



# Town of Orange, Connecticut

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

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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023  
TOWN HALL  
LOWER- LEVEL MEETING ROOM  
7:00 P.M.**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Present:**

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

Vincent Marino, Town Counsel  
Ann Denny, Secretary  
Bob Brinton, Town Engineer  
Michael Muttit, Orange Lions Club  
Linda Muttit, Orange Lions Club

ORANGE, CONN  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED FOR RECORDS  
2023 OCT 12 AM 8:58

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by First Selectman Zeoli. The fire exits were noted, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the roll call.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

(2 minutes per person)

Tom Pisano, 523 Fairway Road stated he has very good participation for this falls Sunday Soccer program and the playground looks great. He is happy the committee is working on safety.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Selectman Goldblatt announced the next shredding day is Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. to noon sponsored by the Orange Rotary Club. The Orange Community Women will be collecting household items from 9-11 a.m. and the Buy Nothing Orange Facebook group will be there for people to drop off or pick up free items, unfortunately there will be no mattress collection this time.

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:  
In Memorium: Lucille Bozelko and Carol Houlihan

There is a Farmer's Market tomorrow but not next week due to the fair.  
The Orange Country Fair is September 15, 16, and 17. The truck pull is Friday night.

Starting this month, the OVNA will be conducting Flu Clinics at the Community Center for more information contact the OVNA at 203-891-4752. Town offices will be closed October 9<sup>th</sup> in observance of Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day. The Transfer Station will be open.

### MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, ***the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 9, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.***

#### **At this time First Selectman Zeoli asked to add an item to the agenda about a new waste hauler recycling program**

***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, ***the Board unanimously approved adding Item 10 under new business about a new waste hauling program.***

### NEW BUSINESS

1. **Request to approve bid for Steam Head and Valve Replacement for HPCC Boiler** Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the 3 bids received and recommends the low bidder Poppel Welding and Fabrication LLC of Burlington. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, ***the board approved awarding Poppel Welding and Fabrication LLC of Burlington to replace the steam header and associated valves in the High Plains Community Center boiler room.***
2. **Request to approve Quote for Town Hall Painting** Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the 4 quotes received for painting interior common areas (hallways, stairways, and basement meeting room) and the exterior trim. He recommends the low bidder New Haven Painters. The price does not include replacing any rotted wood, if needed it will be billed on a time and material basis. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved New Haven Painters in the amount of \$15,900 for the interior and \$14,850 for the exterior, the price does not include replacing any rotten wood.***
3. **Request to approve Quote for Highway Garage Overhead Door Replacement** Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the 3 quotes received for replacement of three mechanic's bay doors. He recommends the low bidder Crawford Door of Stratford. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved Crawford Door of Stratford in the amount of \$20,170 to replace the 3 mechanic's bay doors.***
4. **Consider and act on Tower Lease Agreement at 525 Orange Center Road between the Orange Volunteer Fire Association and the Town of Orange** First Selectman Zeoli said this information was put in the packets for discussion. The

fire department still needs to review the lease with their counsel. First Selectman Zeoli asked for a motion to move this item to Executive Session. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved moving this item to executive session for discussion.*

5. **Request from the Lions Club to Waive the Customary Rental Fees for Use of the Café at HPCC for a Military Whist** – Mike and Linda Muttit from the Orange Lion’s Club requested a waiver of the facility rental fee for the HPCC Cafe on Friday October 27, 2023, for a Military Whist which is a card game the Orange Lions are holding as a fundraiser. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Shanley, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to waive the customary rental fees for HPCC for the Lion’s Club Military Whist on October 27, 2023.*
6. **Orange Lions Club Request for Thanksgiving Dinner at HPCC** – Mike and Linda Muttit of the Orange Lions Club requested a waiver of the rental fees and custodial fees for the Thanksgiving Dinner in the gym at High Plains Community Center on Sunday November 26, 2023. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to waive the customary rental and custodial fees for the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner scheduled for Sunday, November 26, 2023 at High Plains Community Center.*
7. **Board of Selectmen Annual Town Report** – *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the Board of Selectmen 2022-2023 Annual Report as amended.*
8. **Waiver of Medical Benefits for Town Employees** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the waiver of medical benefits as presented.*
9. **Tax Refunds for the Month of September:** *On a motion* made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$9,515.17 for the month of September.*
10. **Waste Hauling Program** – First Selectman Zeoli received information today from Country Disposal regarding offering homeowners a food waste recycling and composting service. This service would not have any cost for the town, this would be a private contract between homeowners and Country Disposal. There is a fee associated with the pickup, but he did not know what they were charging. He asked Selectman Goldblatt to investigate it as something the recycling committee could promote. This item was for discussion only, no vote was taken.

