

*Office of the Select Board  
Town of Orange, New Hampshire  
Minutes of March 22, 2022*

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

*Others:* Ron Klemarczyk

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

*Board nominations:*

- Aaron motioned for Tamara to be Select Board Chair. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- Tamara motioned for Aaron to be Select Board Vice Chair. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- Tamara motioned for Betsy to be the Select Board ex-officio to the Planning Board. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- Tamara motioned for Aaron to be the Select Board ex-officio to the ZBA. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- Betsy motioned for Tamara to be the Select Board ex-officio to the Budget Committee. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

*Minutes:*

- The minutes of March 8, 2022 were unanimously approved as written.
- An email was received from Town Clerk Michelle Goffreda requesting an amendment to the minutes of February 23, 2022. Michelle wrote that the minutes stated she was absent from her office for two consecutive Wednesdays. She wrote that on one of the Wednesdays she had to leave 30 minutes early due to an urgency. After discussion, the Board approved amending the minutes to read that she was not in the office “as posted.”

*MS-232:* The Board signed the MS-232 (Appropriations as Voted). The figures are the same as on the MS-737 (budget as proposed by the Budget Committee) because there were no changes at town meeting that amended the municipal budget nor the capital reserve appropriations.

*Razor Hill Excavation/Map 8, Lot 1-A:*

- The Board reviewed the 2021-2022 Report of Excavated Material and subsequent gravel tax warrant for Bobby Senter’s gravel pit on Burnt Hill. The Board signed the gravel tax warrant for \$84.00. After discussion, Betsy voted to abate the gravel tax. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- The Board reviewed and signed the Notice of Intent to Excavate for Bobby Senter for 2022-2023.

*Forest Fire Wardens:* The Board reviewed and approved the appointment of Fire Warden and Deputy Fire Wardens. The roster included Brent Stevens, Warden and Deputies Bill Bellion, Jim McAlister, and John Hennessey . The form will be sent to the State Forester for his approval.

*Current Use change:* The Board approved a Notice of Change in Current Use Assessment for Paul Dick/Map 4, Lot 8/Tuttle Hill. Mr. Dick is adding the 20% recreational tax discount to the portion of land that is in current use.

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

*Letter of appreciation:* The Board signed a letter of appreciation to Butler Bus Location Director Steve Landon for providing transportation between the Town House and high school on town meeting day. Mr. Landon has arranged this for two years at no cost to the town.

*Other:*

- The Board was in receipt of information from Treasurer Trish Weekes regarding the FEMA Reimbursement Anticipation Note and the 2022 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). Both should be ready to process at the next meeting.
- A notification was received from the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources that they are planning a 203-acre timber cut in Mount Cardigan State Forest. Access will be Tug Mountain Road. Per their request, Sandi has posted the information and map of the proposed cut on the outside bulletin board.
- A notice was received from Inov8v Energy that they are required to charge a fuel surcharge of 20 cents per gallon due to the war in Ukraine. This led to a discussion on the town exploring the possibility of a pre-buy option. Aaron to follow up.

*Other Select Board business:*

- Tam asked Sandi to send Board members a copy of the proposed Purchasing Policy and put it on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Now that we have to dial the area code for all local calls, the Board directed Sandi to include on the Informational Directory. Aaron requested she also add burn permit information.

*Secretary's report:*

- Regarding the State's directive for Wave Comm to remove all of their equipment from the Cardigan Mountain fire tower by July 1, Sandi notified them that if the equipment is still on the tower after April 1<sup>st</sup>, they will be taxed for the full year. After discussion it was agreed that Sandi will send the State's Wave Comm documentation to organizations that are spearheading the broadband effort so they will be aware that the town has one less rural option.
- Town Clerk Michelle Goffreda has been paid her stipend in monthly segments. She said it was okay to pay her quarterly. The Board concurred.
- Sandi stated that the voucher signed this evening for Avitar included the 2022 pick-ups, a LUCT land change, and an abatement review, the latter two of which no documentation was sent to the town so that they may proceed with their follow-up. Sandi questioned

how the pick-ups were accomplished prior to having the inventory forms in hand. After discussion Aaron motioned for Sandi to present the concerns to Avitar in an email. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

- Skip Smith has been doing maintenance for the Town House for a number of years. He asked why he was not included in the Salary Study Committee recommendations. Based on changes to comparable positions in the 2022 study, Tamara motioned to increase Skip's hourly rate from \$15.90 to \$18.45. Aaron seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.
- In an email, Town Clerk Michelle Goffreda wrote that she is changing the weekday hours to Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. She reports that this fits with the Deputy Town Clerk's availability should she be unable to be in the office. Sandi will find out when the new hours begin so that she can notify the townspeople.

*Reports from Boards and Committees: n/a*

*Public comment: n/a*

*Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.*

*Meeting adjourned 6:55 p.m.*

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Tamara Fairbank, Chair

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Aaron Allen

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Betsy Coble