

**Town of Orange Selectboard Meeting Minutes - Draft
June 13, 2016 6:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Dustin Comstock, George Wild, Eric Holmgren, Kathie Felch, Lynn Craig, Kathryn Thurston, Matt Thurston, Tim Thurston (owners of The Thurston Family Farm), Derek Moretz (Encore Renewable Energy).

Dustin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

George made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2016 meeting as submitted, and Eric 2nd the motion.

Agenda Revisions – Fireworks Permit and School use of the Town Hall to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

The board skipped over agenda item 3 as Derek Moretz was not present at this time.

The board discussed the Manning Road Bridge project and Eric made a motion that all assembly take place on the job site and payment be made to Duranleau's on the town's usual payment plan of 1/3 at start of project, 1/3 half way through after board inspection, and 1/3 at completion and final inspection by the Selectboard. George 2nd the motion.

Derek Moretz arrived and started discussion of the Thurston Family Farm Solar Projects. He explained that Encore is a company based out of Burlington which has been in business since 2009. They are working on 2 projects on the Thurston Family Farm. The First project that is called Thurston Family Farm West project has been filed and all copies are here at the Town Clerks office for public viewing. The Thurston Family Farm East project is taking a little more time due to the Flood Zone and working with the Agency Of Natural Resources. Both projects are expected to have completion later in the 4th quarter. Both are approximately 3 acres that will produce 500 KW of power. This power will be used for the Barre Housing Authority through Green Mountain Power. The land will be leased by Encore from the Thurston's. Taxes for the land will be billed as usual to the property owner but will bring in a little more revenue to the town as the two pieces will be withdrawn from land use. The town will be paid approximately \$2,000.00 per project per year in property taxes from Encore. The expected life span is 25 years at which time the solar panels will be removed and the land would be restored back to its original use.

The board reviewed the draft of the Ordinance Regulating Refuse. George made a motion to approve as written and Eric 2nd the Motion. A public hearing will be held at our July 11th 2016 meeting at 6:00 p.m. to adopt the following ordinances. Sewage Ordinance (Repealed), Snow Disposal Ordinance (Amended), Cost Recovery Ordinance (Was a policy now adopting as an ordinance), Ordinance Regulating Refuse (New ordinance). Full text of all are on File at the Town Clerk's Office for public review.

Kathie gave an update on the Town Junkyards and a request from Marsh on Prectl Road for No Parking Signs. George made a motion for Marsh to pay for the state approved signs and posts and they will be installed by our road crew Eric 2nd the Motion.

The board discussed the resignation of Tom Peairs from the Planning Commission and that Ray Rossi's term is expiring. George made a motion to reappoint Ray Rossi for another term expiring June 13th, 2019 and Eric 2nd the Motion. George made a motion to appoint George Malek to complete Tom's term to expire June 13th, 2017 and Eric 2nd the motion.

The board reviewed the budgets we shouldn't have to take out a tax anticipation loan again this year. At this time the general fund budget is going as planned. We may go over budget on Dog pound fees due to a legal issue over animals that are being held at Random Rescue. The Highway Fund Equipment repair budget only has \$2,500.00 left for the year due to a very expensive grader repair bill. The board may postpone the guardrail project on Emery Road to offset some of that expense. There has been a significant savings in the power bill at the town garage since we have installed the new lighting the bill has dropped about \$150.00 per month.

The board reviewed and approved payroll & accounts payable warrants.

George reviewed and approved the Fleet Permits.

The board reviewed and approved the Fireworks Permit.

There was report of damages to the town hall after it was used by the school for graduations. The Selectboard went to the Town Hall to inspect the damages. This is the 2nd year in a row that there have been problems after usage by the school for graduations. George made a motion to send a letter to Tim Franke and Chris Locarno that no future use of the town hall will be allowed. Eric 2nd the motion.

Next meeting will be a Public Hearing to adopt ordinances on July 11th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

George made a motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. and Eric 2nd the motion.

Attest: Lynn Craig, Assistant Town Clerk