

Town of Orange Selectboard Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2026
Orange Town Complex

Present:

Steve Simpson, Carmella Tucker, Kristin Paya, Kevin Wilson, Diane Hallenbeck, John McNeil, Lee Cattaneo, Jim Wild, Scott Macaskill, and other members of the public including minors.

1. Call to Order

Chair Steve Simpson called the meeting to order at **6:31 p.m.**

2. Public Comment

- Jim Wild inquired about tires located on George Street. Chair Simpson stated arrangements are made for removal and no further board action was necessary.
- Scott Macaskill addressed the Board regarding a deteriorated camper that had recently been moved to his George Street property without his knowledge. He stated that he believed a Selectboard member had been involved in moving the camper to the property. Discussion occurred regarding ownership and responsibility for removal.
- Later in the meeting, a minor member of the public addressed the Board regarding the above-referenced camper and stated that he had moved the camper to the George Street property using his vehicle under the belief that the owner of the camper had been renting that property.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- Town Meeting Minutes (March 2026):
Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the Town Meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Carmella Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.
- May 1, 2026, Selectboard Minutes:
Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the May 1, 2026, minutes. Seconded by Carmella Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.
- May 11, 2026, Special Board Meeting Minutes:
Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the May 11, 2026, minutes. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.
- May 19, 2026, Selectboard Minutes:
Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the May 19, 2026, minutes. Seconded by Carmella Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Agenda Adjustments

No agenda adjustments were made.

Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the agenda as warned. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Payroll Approval

Payroll warrants for May 16, 2026, and May 23, 2026, were reviewed.

Motion by Steve Simpson to approve payroll warrants dated May 16 and May 23, 2026. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants

Accounts payable warrant dated May 22, 2026, was reviewed.

Motion by Steve Simpson to approve the May 22, 2026, warrant. Seconded by Kristin Paya.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Internal Controls Review

The Board reviewed the annual Internal Controls Checklist and discussed the requirement for annual review and Board acknowledgment.

Motion by Carmella Tucker to approve the annual Internal Controls Checklists and authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Selectboard Rules and Procedures

The Board reviewed an updated version of the Selectboard Rules and Procedures, including revised language.

Motion by Steve Simpson to adopt the May 26, 2026, version of the Selectboard Rules and Procedures. Seconded by Carmella Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Mowing Contract Review

The Board reviewed the mowing contract with Tylan Johnson, including an addendum for additional work outside the scope of regular mowing.

Motion by Kristin Paya to approve a three-year mowing contract and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Seconded by Carmella Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.

10. AARP Grant Award

The Board reviewed a \$12,500 AARP grant award for improvements to the recreation field, contingent upon an updated lease agreement with the State.

Motion by Carmella Tucker to accept the AARP grant award contingent upon receipt of an updated lease agreement with the State. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Washington Volunteer Fire Department Contract

The Board reviewed the Washington Volunteer Fire Department contract.

Motion by Carmella Tucker to approve the Washington Volunteer Fire Department contract and authorize payment of \$3,500, with the Selectboard Chair authorized to sign on behalf of the Board. Seconded by Steve Simpson. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Roads and Bridges Standards

The Board reviewed the updated Roads and Bridges Standards. Matt Wadsworth, Road Foreman, had previously reviewed the standards.

Motion by Carmella Tucker to adopt and sign the updated Roads and Bridges Standards. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Nonprofit Payments Update

The Board discussed nonprofit appropriations and confirmed that payments will be made upon receipt of invoices.

14. Underground Storage Tank Discussion

The Board discussed removal of underground storage tanks scheduled for June 1, 2026, to be completed by Wheeler Engineering. Necessary permitting and testing procedures were reviewed. No action was taken.

15. Town Clerk Report

Diane Hallenbeck reported on:

- FEMA training attendance
- Preparation for the June 3 school re-vote
- Grader financing research and rate inquiries
- MERP grant coordination and bid review

16. Road Foreman Report

Updates included:

- Completion of paving on Tucker Road
- Grader repairs and financing considerations
- State line striping updates
- Reservoir Road paving and culvert grant planning for 2027

No Board action was taken.

17. Town Forest Update

The Board discussed the missed opportunity for the most recent grant and possible logging options to offset project costs. Additional information and bid updates are expected for the June 8, 2026, meeting.

18. Adjournment

Motion by Carmella Tucker to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kristin Paya. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Next Meeting June 8, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Hallenbeck