

*Office of the Select Board  
Town of Orange, New Hampshire  
Minutes of August 8, 2017*

*Present:* Dorothy Heinrichs, Robert Ells, Skip Smith, and Sandi Pierson (clerical).

*Others present:* Bev Ells, Scott Sanborn, and Miles Sinclair.

*Meeting opened at 6 PM. Attendance taken by the secretary.*

*Minutes:* The minutes of July 25, 2017 were unanimously approved.

*Perambulation:* The Board met with Miles Sinclair, the Groton Select Board designee to do the Groton and Orange town line perambulation scheduled for October of this year. It is a span of about 2.5 miles. He summarized Groton's experience with other towns including the costs which have been up to \$50,000. Scott Sanborn has volunteered to represent Orange at no cost to the town. After discussion, Scott offered that he will provide the research and spend a day in the woods walking the line. In return, Groton will provide the blazing paint and provide a copy of the perambulation summary to Orange. There will be no cost to the town. The Board concurred with, and appreciated, Scott's proposal. Miles will bring the proposal to Groton Select Board. He expects they will accept it.

*Census:* The Board was in receipt of large packet of information from the US Census Bureau requesting the town participate in the Local Update of Census Address Operations. Participation is voluntary. The Census Bureau noted it would take the municipality approximately 21 hours of labor to complete. Skip will review the information in full and report back to the Board for further discussion.

*Highway:*

- The Town received a notice from the NH DOT of an automatic deposit of \$18,920.02 for the SB 38 funds allocated to Orange. This is a one-time allowance targeted toward road projects not included in standard highway maintenance. The Board will accept the funds at a public hearing at the August 22 meeting. Scott outlined some of the projects he would like to work on including some paving patchwork on Peaslee Road and New Colony Road. He would also like to pave an "apron" on Burnt Hill where it intersects with Cardigan Mountain Road which would prevent the occasional washouts during heavy rains. Any paving at the Town House to prevent rain damage would take further discussion due to the aesthetics of the grounds and building.
- The Town received a notice from the NH DOT of an automatic deposit of \$9,048.32 for the July payment of the regular Highway Block Grant.
- The Town received a notice from the NH DOT that the Highway Block Grant for Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) will be \$30,161.04.
- Bob Ells stated he stopped into the State DOT office on Rt. 118 to speak to them about the defective sections of the road leading up to Cardigan State Park, much of it resulting

from heavy rain runoff. They told him they did not plan on addressing any issues with Cardigan Mountain Road until next year.

*Other:*

- The Board was in receipt of the 2018 Fiscal Budget for Grafton County.
- Trash report: As of July 31, 2017 the town has disposed of 46.65 tons of trash and 16.7 tons of recyclables.
- Bob Ells noted that it was his opinion that certain kitty litter brands make for heavy trash which in turn causes an increase in trash hauling costs. To his knowledge there is no statute or policy regulating the disposal of kitty litter in the trash.
- The Board continued its discussion on adequate parking at the Town House and road safety during town functions.
- Dorothy stated that Sandi has uploaded many town forms (in PDF) to the administrator of the volunteer website orangenh.us. Documents include various municipal applications and regulations.

*Secretary's report:*

- The town's attorney has not yet responded to the Board's request of opinions on the "owner unknown" property and the pole licensing update.
- Judith Lindahl has not yet responded if she wants to continue as the town's representative to the Upper Valley – Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission.
- Casella has notified the town that the trash pickup rates will increase next year. The Board requested that Sandi ask them for their 2018 proposed rates.
- Anita Garland has dropped off the poles to the entertainment tent.

*Reports from other Boards and Committees:*

- *Cemetery:* Skip (also the Cemetery Agent) stated that Remacle has dropped off a load of crushed stone and loam to be used at the Church Cemetery. The crushed stone will be used to create a base to correct leaning stones (and one that's completely toppled). The loam will be used to begin filling in depressions in the ground at places burial are clearly marked with monuments.
- *School Apportionment Sub-Committee:* Scott Sanborn gave an update on the meetings of the Apportionment Sub-Committee of which he is the town's representative. Scott stated that the initial resolution (a vote of 5/1) was for 95% of the budget to be based on ADM (Average Daily Membership) and 5% on equalized property values. Scott stated that there was a reconsideration of the resolution and the vote was 6/0 to remain at 100% ADM, using three year averages to prevent sudden spikes in the smaller towns when there is an unexpected increase in student enrollment. Scott felt that the real issue is the NH method of funding schools with property taxes. He said that rectifying the problem with a new apportionment formula may be seen by the State as not needing to focus on the funding problems. Skip felt that funding apportionments based on property values pits one town against the other.

*Public comment: n/a*

*Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.*

*Meeting adjourned 6:30 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Pierson

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Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs

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Robert Ells

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Lyell Smith