

Town of Orange
ARPA Committee Meeting-Orange Town Hall
May 24, 2022 at 6:00pm

ARPA committee members present: John Barnes, Sue Perreault, Siobhan Perricone, Lee Youngman

Call to order:

Vice Chair Ms. Youngman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Guest Speakers and Public Comment:

No guest speakers present. Ms. Youngman asked the committee to consider resident input and level of support for any projects as part of the scoring criteria presented and approved at the last meeting. This discussion was an offshoot of reviewing the information received from residents after the town-wide mailing last month.

Approve Minutes from April 18th meeting:

On a motion made by Siobhan Perricone and seconded by Sue Perreault, the minutes of the April 18th meeting were approved as presented. All in favor.

Review Town of Orange Organizing Document:

This items was tabled.

Review Budget:

Ms. Youngman reviewed the budget with the committee members. She explained that this budget will be expanded each time the select board approved funding of a project. She will only add new account numbers as each project goes live. The administrative costs, ADA compliant clerk's building project and Hybrid Meeting project previously approved by the select board have been added to date.

Review results of town-wide mailing:

Ms. Youngman reviewed results broadly. Out of a mailing of approximately 600 households, we received back 46 responses. The projects that had majority lack of support were removed from further consideration. Those projects are Funding \$10,000 ask from the Rainbow Bridge organization in Barre and funding a constable position. Survey respondents were only lukewarm in supporting purchasing Hybrid meeting equipment. The committee recommends removal of projector and screen from the project budget, and retain the laptop and Owl equipment, which will allow the select board to offer high-quality voice recordings of all public meetings. The committee agrees to move forward with recommending the well project, CV Fiber and road upgrades. Ms. Youngman has asked for time to determine if monthly costs associated with digitizing land records will be offset by cost savings in the general fund budget, and will bring further information to the committee at the next meeting.

Discuss Project Criteria:

Ms. Perricone will edit the spreadsheet to include additional scoring criteria mentioned above. The committee will begin firming up budget numbers at the next meeting.

On a motion made by Ms. Perricone and seconded by Ms. Perreault the meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM

Respectfully submitted:


Lee Youngman, Clerk of the committee