

Town of Orange
Grant Committee Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2026

In Attendance: Steve Simpson, Diane Hallenbeck, Emily Ruff, Greg Colling

1. Call to Order — Steve Simpson called meeting to order at 11:02 AM

2. Agenda Revisions — None

3. Minutes — Tabled to next meeting

4. MERP Project Update

Greg and Diane reported on contractor inquiries and RFP responses. To date, only one contractor (CJC Construction) has inquired about the project. The committee agreed to proactively solicit additional local contractors to ensure a competitive bidding process. Diane and Greg will attend the pre-bid meeting on Monday, April 27.

Project Details:

- **Insulation:** Consultant Nate Guzikoff recommended switching from mineral fiber to blown-in cellulose for the town hall walls and ceiling, citing easier installation.
- **IT Scope:** Granite City Technology Group (formerly Computer Barn) will provide a quote (not a formal bid) for the IT scope, as they are an owner-contracted vendor.
- **Fire Marshal Report:** Greg Colling confirmed that all items from State Fire Marshal Ryan Ironberg's report are included in the bid scope, with the exception of the fire alarm system, for which the town is responsible.

5. Grants in Progress

- **Better Roads** (George Street / Daniel Judkins) — No updates noted.
- **Grants in Aid** (Project TBD / Ashley Andrews) — No updates noted.
- **Municipal Planning Grant** (Town Plan) — No updates noted.
- **Park & Ride Grant** — Confirmed scope is limited to \$17,000 for line striping and lighting only; paving is not covered. A new funding source will need to be identified for the parking lot surface.
- **Highway Plan / Culvert Inventory** — Keith Cubbon and Matt Wadsworth are working on a culvert and waterway inventory through a grant program. Matt and Steve attended the District 6 meeting. A new culvert inventory system through the Central Vermont Planning Commission will produce a color-coded interactive map to support proactive road maintenance and grant targeting.
- **Salt Shed Grant** — The town was awarded \$500,000 for a new salt shed. Grant execution is estimated to take a considerably window of time. Ashley Andrews is holding the paperwork.

6. Applications in Progress / New Applications: This meeting item was tabled until the next meeting.

7. Other Business — None noted

8. Next Meeting — Thursday, May 8, 11:00 AM

9. Adjournment — 11:47 AM, motion by Emily Ruff, seconded by Steve Simpson, all in favor.