

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Minutes of May 3, 2022*

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

Other: Judith Lindahl

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Betsy motioned to amend the minutes of April 26, 2022 to read that it was Tamara who did an onsite visit to Aaron Allen's abatement application property, not her. Aaron seconded. Motion to amend minutes was unanimously approved.

Forest Management Plan: Judith Lindahl spoke on the Forest Management Plan a forester recently prepared for her property. She said one of her primary goals was to ensure the well-being of the watershed. Judith noted that she will be submitting a revised Current Use land application in order to document small changes that have occurred over the years such as a minor acreage adjustment and other minimal localities on the property that may need to come out of current use.

Abatement application: The Board revisited Aaron Allen's abatement application. Aaron commented as the property owner but recused himself from deliberations. Tamara recounted her conversation with Avitar representative Jaron Downes in regards to how land is classified and why the standard two-acre minimum lot size is categorized as a single unit. After discussion, Tamara motioned to accept the revised valuation of the property as recommended by Avitar of \$70,200 from the original valuation of \$81,800; an \$11,600 value difference. Betsy seconded. Motion passed 2-0-0. A refund of \$270.86 on the 2021 tax bill will be refunded. (\$23.35 per thousand dollars of valuation.)

Town House use: A request was received from Anita Garland asking if the Cardigan Mountain Art Association (CMAA) can meet at the Town House on the first Thursday of each month. After discussion, Betsy motioned to approve the request. Tamara seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. After further discussion, Aaron motioned that if a CMAA meeting conflicts with a scheduled town board or committee meeting, that the municipal meeting will take precedence. Betsy seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

ZBA roster: After discussion, Betsy motioned for the Board to appoint the following residents to the Zoning Board of Adjustment: Sally Jaeger, Alexander Smith, and Anita Garland. Tamara seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Sandi will contact the members and ask them to come before the board to be sworn in and take the oath of office.

Other:

- A rulemaking notice was received from the State pertaining to Sexual Offender/Offender Against Children registration. No action was required from the Board.
- A notice was received from the State that they have deposited \$6,866.91 into the town's account for the April Block Grant payment.

Other Select Board business and action items:

- The Board reviewed the junk yard regulations contained within the Orange Zoning Ordinance as approved at the 2014 town meeting. After discussion, the Board agreed Sandi should draft an email to the town's attorney in regards to an ongoing residential violation and attached pertinent town documents. The Board will review the email prior to it being sent.
- Aaron reported that Inov8v Energy said the town should wait until mid-summer before exploring a pre-buy option for propane. The cost per gallon should stabilize by then.
- Aaron continues to follow up with the strategies and costs to renovate the bathrooms to make them more ADA compliant.
- Tamara said a locksmith (Gatekeeper) will come by appointment to open and retrieve the combination to the safe in the town clerk's office.
- The liability form has been signed by the person taking the discarded metal culverts.
- Betsy received a call from a resident saying that the online registration of vehicles is not functioning. Aaron will follow up with the town clerk.

Secretary's report:

- Inov8v Energy reports that due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the global fuel market is causing prices to soar and Inov8v Energy will continue to be required to add a fuel surcharge with each delivery.

Reports from Boards and Committees:

- Aaron said that Bob Stone asked if the Conservation Commission was interested in helping to plant Christmas tree seedlings at Cale Perry's Tuttle Hill property. The eventual sale of the trees will benefit the American Legion.
- Tamara noted that the Cemetery Trustees will meet on May 4 to discuss 2022 cemetery projects.
- Tamara noted that the Historical Commission book sale is scheduled for June 3rd for Orange residents and June 4th for the general public.

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.

Tamara Fairbank, Chair

Aaron Allen

Betsy Coble