

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Minutes of November 1, 2022*

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

Other: Autumn and Brinley Allen, Renee Theall

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Betsy motioned to approve the minutes of October 18, 2022. Tamara seconded. Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Mascoma School District: The Board reviewed the 2022-23 school residency list for Orange. The Board tabled approving it subject to an address clarification.

Legal: A letter was received from New Hampshire Municipal Association re: disposal of municipal files in their possession ending January 1, 2015. The Board concurred that there was no reason to request the files because they do not relate to specific legal issues, only general questions conveyed by email.

Equalization rate: The Board reviewed and signed the preliminary DRA Assessment to Sales Ratio drafted by Avitar. The equalization rate was set at 90.77%. The DRA subsequently sets the final rate.

Current Use: Tamara signed a Notice of Change in Current Use Assessment removing the 20% recreational reduction from property owned by Neil Aitken/Cardigan Mountain Road/Map 3, Lot 4-1. An email was received from Mr. Aitken agreeing that the land is not eligible for the reduction because he is now legally posting it with No Trespassing signs.

Other:

- The municipal budget report ending October 31, 2022 was reviewed. The town has spent \$138,938.63 of the \$256,704.00 budget (54%). School payments to date total \$530,805.40.
- A notice was received by the State of NH that they have deposited \$12,280.11 into the town's account for the October Block Grant payment.
- A notice was received by the State of NH that they have deposited \$1,639.27 into the town's account due to a clerical error on their part for the July 2022 Senate Bill 401 municipal disbursements. Orange was scheduled to get a one-time payment of \$5,575.43 but instead received \$3,936.16.
- A copy of an approved subdivision plan was received from the Planning Board for David and Lisa Collins/Route 4/Map 1, Lot 36A.
- A copy of an approved driveway permit (to widen an existing driveway) was received from the road agent for Betsy Coble and Robert Shea/38 Peaslee Road/Map 3, Lot 50-1.

- A notice was received from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission that the 2022-23 dues will be \$425.47. This will be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

Other Select Board business and action items:

- Action items still pending:
 - Having the tax maps updated by December 31. Tamara will ask Scott about sharing the tax map files with Avitar.
 - 9-11 signs: A letter was received from the Canaan Firefighters Association stating they would not be able to provide green signs. Sandi will check with surrounding towns who have green signs and inquire who the vendors are.
 - Beaver issue on Burnt Hill: Aaron has unclogged the culvert; the water continues to flow well. Sharpshooting has not been successful. A list of trappers was received from NH Fish and Game. Presently Estate Wildlife Services is contracted to trap the beavers.
 - Painting and auto body work concern on New Colony Road: At the September 20, 2022 Select Board meeting, the resident agreed to cease activities by October 1, 2022 and to submit to the Select Board's office the safety data sheets for the material being used. The resident has not adhered to either of these agreements. The Board signed a letter to the resident requesting he immediately adhere to the agreements and to meet with the Board if he has any questions or concerns.
 - The Board concurred to have two loads of gravel be delivered to the upper part of Peaslee Road. Aaron stated that Skip Smith said he would level it on the road.
- Aaron reported that shoulder work is being done on New Colony Road.

Secretary's report:

- Sandi will reach out to Hanover Dispatch regarding what area channels should be programmed on the forthcoming emergency radios.
- Office inquiry: does the Board want to send out a draft of the minutes on the email listserv before they are approved? After discussion the Board concurred to only email the approved minutes and noted that copies of the unapproved minutes are posted both inside and outside the Town House for public review.
- For clarity of auditing, the November school payment was tabled until the second meeting because the new rate has not been received.

Reports from Boards and Committees: n/a

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 p.m.

Tamara Fairbank, Chair

Aaron Allen

Betsy Coble