TOWN OF ORANGE

SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2024

Present: Eric Holmgren, Sheila Stone, Kevin Wilson

 Assistant Town Clerk Diane Waters

Guests: David Childs, John McNeil, Lee Youngman

1. Call Meeting to Order: Chair Holmgren called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda: Holmgren requested an executive session be added; also add NEMRC item.

Additional Item - NEMRC:

The board discussed the email from NEMRC regarding reconciling accounts and their fees. NEMRC will charge $3,335 for the 20-23 hrs estimated to catch up + $290/mo. for the year. Holmgren stated the board has already agreed to go with NEMRC so another vote is not needed. The Board agreed to go forward with NEMRC.

3. Discuss/Consider 2024 Budgets: The board reviewed the proposed 2024 General Fund and Highway Fund and adjusted accounts. On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2024 General Fund and Highway Fund budgets as modified. On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to amend the previous motion by adding “… the General Fund budget of $360,152.80 and the Highway Fund budget of $495,680.67…”.

4. Set Date for Public Budget Forum: The town budget forum will be February 12 at 6:00 p.m. followed by the regular selectboard meeting at 6:30 p.m. It was noted that the school has set their budget forum for February 20.

5. Discuss Town Meeting Warning: Holmgren stated they have not had enough time to go over the wording. Childs stated he feels the article concerning the Town Clerk should be moved to before the election of officers. Holmgren stated he will call the town attorney to clarify. The rest of discussion on the Warning was tabled.

6. Discuss/Consider Signing the Washington Fire Contract: Costs and equipment charges were reviewed. On a motion by Wilson, seconded by Stone, the board voted unanimously to accept the Washington Fire Department contract for January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025.

7. Discuss/Consider Approving Accounts Payable Warrant: On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to accept the Accounts Payable warrant as presented.

Additional Item - Executive Session:

 On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:39 p.m. per 1 VSA §313(a)(3) to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee.

 On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Stone, the board voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 7:16 p.m.

8. Adjourn: On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Stone, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:16 p.m.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Diane Waters, Assistant Town Clerk