

TOWN OF ORANGE
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 13, 2023 - Town Clerk's Office

Present: Selectboard – Chairperson Emily Ruff and Samantha Lefebvre
Town Clerk Angela Eastman, Assistant Clerk Diane Waters, Road Foreman John Barnes
Guests - Barre Town Manager Carl Rogers, Barre Town EMS Director Paul Ginther, Kevin Wilson, Leslie Drown, David Gomo, Keith Gomo, Tim Stone, Shane Lefebvre

Absent: Selectboard member Sheila Stone

Chairperson Ruff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda revisions: Lefebvre requested to add Mr. Stone under Public Comment; Ruff requested Fire Hydrants be placed under New Business; Ruff advised that some agenda items will be tabled for a future meeting until Selectboard member Sheila Stone is available.

Selectboard meeting minutes approval:

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes.

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the January 17, 2023 minutes.

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the 5:00 p.m. January 23, 2023 minutes.

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the 6:00 p.m. January 23, 2023 minutes.

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the January 30, 2023 minutes.

Guests:

- a) The Gomo family stated they have hunted on Town property for many years and are very respectful of the land. They are asking if they need written permission to continue to hunt there. Lefebvre stated that no one has requested written permission in the past, but she will check with VLCT to see if they have any other towns' written policies and will follow up with the Gomo's.
- b) Barre Town Manager Carl Rogers explained that former EMS Director LaMonda resigned effective December 21 and introduced the new Director Paul Ginther. Ginther worked for 25

years on the Jacksonville, Florida fire/EMS department. He will attend the March town meeting. Ginther asked the Selectboard if they had any issues or questions. Lefebvre mentioned the radio difficulty first responders are having being reached by EMS personnel as they reach Orange Heights. Ginther said he will bring that to the attention of his crews. Barnes mentioned the need for CPR and First Aid training because of MSHA requirements. Rogers suggested he contact the BT DPW Director about joining in with their training. Rogers stated he is retiring the end of April and Chris Violette will be the new Town Manager. The new BT Fire Chief is Andy Lange with 15 years' experience.

- c) Holmgren was unable to attend the meeting.
- d) Stone advised that Sheila has been very sick and unable to attend Board meetings. Stone asked about the Route 302 paving project and was advised that it has been postponed. He feels the Town should support and watch out for the Town's farms, perhaps by giving them gravel from the road project. Stone feels the speed limit through Town should be reduced to 30 mph. Lefebvre advised any speed limit change requests on State highways would have to go thru Legislature. She will pass his request on to the Planning Commission.

Town Treasurer's Report:

Eastman reported on the following:

- Discussed the new journal entry process thru NEMRC.
- Have added some new budget line items.
- The COTTS invoice included a customer appreciation credit.
- Waters' accumulated vacation/sick leave problem has been corrected.
- The OCSD called inquiring when the Selectboard meeting is scheduled; however, he is not at this meeting. Lefebvre said she will contact the Sheriff's Department tomorrow.

- a) On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the Payroll Warrants.

On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant, minus the OCSD invoice payment.

- b) Eastman discussed the new revenue accounts that have been added to show COTTS and vault copies revenues. She also stated that recording fees received are at 40%. Ruff asked about municipal planning revenues and expenditures for the Capital Plan; Eastman will look into it. Ruff questioned the Treasurer expense; Eastman explained that it is a vacation pay-off. Ruff questioned the Gen. Exp. – Misc. negative figure and Lefebvre questioned the Police Protection amount. Lefebvre stated we should keep an eye on fuel usage. Eastman advised Gillespie Fuel will be giving us a credit for fuel oil they pumped out.
- c) On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to approve journal entries for January.

Town Clerk's Report:

Eastman reported the following:

- The Town Report went to the printer and will be mailed out soon.
- CPR training is scheduled for March 27.
- The training with Harry Schoppman, VMES, will be rescheduled at a later time.
- The rabies clinic is scheduled for March 15 and she will be there to register dogs.
- The Hazard Mitigation Plan is almost done.

Road Foreman's Report: Barnes reported that the Modine heaters have been installed in the Town Garage and they will need a new ceiling fan in one of the bays for better heat circulation. He advised that the roads are not that rough now. Lefebvre inquired about road posting. Barnes replied that they are pretty much posted year-round; however, there is no one to enforce the regulations.

Old Business:

- a) Ruff tabled action on the ACO draft until the April 10th meeting.
- b) Lefebvre tabled action on the Fireworks Policy until the April 10th meeting.
- c) Ruff tabled the Streetlight discussion.
- d) Ruff has no update on Beard Road. Tabled until information is received.
- e) Eastman has received a quote from the Carriage Shed on a replacement gazebo. The insurance company is waiting for the quotes which she will send to them on Friday. This agenda item will be revisited on the 27th.

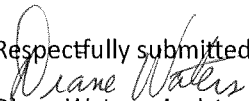
New Business:

- a) The Board reviewed the draft Town Newsletter and suggested a few minor changes. Waters will make these changes and send to the printer.
- b) Eastman explained the Tech Services service and billing and recommended the Town upgrade to their Tier 2 coverage. On a motion by Lefebvre, seconded by Ruff, the board voted unanimously to move to Tier 2 with Firewall coverage at a cost of \$622 per month.
- c) Barnes distributed information on the items he would like to get with PACIF Grant funds, i.e., hand truck, vice, dolly, and impact wrench. There was discussion concerning ways to identify equipment as belonging to the Town of Orange. On a motion by Lefebvre, seconded by Ruff, the board voted unanimously to purchase the proposed equipment with PACIF grant funds.
- d) There was discussion about the Municipal Highway Grant Application. The Board wants the paving project to be on Reservoir Road from the treatment plant to the 302 aprons. Paperwork will be completed and available at the next meeting.
- e) Ruff said a resident has requested another hydrant near the reservoir. The Town presently has six dry hydrants. Eastman will talk to Barre City about this.

Other:

- Eastman stated she is looking into applying for grants for the Town Hall.
- There was discussion about the Selectboard minutes for the January 4 – 5:30 pm and the 6:00 pm meetings, i.e., day of the week. On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to amend the January 4, 2023 - 5:30 pm and 6:00 pm minutes to read Wednesday, not Tuesday.

Adjournment: On a motion by Ruff, seconded by Lefebvre, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Waters, Assistant Town Clerk