

Town of Orange Grants Committee - Minutes
Organizational Meeting 9/7/2023 4:30 pm

Members in attendance: Lee Cattaneo, Angela Eastman, Emily Ruff, Steve Simpson, Sheila Stone, Lee Youngman,

The meeting was officially called to order at 4:45 pm by Emily Ruff

No agenda revisions were noted.

Committee members reviewed the "Rules of Procedure" document circulated for select board approval. Lee made a motion to amend the Rules to allow for 6 members, and for the membership to be comprised of the Town representative to the Regional Planning Commission (Lee Cattaneo), a member of the Select Board (Sheila Stone), three at-large members; one from East Orange (Emily Ruff), one from West Orange (Lee Youngman) and one at-large (Steve Simpson) and the Town Clerk/Treasurer (Angela Eastman). The motion was seconded by Steve. The motion passed and the rules were adopted.

On a motion made by Lee and seconded by Sheila, Emily Ruff was nominated as Committee Chair.

Angela nominated, and Sheila seconded, Lee Youngman to serve as Vice Chair. Lee declined.

On a motion made by Lee and seconded by Sheila, Steve Simpson was nominated as Committee Vice Chair.

Committee members discussed meeting scheduled and agreed to set the next two meeting dates:

- Thursday October 12 2023 at 4:30 pm
- Thursday November 9 2023 at 4:30 pm

Angela gave the committee members an overview of grants already approved and in process.

Committee members reviewed potential grants with pending deadlines:

- Historic Preservation Grant – Deadline for submission is October 2, 2023.
This grant would address needed work to the town hall. The committee acknowledges we do not have sufficient time to put together a grant application in this round and will not pursue this grant for 2023.
- Municipal Energy Resiliency Grant (MERP) – Deadline for part I is October 31, 2023
This grant has been approved by the Select Board already. Sam Lash of the CVRPC will assist with this grant. The grant covers energy efficiency items. We need to update the efficiency tests done in 2019. Lee Cattaneo will follow up with Sam at RPC to see what work has been done on this grant to date.

Part II of the grant implements the efficiency items identified in part I.

- Municipal Planning Grant – Deadline for submission is November 1, 2023
The committee recommends the Select Board use this grant to engage a consultant with historic renovation expertise to assess the renovation needs of both the town hall and town clerk

building (municipal complex) and to present a comprehensive plan for both buildings to the Select Board, and then to the Residents of Orange.

- MSP Grant through Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District – Deadline for Submission is October 2, 2023. This grant is for tire collection and is up to \$5000.00. If awarded, we will use these funds during our bulk trash collection day during Green Up 2024. This grant does not require any municipal match.

On a motion made by Emily and seconded by Steve, the committee adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Action Items

- Review booklet “Where’s the Money” published by the State of Vermont. Emily will circulate for all committee members to read prior to next meeting.
- Seek Historic Restoration consultants - Lee Youngman will follow up with VHCB. Lee Cattaneo will seek referrals from RPC
- Review VHCB Historic Preservation Grant requirements for consideration next year – Lee Youngman will review and present at next meeting