**COMMITTEES**

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported the committee met last month with the actuaries and there will be a slight increase in next year’s budget figures for the Police and Town pension contributions.(follow up report attached)
2. **FWP AD HOC Committee** – Selectmen Carangelo stated the committee met yesterday at Fred Wolfe Park with BL Companies, members of the Police Department, and Don Foyer from Public Works to discuss what can be done to make the area safer. The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 19th.
3. **Capital Planning** – Selectman Okenquist reported that letters have been sent out to department heads requesting their input for next year’s budget be submitted by November 10<sup>th</sup>.

At 7:42 P.M. Selectman Carangelo *made a motion* to close the Regular meeting and convene into Executive Session, Selectman Goldblatt *seconded the motion*. All voted in favor. Attorney Marino was invited to join the executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Cell Tower Lease Agreement at 525 Orange Center Road between the Orange Volunteer Fire Association and the Town of Orange**

**Our Lady of Sorrows Litigation Settlement**

**Discussion of Animal Control Contract between the City of Milford and the Town of Orange**

*The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:14 P.M.*

**VOTE**

*On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Shanley, and unanimously carried, *the board approved* accepting the settlement with Our Lady of Sorrows as presented in Executive Session.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the board approved* authorizing the First Selectman to satisfy the contract with Animal Control and the City of Milford.

At 8:16 P.M., Selectman Williams made *a motion to adjourn the meeting*. Selectman Okenquist seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Denny". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "A".

Ann Denny  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

## Ann Denny

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**From:** Jim Zeoli <jzeoli@orange-ct.gov> on behalf of Jim Zeoli  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 10:37 AM  
**To:** Ann Denny  
**Subject:** FW: Pension Board Report

**From:** [mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com) <[mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:35 PM  
**To:** 'James Zeoli' <[jzeoli@orange-ct.gov](mailto:jzeoli@orange-ct.gov)>; 'John Carangelo' <[judgejic@hotmail.com](mailto:judgejic@hotmail.com)>; 'Judy Williams' <[Jamawms@icloud.com](mailto:Jamawms@icloud.com)>; 'P. J. Shanley' <[pjshanley@hotmail.com](mailto:pjshanley@hotmail.com)>; 'Ralph Okenquist' <[rgokenquist@gmail.com](mailto:rgokenquist@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Pension Board Report

All,

My apologies for an incomplete Pension Board Report this evening, as I inadvertently left this information at home.

On August 17, 2023 the Pension Board received the following information as part of our annual Actuarial Valuation presented by Milliman:

### Town Pension Plan

Annual calendar year 2022 market gain (loss) (17.75%)

Funded ratio up from 72.6% to 73.6% - 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year that this has increased.

Actuarially Determined Contribution for next fiscal year increases from \$578,932 to \$615,054

### Police Pension Plan

Annual calendar year 2022 market gain (loss) (17.43%)

Funded ratio up from 59.3% to 61.1%- 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year that this has increased.

Actuarially Determined Contribution for next fiscal year increases from \$1,969,044 to \$2,078,533

If anyone has any questions or wishes to see the complete report, please let me know.

Thanks!

Mitch

Mitchell R. Goldblatt  
291 Drummond Road  
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203-535-8505

[mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellrgoldblatt@gmail.com)

Please note my new Email account.