

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Minutes of July 19, 2022*

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

Other: Anita Garland

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: The minutes of June 5, 2022 were approved as amended. (Meeting attendance and building permit corrections.)

Cemetery maintenance: Cemetery Trustee Anita Garland stated that the town's riding lawnmower used for cemetery and Town House mowing is inoperative beyond repair. She recommended subcontracting out cemetery maintenance at a marginally higher cost but without the town being responsible for mowing equipment, gas, and machinery upkeep. The Board and Anita agreed that historically it has been the Select Board that hires town employees and contractors and that the Cemetery Trustees have set the rate of pay for cemetery work. After discussion, Aaron motioned for the Board to hire a cemetery maintenance contractor. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Tamara, also a Cemetery Trustee, stated that the Cemetery Trustees will meet following the Select Board meeting and will be considering a contractor selection. Betsy motioned for the Board to approve the Cemetery Trustee's recommendation of a contractor to do cemetery and Town House maintenance. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

After discussion, Aaron motioned for the mowing of the Town House be paid out of the General Government Buildings budget category and not the Cemetery category. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Road agent report: The Board reviewed the monthly road agent report emailed from Scott Sanborn.

- FEMA projects have passed through the State level and have been forwarded to the federal level. Reimbursement for administrative costs follows the project review completion.
- Scott was informed that the accrued interest paid by the town on the FEMA Recovery Anticipation Note is not reimbursable.
- Scott has requested Richard Remacle grade Cross Road and replace a culvert on the lower part of that road. Unsure of the time schedule on this work.

Building permit: The Board reviewed and approved a building permit for the replacement of a mobile home with a modular home: Mark and Joyce Packard/48 Cross Road/Map 1, Lot 53. All regulatory documentation (septic, foundation) was attached to the application.

Treasurer's report: The Board reviewed the June 2022 Treasurer's report and Select Board reconciliation. All figures were on target and the Chair signed the report.

Other:

- A Notice of Decision was received from the ZBA. A variance to Orange Zoning Ordinance, Article II, Section B-2(a) was granted to the Estate of Laura Sturtevant (c/o Warren Morrill). This formalized an unrecorded one-acre lot owned by Mr. Morrill and identified as such for 45 years by the town.

Other Select Board business and action items:

- Action items still pending:
 - Large trash disposal date. Sandi to contact Casella.
 - Finalize Remacle contract. Sandi to remind Scott.
 - 9-1-1 house signs. Aaron to follow up with Alton Hennessey.
- Action items completed:
 - Additional forbearance agreement sample (agreement regarding property tax payments). Aaron suggested having the town's attorney review a final draft that may be used by the Board.
 - Website administrative turnover: For the time being, Jay Heinrichs will continue to administrate the town's website.
 - Retention policy per RSAs for the town clerk's office: Town Clerk Michelle Goffreda has followed up and shared her findings with Tamara. Tamara will bring them to the next meeting.
- Tamara motioned for the Board to sign a reminder letter to Levi Lemere and Barbara Lemere reiterating the Board's agreement with them that they have until August 1, 2022 to comply with State and town regulations in regards to the clean-up of the Peaslee Road property. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- The Board discussed concerns brought to them regarding long-term camper lodging on Razor Hill Road. The Board will review the town regulations in regards.
- The Board discussed a property that is being used to regularly do auto body and auto painting. The Board agreed they needed to follow up so see if it is a business and, if so, the safety and environmental regulations and zoning questions that would be implicated. The Board will review statutes and other regulations, including from the NH Department of Environmental Services. They will ask the health officer to weigh in.
- Status of the beaver flooding issue on Burnt Hill is unknown.
- The Board concurred that the town tax maps need to be updated. They agreed to set this as an action item with a due date no later than December 31, 2022.
- Tamara shared an email from FEMA requesting additional information on two culvert installations.

Secretary's report:

- The SAU office confirmed that the town made a \$23,895.40 overpayment on last year's tax commitment. For clarity in this year's financial auditing, the Board directed Sandi to request a refund instead of a credit. Aaron questioned why the SAU didn't pick up the oversight instead of the town secretary.
- Two publications approved for purchased from NHMA at the last meeting, Knowing the Territory and A Hard Road to Travel, are only available in electronic form. The Board agreed Sandi should order the PDFs, email them to Board members, and have Gnomon Copy print a copy of each publication for the office.
- The Board signed a card to Donna Hazelton commending her on her long-time teaching career at Indian River School. Donna recently retired after forty years of teaching.

Reports from Boards and Committees:

- The Cemetery Trustees will meet following the Select Board meeting.

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Meeting adjourned 6:55 p.m.

Tamara Fairbank, Chair

Aaron Allen

Betsy Coble