

TOWN OF ORANGE

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 8th, 2025

The Meeting of the Town of Orange Selectboard was called to order in person at 6:00pm in the Town Hall at Orange, Vermont. In attendance were Selectboard Members Steve Chair Simpson, Kevin Wilson, and Kristin Paya. Other Town staff present was Town Clerk Diane Hallenbeck, Assistant Town Clerk, Diane Waters, Town Lister, John McNeil, and Town Treasurer, William Crowther. Members of the Public in attendance were Tim Stone, Sheila Stone, and Francis Kidder.

1. Call meeting to order: Chair Simpson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Adjustment to Agenda: On a motion by Chair Simpson, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to add Lister, John McNeil to discuss errors and omissions and remove verbiage "BCA Meeting" from the agenda.
3. Approve Minutes: on a motion by Chair Simpson, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to approve the August 25, 2025, minutes.
4. Approve Agenda: On a motion by Chair Simpson seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as written.
5. Liquor and licensing permit: permit was approved for prior event, motion by Wilson second by Paya. Simpson questioned if events be approved by Town Clerk or Selectboard? Chair Simpson noted that the town is not liable for events and the Liquor Board keeps track of permits. Select Board to further discuss this. Chair Simpson will contact VLCT to check on policy.
6. Listers Errors and Omissions: Grenier property on 302 toward Groton combined into one parcel. It is/was owned by the same people. Wilson made a motion to approve, seconded by Chair Simpson.
7. Community National Bank: The town has an operating account and a money market account. Community National Bank has a new Government Agency Account that will now give the same interest and has greater protection for funds. Chair Simpson made a motion to approve the change, it was seconded by Wilson.
8. Justice of the Peace compensation: JP Fred Kidder requested consideration for Justice of the Peace compensation. Chair Simpson asked that Kidder gather information from other towns to see how they are doing that.
9. Town Highway Financial Plan: Wilson made a motion and it was seconded by Chair Simpson. Simpson signed.
10. Warrants: two weeks of payroll, Wilson made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Chair Simpson. Wilson made a motion to approve the accounts payable and it was seconded by Chair Simpson. Wilson stated that Aubuchon Hardware

needed a new name on the account because the Town Clerk has changed. He added Diane Waters to the account. Chair Simpson approved that and Wilson seconded it.

11. Road Commissioner Report

- Wilson spoke about ditching on Bisson Road. There was a mailbox that was hit, and he will replace it.
- There was a tree that was down in the road. As Wilson was removing it, another branch fell and hit the box on his truck and broke the lights.
- There was a kid that asked Wilson if he could clean up the branches along the road. Wilson did not give him permission, but the kid cleaned them all up and made it look nice.
- There has been a car parked in the road in East Orange. Wilson called the State Police because at one time someone had a gun at that location. The State Police advised to put up “No Parking” signs. Then they can tow.
- Wilson advised that there are some “homeless encampments” around Orange.
- Tim Stone questioned the Board if the “smashed truck” had been fixed. He was concerned about the time factor and winter coming. Wilson is still looking into purchasing a different vehicle as the repair shop won’t warranty the \$10,000 cost to repair the truck. Wilson will check in with Roya Repair tomorrow.
- Wilson reported that work will begin on Tucker Road at the end of this week.

12. Town Clerk Report: Hallenbeck reports that she is still settling in. She is working on getting logins to software systems and learning. Assistant Town Clerk, Diane Waters has been a great help. Computer Barn has been helpful. TC is seeking training in Land Records.

13. Town Forestry Plan: Chair Simpson made a motion to accept the plan and Wilson seconded it.

14. Public Comments:

- Sheila Stone mentioned that recordings of the SB meetings are not updated on the website. Lister McNeil stated that he would get in touch with Tony Campos with Video Vision and get that updated.
- Tim Stone questioned the Board about their hiring process and if anyone had checked the new Town Clerks references. Paya explained that all procedures were followed. Stone was disgruntled and irate.

15. Adjournment: Chair Simpson abruptly ended the meeting @ 7:40pm