

Town of Orange
Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Date: July 14, 2025

Location: Orange Town Hall

Time Called to Order: 6:00 PM

Present:

- Steve Simpson
- Kevin Wilson
- Kristin Paya
- Ernest Wilson
- John McNeil
- Tim Stone
- Sheila Stone
- Carmella Tucker
- Susan Childs
- Michael Raboin, Jr.
- Ginny Raboin
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Approve Minutes

- Chair Simpson stated the Board would review the June 23rd and July 11th minutes.
- Michael Raboin, Jr. noted the June 23rd minutes were incomplete due to missing audio and asked if the discussions would be considered official Town business.
 - Chair Simpson responded the Board would not approve those minutes until completed.
 - Vice Chair Wilson added the record should reflect his role as Road Commissioner.
- Vice Chair Wilson stated that due to conflicts of interest, a quorum could not vote on the July 11th minutes.

Approve Agenda

- Chair Wilson moved to add the word “appoint” before “Road Foreman” at the 6:40 time slot.

Excerpt from Selectboard Rules and Procedures

- Chair Simpson shared that the Rules and Procedures were adopted on April 28, 2025, and read an excerpt regarding public participation.

Selectboard Review/Sign

- Chair Simpson presented information on a grant application for road projects.
- He noted the State will assist in prioritizing these projects.

Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Appoint Road Foreman, Road Crew Update

- Chair Simpson stated the hiring process for Town Clerk must restart.
- William Crowther has been appointed Town Treasurer and has begun onboarding.
- Vice Chair Wilson shared that Matt Wadsworth is interested in the Road Foreman position and has received training.
 - Vice Chair Wilson moved to appoint Matt Wadsworth as Road Foreman.
 - Chair Simpson seconded.
 - Matt Wadsworth accepted the position with two stipulations, including involvement in hiring the new Road Crew member.
- Wadsworth updated the Board on Road Crew staffing needs.
 - Chair Simpson suggested Wadsworth and Vice Chair Wilson collaborate on a job listing.

Road Commissioner Report

- Vice Chair Wilson reported on recent work and discussed needed repairs on the Barre Town side of an Orange road.
- General discussion included posting a thank-you to John Barnes on the Town website.

Warrants / Payroll

- Wilson moved to accept AP Warrants.
- Discussion included outsourcing roadside mowing and Town truck practices.
- Vice Chair Wilson moved to approve Payroll.

Phone System Upgrade

- Simpson announced the Town will upgrade its phone system with Computer Barn to improve efficiency and reduce costs.
- Wilson asked if website and email services would also change.
 - Simpson said website changes are under consideration.

Public Comment

- A resident asked about bids for Tucker Road; none have been received.
- Tim Stone asked if Tucker Road costs were set; Simpson stated that the RFP process is required.
- Tim Stone inquired about if someone from the Town has visited the State garage to discuss paving a section of Town roads that has taken heavy damage from State trucks.
- Michael Raboin stated that if the State is not helping with the cost of paving Tucker Road the Town should not allow them to use it as a bypass route.
- Ginny Raboin stated that on July 2nd she submitted a Public Records Request. She further stated that Town Clerk Chelsea Magwire responded promptly but that when Mrs. Paya responded it was not reflective of her request, and that she has not received a response from Mr. Simpson. However, she had received a response from the town clerk stating that Mr. Simpson was requesting more time, and that the response listed no statutory reason for the extension. Mrs. Raboin requested that the record reflect that the statutory response time is 10 business days and that a resident has submitted a public record request that has not been satisfied, and that all of the workings of town officials are public record.

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Paya and seconded by Wilson.