

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Select Board Minutes of March 7, 2023*

Present: Tamara Fairbank, Chair; Aaron Allen, Betsy Coble, Sandi Pierson (clerical)
Other: Gulley Dunlap, Anita Garland, Scott Sanborn, Corinne Morse

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Aaron motioned to approve the minutes of February 21, 2023. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Highway: Road Agent Scott Sanborn met with the Board to discuss the transition of the road agent position. Scott's term ends on March 14 and no one has expressed an interest in taking the position. It was agreed that the Board may have to take up the reins if the position remains open. The Board discussed where highway equipment will be stored and possibly employing someone to oversee maintenance. Scott said he may be available for some hourly work and that some storage can remain at his home until the circumstances are resolved. The Board thanked Scott for his many years as road agent.

Current Use application: The Board reviewed the current use application from CBLM Trust (Brent Moyers, Trustee)/ 300 Tuttle Hill Road/Map 1, Lot 46C. Aaron motioned to approve and sign the application. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Sandi will send the application to the Grafton County Registry of Deeds for recordation.

Bridge replacement: The Board reviewed correspondence from the NH-DOT re: 80% funding may be available to replace the "red listed" bridge on Brock Hill Road over Brown Brook (located by Bruce Ells' residence). NH-DOT estimates the project cost at \$1,036,800.00. Sixty-five bridges in the State will be chosen for the program; not all contenders can be guaranteed funding. Construction will be between 2027 and 2032. After discussion, Aaron motioned for the Board to request being on the bridge candidate list. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

State Representative: State Representative Corinne Morse attended the meeting in order to introduce herself. Corinne represents Canaan, Orange, and Dorchester and is on the Environment and Agriculture Committee. She reviewed some of the bills pending in the House. She would like to remain in touch with town. The Board thanked her for stopping in.

Letter of Support: The Board reviewed a letter from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission requesting a letter of support and financial support for a Homeowner Developer Utility. After discussion, the Board concurred to table the request until the next budget deliberations.

Other: n/a

Other Select Board business and action items:

- Action items:
 - Updating tax maps: Avitar has not yet given a quote.
 - Richard Remale's contract has expired as of December 31. Scott has sent Richard a renewed contract but it has not been returned.
 - 9-1-1 signs: Aaron has completed 100 signs to date.
 - Changing the locks at the Town House was tabled until after town voting.
 - Need to follow up on the culvert by Kip Riley's house in the spring.
 - Hilary Allen's abatement application: Tamara recapped her conversation with Loren at Avitar. After discussion, Betsy and Tamara concurred that Sandi should forward the application to Avitar. Aaron abstained from the discussion and decision.
- Next Tuesday the Board will discuss drafting a job description for the secretarial position and decide where to post it.
- The Board discussed the problem of people leaving snow in the traveled section of public roads after plowing their driveways. This is particularly hazardous to smaller vehicles especially if the excess snow freezes solid. Aaron noted that this is in violation of the NH statutes (NH RSA 236:20). After discussion it was agreed to send out a town-wide mailing in regards.

Secretary's report:

- Emergency radios: The Board concurred that the radios can be shipped. Fire Department personnel from Canaan will host a training on using them.
- The Treasurer reports that the withdrawal from the Town House Capital Reserve Fund as voted on at the last meeting does not have to be done until late April.
- Primex, the town's insurance company, is now requiring photos of the following insured items: bridges, art, and historical collection. Sandi to follow up.
- There is mandatory training on Thursday, March 16 for 2023 ARPA web portal reporting.

Reports from Boards and Committees:

- Cemeteries: Anita noted that Angus Gorman will begin tree and brush cutting at the Church Cemetery on Thursday.

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Tamara Fairbank, Chair

Aaron Allen

Betsy Coble