

TOWN OF ORANGE, VERMONT
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 26, 2026
Orange Town Complex

Present: Steve Simpson, Kevin Wilson, Kristin Paya, John McNeil, Diane Hallenbeck

Call to Order - Chair Steve Simpson called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Agenda - Motion by Kevin Wilson to approve the agenda. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion by Kevin Wilson to approve the December 12, 2025 draft minutes. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.
 - Motion by Kristin Paya to approve the December 16, 2025 meeting minutes. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.
 - Motion by Kristin Paya to approve the January 12, 2026 meeting minutes with changes. Second by Kevin Wilson. All in favor.
 - Motion by Kristin Paya to approve the January 21, 2026 meeting minutes with changes. Second by Kevin Wilson. All in favor.
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Appointment of Interim Town Treasurer

Motion by Steve Simpson to appoint Diane Hallenbeck as Interim Town Treasurer while the Town continues its search for a permanent Town Clerk.

Second by Kevin Wilson.

Vote: All in favor.

It was noted that Diane Waters will swear in Diane Hallenbeck prior to the performance of any treasurer duties on January 27, 2026. Diane Hallenbeck will retain correspondence from VLCT confirming appropriate procedures were followed.

Selectboard Report

Motion by Kevin Wilson to approve the Selectboard report as presented. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.

Warrants / Payroll

Chair Simpson will contact Diane Waters to discuss scheduling of approval of warrants and payroll. Diane Waters was unable to report to work due to road conditions.

Budget Discussion

John McNeil reviewed proposed budget changes and questioned certain line items. Adjustments were made following discussion, and the Statement of Indebtedness was reviewed.

The Selectboard approved the budget for inclusion in the Town Report and agreed to add an article for “other business” to the Town Meeting Warning. John McNeil updated and submitted the revised budget spreadsheet.

Road Commissioner Report

Discussion included a new timecard machine, tire usage, avoiding chains when possible, and pothole issues on Reservoir Road.

Town Clerk Report

Diane Hallenbeck reported on progress on the Town Report (due Wednesday), a vault lock issue with scheduled maintenance.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

Executive Session

Motion by Kevin Wilson to enter Executive Session for personnel matters pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:14 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by Steve Simpson to adjourn.

Second by Kevin Wilson.

All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Return to Regular Session

The Board returned to regular session at 7:47 PM.

Motion by Kevin Wilson to approve the Town Meeting Warning. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.

Town Meeting Articles

Motion by Kevin Wilson to approve Article 5 as written. Second by Kristin Paya. All in favor.

Motion by Steve Simpson to approve Article 6 as written. Second by Kevin Wilson. All in favor.

Adjournment

Motion by Kristin Paya to adjourn. Second by Steve Simpson. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Hallenbeck

Town Clerk