

TOWN OF ORANGE

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 28th, 2024

The Meeting of the Town of Orange Selectboard was called to order in person by Selectboard Chair Steve Simpson at 6:00pm in the Town Hall at Orange, Vermont. In attendance were: Selectboard Members Steve Simpson, Wayne Symonds, and Kevin Wilson. Other Town staff in attendance were Town Clerk Chelsea Magwire and Listers John McNeil, Arthur McNeil, and Ed Bedard. Members of the Public present were Tim Stone, Sheila Stone, Lisa Woodworth, and Kristin Paya.

Approval of Minutes

A. Selectboard Meeting Minutes October 15th, 2024

Motion moved by SB Member Symonds to approve the minutes of the Selectboard Meeting on October 15th, 2024. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

B. Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes October 24th, 2024

Motion moved by SB Member Symonds to approve the minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting on October 24th, 2024. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

Approval of Agenda

Motion moved by SB Member Symonds to approve the agenda with the amendments proposed by SB Chair Simpson to discuss Bids for Architectural Services and to add an Executive Session at the end of the meeting. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

VAST Trail

A. Steve Avery, President of SnoBees, was present to answer questions from the Board.

SB Member Wilson moved to approve and sign the consent form from the SnoBees to utilize trails on Town property. Seconded by SB Member Symonds.

Road Commissioner Report

A. 7/10/2024 Storm Damage

a. SB Member Wilson has contacted DigSafe regarding the Culvert on East Orange Road.

B. Riddel Pond Culvert Project

- a. The State has requested more information before a permit can be issued.
- b. SB Member Wilson believes it is likely the project will be completed this year.
- C. Cutler Corner Road Culvert/Hydraulic Study
 - a. No update on hydraulic studies for Cutler Corner Road or Reservoir Road.

Town Clerk Report

- A. Updates on:
 - a. ARPA Funds
 - b. Election
 - c. Community Cupboard

FEMA Disaster Declared for 7/10-7/11/2024

- A. FEMA Site Visit Planned for 10/31/2024

Town Clerk's Office & Town Hall Internet Upgrade

- A. Fiber Cable to Both
 - a. SB Chair Simpson stated the line would likely run from Town Hall to Town Clerk's Office
- B. System Upgrade to Town Buildings
 - a. Computer Barn Proposal

SB Member Symonds moved to authorize the Chair to enter into a contract with Computer Barn at the estimated total of \$6,400 and the Selectboard Chair will follow up with the Board about the question they have about the Town Hall and access to the parking lot. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

Warrants/Payroll

SB Member Symonds moved to approve Accounts Payable Warrants dated October 28th, 2024. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

SB Member Symonds moved to approve Payroll dated October 19th, 2024 & October 26th, 2024. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

Tax Rebate from Overpayment back to Homeowners

- A. Corrections are ongoing, total due back to Taxpayers is approximately \$5000.
- B. SB Chair Simpson requested that the Board review the list before approving payment.

Recess: 7:06pm – 7:11pm

C. Delinquent Tax Collector McNeil requested anything less than \$10 be credited to next year's taxes, rather than cutting checks to those individuals.

**SB Member Symonds moved to authorize the refund for individuals listed on the report dated 10/28/2024. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.
Establish Delinquent Tax Policy**

* SB Member Wilson inquired about interest & penalties on first installment. * SB Chair Simpson inquired about the appeal process.
* SB Member Symonds expressed interest in holding special hearings on the policy before Board approval.

SB Member Wilson moved the Board table discussion on establishing a delinquent tax policy until the meeting on November 12th. Seconded by SB Member Symonds.

RFP for Tax Reappraisal (Anticipated 2029)

A. The Board reviewed a draft of the Request for Proposals and requested it be amended to allow provision to cancel and re-issue the RFP, should State guidelines substantially change in the interim.

SB Chair Simpson moved to table approval until the November 12th meeting. Seconded by SB Member Wilson.

Public Comment

* SB Member Wilson stated that there is an oil tank at the Town Garage from when furnaces were redone, and he would like to donate it to a resident in need.
* Tim Stone explained the benefits to using granite sand as opposed to woods dirt to sand the roads in the winter.

Executive Session (1 V.S.A. § 313)

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:03pm and exited Executive Session at 8:20pm. No Action was taken.

Adjournment

SB Chair Simpson adjourned the meeting at 8:21pm.
Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12th, 2024.
The open portions of the meeting were recorded via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Chelsea E. Magwire, Town Clerk