



Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL
617 ORANGE CENTER ROAD
ORANGE, CONNECTICUT 06477-2499

PHONE: (203) 891-4730
FAX: (203) 891-2185
www.orange-ct.gov

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023
TOWN HALL
LOWER- LEVEL MEETING ROOM
7:00 P.M.**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present:

First Selectman James Zeoli
Selectman Mitchell Goldblatt
Selectman Judy Williams
Selectman Ralph Okenquist
Selectman PJ Shanley

Selectman John Carangelo
Vincent Marino, Town Counsel
Ann Denny, Secretary
Lawrence Messina, Orange Lions Club
George Lesko, Orange Lions Club

ORANGE, CONN
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED JAN 12 2023
2023 JAN 12 PM 3:25
Handwritten signature

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by First Selectman Zeoli. The fire exits were noted, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited followed by the roll call.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
(2 minutes per person)

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memorium: Don Lewis, Priscilla Searles

- Monday, January 16, 2023: All Town Offices will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The transfer station will remain open.
- Taxes that are due January 1, 2023 have until February 1, 2023 to pay before they are considered late.
- There have been a lot of complaints to Jack Demirjian the Zoning Enforcement officer, if you are in violation, he will let you know.
- It's not too late to protect your mailbox with a batter board.

MINUTES

- *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, *the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 14, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider and act on the request to approve the re-appointment of Denise Stein as the Municipal Agent for the Elderly** - First Selectman James Zeoli stated this is a requirement of the State that the board appoint a Municipal Agent for the Elderly. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the re-appointment of Denise Stein as the Municipal Agent for the Elderly.*

Selectman Zeoli asked for a motion to move agenda items 3 and 4 under new business to before item 2 *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved moving agenda items 3 and 4 under new business to before item 2.*

2. **Request from the Lions Club to use the field at High Plains Community Center for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 1, 2023, with a rain date of Saturday April 8, 2023, and if the gym is needed on the rain date to waive the customary rental fees for use of the gym at HPCC** – Lawrence Messina of the Orange Lions Club requested the use of the field on Saturday April 1, 2023 with a rain date of Saturday April 8, 2023, and a waiver of the fees for the use of the gym if needed on the rain date of the annual Easter Egg Hunt. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to use the field at High Plains Community Center for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 1, 2023, with a rain date of Saturday April 8, 2023, and if the gym is needed on the rain date to waive the customary rental fees for use of the gym at HPCC.*
3. **Tax Refunds for the Month of January:** *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Shanley, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$25,031.52 for the month of January.*
4. **Request to Approve the Renewal of the License Agreements for the Rental of Farm Fields at Wright’s Farm Property, The Racebrook Tract Property, Farm Field near Meetinghouse Lane at Fred Wolfe Park, and The Ewen Farm Preserve owned by the Town of Orange** - First Selectman Zeoli read a letter submitted by email from Jody Dietch regarding the renewal of license agreements. General discussions ensued regarding the renewal of license agreements and the use of that land. The shared concerns were in regard to safety, location of the playground, and questions about why the information was not shared that Field View Farm was exercising their option to renew. Attorney Marino explained January was the first Selectmen’s meeting since receiving the information, and Field View farm has the right to exercise their option.

Marino explained January was the first Selectmen’s meeting since receiving the information, and Field View farm has the right to exercise their option. The following residents spoke regarding the renewal of the license agreement for Field View Farm at Fred Wolfe Park.

- Peggy Pisano, 523 Fairway Road
- Jennifer Fleming, 481 Wagon Trail
- Erika Higgins, 303 Drummond Road
- Angela McNabola, 290 Currier Drive
- Chi Lam, 323 Sarah Circle
- Jomo Nichols, 358 Hitching Post Drive
- DeeDee Lebov, 660 Broadview Road
- Tom Pisano, 523 Fairway Road

On a motion made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request with a change in date to December 1st on page 3 to renew the license agreements for the rental of farm fields at Wright’s Farm Property owned by the Town of Orange for a period of two years to Joseph Moncheski.*

There was no action needed on the license agreements for The Racebrook Tract and the Farm Field near Meetinghouse Lane at Fred Wolfe Park because Field View Farm exercised their option to renew.

On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request with a change in date to December 1st on page 3 to renew the license agreement for the rental of farm fields at the Ewen Farm owned by the Town of Orange for a period of two years to Stephen Bspuda.*

COMMITTEES

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt had no report.
2. **Capital Planning** – Selectman Okenquist reported the committee prioritized 38 projects totaling 11.5M and they will be meeting on January 13th to review the list that they will be presenting to the Board of Finance.

At 8:34 P.M., Selectman Williams made *a motion to adjourn the meeting.* Selectman Carangelo seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Denny
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen