

Town of Orange Town Meeting 2025

The annual meeting of the Town of Orange was called to order by Moderator David Childs at 6:10pm on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025 in the Orange Town Hall.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a Moment of Silence, and Introductions, Rep. Mike Tagliavia addressed the assembly with legislative updates and took questions. Siobhan Perricone followed with updates on CVNEK Fiber.

The rules for the meeting were announced and the Warning was read in its entirety.

Article 1: Francis Kidder nominated David Childs to be Moderator for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations, and David Childs was elected.

Article 2: Gary Eggleston moved to suspend the rules and move Article 11 to Article 2 and Article 26 to Article 3. Motion seconded and paper ballot requested with 7+ supporting. Motion failed to garner the necessary 2/3 votes to suspend rules with a 42 yes, 22 no vote with 50 required to pass. (As Warned) Motion to accept reports of the Town Officers amended on motion by Cheryl Farnham to include the budget handout. Amendment passed and main motion passed on voice vote.

Article 3: Motion was made by Francis Kidder and seconded to change Road Commissioner from an appointed to an elected position. After discussion, motion failed on a voice vote.

Article 4: Mike Raboin Jr. was nominated by Gary Eggleston to a 3-year Selectboard term.

Kristin Paya was nominated by Wayne Symonds to a 3-year Selectboard term.

Kristin Paya was elected with 46 votes to Mike Raboin's 24.

Art McNeil nominated by John McNeil to a 3-year term as Lister. There were no other nominations, and Selectman Kevin Wilson was directed to cast one vote for Art McNeil.

David Gomo nominated Kevin Wilson to a 3-year term as Cemetery Commissioner.

Clark Agnew nominated Rodney Coronado to a 3-year term as Cemetery Commissioner

Rodney Coronado was elected with 42 votes to Kevin Wilson's 32.

Article 5: Sean Brown moved, and was seconded, but later revised Article to set compensation for elected town officials as \$2000 per year per Selectboard Member, \$20/hr for Lister, \$25/hr for maintenance by Cemetery Commissioners, and mileage paid at the Federal rate. After discussion, Article 5 as moved passed on a voice vote.

Article 6: Motion by Steve Simpson to authorize General Fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$405,746.30 of which \$188, 171.30 shall be raised by taxes and \$217, 045.00 by non-tax revenue. Motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Article 7: Motion by Steve Simpson to authorize Highway Fund expenditures of \$645,222.91 of which \$544,822.91 shall be raised by taxes and \$100,400.00 by non-tax revenues. Motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Article 8: Motion by Kevin Wilson, and seconded, to raise \$100,000 for repairs and repaving of Tucker Road. After discussion, motion passed on a voice vote.

Article 9: It was moved, and seconded, to raise \$5000 to support the Town Recreation Facilities. After discussion passed on a voice vote.

Article 10: Motion by Cheryl Farnham, and seconded, to raise \$14,300 to support the Town Cemeteries. After discussion passed on a voice vote.

Article 11: Motion by Francis Kidder, and seconded, to move article 11 as printed. After much discussion and request for a paper ballot supported by 7+ voters, motion failed with 29 yes and 33 no.

Article 12-22: Without objection, moderator combined Articles 12-22. Motion by Mike Concessi, and seconded, to raise \$8475 to support requests in Articles 12-22 passed on a voice vote.

Article 23: It was moved, and seconded, to authorize the Town Treasurer with approval of the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, grants, and money allocated by State and Federal Government passed on a voice vote.

Article 24: Motion by Sue Perreault, and seconded, to set payment of property taxes in two installments with due dates being Aug. 15, 2025 and Nov. 15, 2025, with delivery to town clerk's office postmarked on or before the due dates passed on a voice vote.

Article 25: Motion by Mike Concessi, and seconded, to set the date and time of Town Meeting 2026 to be held March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. passed on a voice vote.

Article 26: Other non-binding business. Leo Martineau spoke in support of adding a man to the road crew. Gary Eggelston asked about progress of auditing with Selectman Wayne Symonds responding that they were close to NEMRC finalizing reconciling the books before turning over to the contracted town auditors.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 on voice vote with those wishing to continue to speak to do so personally with the Selectboard.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea E. Magwire, Town Clerk