Mascoma School District.

Danny asked Sandi to send out a town-side email asking people to consider volunteering on the 2021 ad hoc Salary Study Committee which will be on this year's warrant.

*Other: n/a*

*Other Select Board business:*

- Aaron has spoken to the logger at the Cardigan State Forest logging operation on New Colony Road about leaving room for hikers to park. He notified them that they should not be using the town plow turn-around for equipment storage. Answering a question from Sharon, Aaron said that appropriate logging signage has been posted.

*Secretary's report:*

- Sandi thanked Aaron for picking up the mattress and box spring that was disposed of on the side of Burnt Hill Road. Aaron disposed of it at Lebanon Landfill.
- Sandi recapped her conversation with a UNH Extension representative that was doing a survey for the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC). The Commission wanted to know what issues were affecting Orange and how they could best serve the town. Sandi summarized the FEMA road progress and also that the Board is seeking help from legislators regarding the RSA that can hold towns financially responsible for fire response in the state forest. The UVLSRPC would like to have a representative from Orange, a position that is now vacant. Sandi said she suggested that someone from the UVLSRPC should attend a Select Board meeting to discuss further how they could benefit the town and what the advantage would be if someone volunteered to be a representative from Orange and take the time to attend meetings in Lebanon.

*Reports from other Boards and Committees: n/a*

*Public comment: n/a*

*Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.*

*Select Board meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.*

***BUDGET COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING  
ON THE PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET***

Public hearing opened at 7 p.m. During the deliberations, two line items were changed from the January 12 joint meeting: Elections/Registrations and Solid Waste.

- Salaries: \$32,000.
- Elections and Registrations: \$2,170. Increased \$1,000 for possible added expense for holding town meeting out of town and providing the required transportation.
- Financial Administration (registering deeds): \$100.
- Revaluation of Property: \$3,000.

- Legal Expense: \$2,000
- FICA: \$2,800
- Planning and Zoning: \$300
- General Government Buildings: \$8,000
- Cemeteries: \$3,000
- Insurance: \$1,800
- Memberships: \$1,750
- Officer Expenses: \$7,500
- Police: \$0.00
- Ambulance: \$12,328
- Fire: \$14,909
- Building inspection: \$300.00
- Emergency Management: \$300
- Highway: \$110,000. Sharon asked that they consider lowering this to \$105,000 which would make for a \$5000 increase over last year's budget instead of \$10,000. After discussion, the Budget Committee and Select Board concurred not to amend the line item.
- Solid waste: \$21,274. This was increased by the Town of Canaan by \$3,811 from an earlier quote. An option from Canaan was to leave it at \$17,463, as earlier quoted, and make up the deficit by charging Orange residents \$10 per transfer station sticker (as they are doing in Canaan). This would mean a re-issuing of all transfer station stickers by the town clerk and board secretary and collecting the money. After discussion, the Budget Committee and Select Board decided it was best to put the increase into the municipal budget.
- Health agencies: \$3,900
- Direct Assistance (Welfare): \$3000
- Library (contribution to Canaan Library): \$4000
- Culture and Recreation: \$200
- Timber Harvest Monitor: \$1.00
- Conservation Commission: \$300
- Tax Anticipation Note: \$5,700
- Buildings Capital Outlay: \$1,000

***Total proposed 2021 budget: \$241,132.00***

***Capital Reserves:***

- Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund: \$8,000
- Town House Capital Reserve Fund: \$5,000
- Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund: \$4,000
- Road Repair and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund: \$1,000

***No changes were made from the January 12 meeting.***

***Total proposed 2020 capital reserve contributions: \$18,000.00***

*Anticipated revenue (offsets municipal budget):*

- Land Use Change Taxes: \$2,000
- Yield taxes: \$3,000
- Interest and penalties on delinquent taxes: \$6,000
- Inventory penalties: \$1,500
- Business licenses, permits and fees: \$30
- Motor vehicle permit fees: \$60,000
- Building permits: \$100
- Other licenses, permits and fees: \$300
- Meals and Rooms Tax distribution: \$5,000
- Highway Block Grant: \$28,000
- State Forest reimbursement: \$3,000
- Statewide voter checklist: \$325
- Interest on investments: \$100
- Municipal fees: \$950
- Sale of municipal property: \$10,000

***Total estimated revenues: \$120,305***

*Louis Shelzi motioned to accept the budget as finalized. Bob Proulx seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.*

***BUDGET SUMMARY***

	2020	2021
Operating budget	\$228,086.00	\$241,132.00
Capital reserves	\$16,000.00	\$18,000.00
Total Appropriations	\$244,086.00	\$259,132.00
Less Estimated Revenues	\$119,450.00	\$120,305.00
Estimated amount to be raised by taxes	\$124,636.00	\$138,827.00

*Level funded 12 categories*

*Decreased 7 categories*

- Elections - \$2,030.00
- Revaluation - \$1,000.00
- Legal Expense - \$1,000.00
- Fire Protection - \$1,422.00
- Building Inspection - \$950.00
- Health Agencies - \$1,100.00
- Conservation Comm. - \$200.00

*Increased 8 categories:*

- Officers' Salaries +\$2,000.00
- FICA +\$100.00
- Insurance +\$58.00
- Ambulance +\$1,005.00
- Solid Waste Disposal +4,886.00
- Highways +\$10,000.00
- Gen. Govt. Bldgs. +\$1,000.00
- Interest on TAN +\$1,700.00

Increased Capital Reserve Funds: +\$2,000.00

<i>Appropriations</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>Change</i>
<i>Operating Budget</i>	<i>\$228,085.00</i>	<i>\$241,132.00</i>	<i>+\$13,047.00</i>
<i>Capital Reserve Funds</i>	<i>\$16,000.00</i>	<i>\$18,000.00</i>	<i>+\$2,000.00</i>
<i>Total Appropriations</i>	<i>\$244,085.00</i>	<i>\$259,132.00</i>	<i>+15,047.00 6.2% increase</i>

*Meeting adjourned 7:20 PM.*

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Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs

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Tamara Fairbank

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Aaron Allen