



Town of Orange
Grant Committee Meeting
March 7 2025, 4:30 pm
Orange Town Complex

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:42 pm.
2. There are no Agenda Revisions.
3. Minutes for February and March will be reviewed at the April meeting.
4. Review Current Grants in Progress
 - a. The MPG/MERP grants for the Town Complex repairs and renovations are in progress. The Town needs to extend the contract with Greg for construction management, which Sam Lash at CVRPC indicated was appropriate because the RFQ included this element. Steve Simpson will contact Greg and request that he submit a proposed contract for overseeing construction management. This proposal will be sent to Sam Lash for review, and then forwarded to the Selectboard for approval.
5. Review Completed Grant Reimbursement Submissions
 - a. There are no active reimbursements to review at this meeting.
6. Discuss Potential Grants and Application Submissions
 - a. The Municipal Planning Grant is due March 28th. The Committee reviewed the proposed draft application from Eli Toohey of CVRPC. Lee Cattaneo recommended added the Planning Commission in section 4.6, and a clarification regarding letters of support in section 5.2. Emily Ruff will make these revisions and circulate to CVRPC and Grant Committee members. If approved by CVRPC, the Selectboard will review for approval at the March 10th meeting.
 - b. The EPA Wastewater Technical Assistance Program was reviewed at Lee Cattaneo's request for review in stormwater issues for the town. This is a technical assistance program, not a grant, and requires no matching funding on behalf of the town. On a motion made by Emily Ruff and seconded by Lee Cattaneo, Emily Ruff will submit the initial request form on behalf of the committee. All members voted in favor.
 - c. The Rural Roadside Ash Tree Grant Program was reviewed. This program requires no match funding from the town. On a motion made by Lee Cattaneo and seconded by Steve Simpson, Emily Ruff will contact Elise Schadler and Joanne Garton to obtain information from the inventory survey and EAB project conducted in 2022 and submit an initial request to the program. All members voted in favor.

- d. The Rural Fire Protection program was reviewed. Members were not aware of projects in town that would qualify for this program at this time, No action was taken.

7. Other Business

- a. The UST program was discussed. Steve Simpson will request information from Gillespie and Wheelock Engineering related to tanks that need removal at the Town Complex. This will be discussed at a future meeting if funding is needed.
- b. The sand reserves at the Town Garage were discussed in relation to water quality and the possible need for a pad and quonset hut to protect water quality around the complex. Emily Ruff will contact Sam Lash to inquire about potential funding available.
- c. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday April 4th at 2:30 pm.

8. Adjourn

- a. On a motion made by Emily Ruff and seconded by Lee Cattaneo, the meeting was adjourned. All members voted in favor.

If the tanks you are looking to remove are buried (not in a basement those are ASTs) our section does have a 0% interest loan program to remove buried oil tanks (several towns in VT have utilized the loan program). Attached is an informational sheet on Loans. The contact listed on the sheet is leaving so you can contact Anna Bourakovsky anna.bourakovsky@vermont.gov or call 802-477-2981 her direct line for further information on loans.

If these tanks are USTs and are located at public buildings the tanks should have been registered with us (then also on the land record) but since you plan on removing them lets not make more work by registering them then turning around to unregister them. With removal of a UST at a public building there must be a environmental release assessment done at time of removal. Gillispie doesn't do that type of work. Hopefully the quote includes a release assessment (formerly known as a site assessment). If the quote doesn't include an assessment for contamination, I have attached a list of consultants for you to review and contact someone to do that part of the job (Wheeler Environmental is in Orange, so they are the closest, but you should contact several for quotes)

Should contamination be discovered in the soil or on groundwater the state of Vermont has a Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF) to pay for the cleanup. Tank size and use of the fuel oil determines the deductible that gets paid before the PCF kicks in (PCF covers uninsured costs of cleanup). PCF may not been needed and you won't know that until the tanks are removed.