

Town of Orange
Selectboard Minutes
April 11, 2022 6:00 p.m.
Orange Town Hall

Members Present: Emily Ruff-Chair, Samantha Lefebvre-Member and Sheila Stone-Member

Others Present: Angela Eastman-Town Clerk, Lee Youngman-Town Treasurer, Eric Holmgren-Resident, John McNeil-Resident, John Barnes-Road Foreman, Kevin Wilson-Resident, Larry Eastman-Resident and Tim Stone-Resident.

Ms. Ruff called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. and she led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

Consider approving agenda/agenda revisions:

Ms. Ruff asked to have the approval of the March 14, 2022 minutes approved at the May 9, 2022 meeting, as they were not on the agenda for approval.

Consider approving minutes:

The Board approved the following minutes:

The selectboard minutes dated 03/13/2022 were reviewed. Ms. Ruff made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Lefebvre seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 03/16/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Stone seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 03/18/2022 were reviewed. Ms. Ruff made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Stone seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 03/20/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Ruff seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 03/28/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Ruff seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 03/29/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Stone seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 04/01/2022 were reviewed. Ms. Ruff made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Lefebvre seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 04/04/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mrs. Stone seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

The selectboard minutes dated 04/10/2022 were reviewed. Mrs. Lefebvre made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Ruff seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

Guest Speakers:

Mr. Holmgren noted that scheduled meetings are not being posted properly.

Mr. Holmgren noted that during the past year the board has had many meetings and has spent a lot of money utilizing the town attorney and mediator and hoped that the board will follow the recommendations as set forth by the attorney and mediator.

Mr. Eastman shared his observations of a history of unethical and inappropriate behavior directed at the Town Clerk by Mr. Holmgren.

Town Treasurer's Report:Approval of Warrants-Accounts Payable and Payroll:

The warrants were reviewed by Selectboard. On a motion made by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre, the payroll and accounts payable warrants were approved. All in favor.

Review of Current Budget:

The budget was reviewed with the Selectboard. On a motion made by Mrs. Lefebvre and seconded by Ms. Ruff, the selectboard voted to raise the town hall heat budget from \$3000 to \$4,500. All in favor.

Review March Journal Entries:

On a motion made by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre, the March journal entries were approved. All in favor.

2021 Audit Update:

Ms. Youngman updated the Selectboard on the status of the 2021 Audit. NEMRC is working on some "behind the scenes cleanup" and the audit should be ready to proceed forward.

Consider increasing the approved highway overtime budget to \$10,000 from \$5,000:

No action on this item

Town Clerk/Town Garage ReportsTown Clerk:

Mrs. Eastman reported that there is a town potluck on Friday April 22, 2022 at 6pm, Town Hall cleanup this coming Saturday from 9:00am until we finish and Mrs. Eastman also mentioned that an anonymous donor volunteered to purchase the entire flagpole. Mrs. Eastman noted that this is an incredible donation and will help the town immensely.

Town Garage Report: Mr. Barnes stated that the roads are starting to improve with drier weather. Mr. Barnes also stated that the new truck has been built and should be ready by the middle of May.

Old BusinessContinued discussion regarding Animal Ordinance Review

This was tabled until a later meeting.

Review Road Foreman job description

On a motion made by Mrs. Lefebvre and seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Road Foreman job description was approved. All in favor.

Review Pest Control Quotes

Mrs. Eastman presented the Selectboard with a report and quote from Orkin, quotes regarding mouse traps and botanical mouse deterrent. After reviewing the options, it was decided that we will purchase the botanical repellent and the traps and try for 1 month.

Continued discussion re: town hall repairs-what is needed/quotes

Mrs. Eastman discussed the concrete quote as presented by Mr. B's concrete and asked special permission to hire Mr. B's concrete outside of the bid process as it was only \$20 over the \$5,000 limit. Mrs. Eastman will obtain one more evaluation and quote of the Town Hall energy audit and will also contact the staff at the Preservation Trust of VT to discuss grants available. Mrs. Eastman will discuss a contact that Mr. Wilson had mentioned with him for Town Hall work. On a motion made by Mrs. Lefebvre and seconded by Ms. Ruff, the concrete quotes for the ADA work were approved in the sum of \$5,020 for the Town Hall to be paid under Town Hall repairs and \$980 for the Town Clerk to be paid under ARPA funding. All in favor.

Continued discussion regarding town bulletin board

Mrs. Eastman discussed the quotes she had received regarding bulletin boards in town. She will share this information with the planning commission at the next meeting.

Sign Highway Grant paperwork

This was reviewed and signed by the entire Selectboard.

Review OWL equipment

This was discussed amongst the Selectboard members. This will be further discussed at the Selectboard Meeting on the 25th of April.

Finish reviewing LEMP

This was tabled until a meeting can be setup with VT Emergency Management.

New Business

Sign Agreement for Dog Boarding

Mrs. Eastman presented the board with the agreement for dog boarding at Country Canine Kennels and noted the only change was the increase in price from \$25.00 to \$30.00. On a motion made by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre, the agreement for dog boarding was approved. All in favor.

Selectboard email addresses

Mr. McNeil discussed the email addresses with the Selectboard and he will further investigate the best way to approach this.

Sign OC Sheriff Yearly Contract

This was reviewed and signed by the Selectboard. On a motion made by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre, the contract was approved. All in favor.

Sign Appointments sheet to CVRPC

Mrs. Eastman presented CVRPC appointment sheet to the Selectboard. This was discussed, reviewed and signed by the members.

Appointment of Town Clerk, possible executive session.

Mrs. Ruff moved to enter executive session regarding this appointment.

Other Business:

At 9:03pm, Ms. Ruff made a motion to enter executive session per 1 V.S.A §313(a)(3) to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.

At 9:11pm, Ms. Ruff made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre. All in favor

At 9:12pm, Ms. Ruff made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre to reappoint the Town Clerk for a term of 1 year. All in favor.

At 9:14pm, Ms. Ruff made a motion to enter executive session per 1 V.S.A §313(a)(3) to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.

At 10:54pm, Ms. Ruff made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre. All in favor

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Ruff and seconded by Mrs. Lefebvre, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54pm. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,



Angela Eastman, Town Clerk