



Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL
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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021
TOWN HALL
LOWER- LEVEL MEETING ROOM
7:00 P.M.**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present:

First Selectman James Zeoli
Selectman Mitchell Goldblatt
Selectman Margaret Novicki
Selectman John Carangelo
Selectman Ralph Okenquist

John Cifarelli, Finance Director
Robert Brinton, Town Engineer
Ann Denny, Secretary
Vincent Marino, Town Counsel
David Ryan, Labor Counsel

ORANGE, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2021 OCT 14 PM 4:05

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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)

- Tom Pisano 523 Fairway Road, Orange Soccer Association wanted to let everyone know that soccer has a plan that will be presented at the next Park & Rec meeting on October 27th, he encouraged everyone to attend. The playground committee will also be presenting their plan for the playground at Fred Wolfe Park.
- Carla Birmingham 309 Pine Tree Drive wanted to thank the Town for helping with the flooding problems.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Goldblatt reported that the shredding day was very successful 10,980 lbs. of paper was shredded and 43 mattresses were saved from being dumped at the transfer station. Thank you to the Orange Rotary Club for sponsoring the event. Thank you also to the Orange Lions Club for helping with the mattress collection, and to the Orange Highway Department for dropping off cones to help with traffic. The next shredding day will be in April of 2022.

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memorium: Bob Shanley, Marilyn Cohen, Helen Melchione, and Judy DeFeo

- **Flu Clinics:** The OVNA is having flu clinics from 10-1 in the old Probate Office at the High Plains Community Center every Wednesday in October. Please make sure your insurance is accepted. For more information you may call the OVNA at 203-891-4752.
- **Debates:** Remaining Debates for the First Selectman Candidates: Tomorrow night 7pm at High Plains Community Center sponsored by Milford Orange Times and 10am on Sunday October 24th at Congregation or Shalom sponsored by the men's group.
- **Election Day:** Tuesday November 2nd is election day. All voting is at High Plains Community Center. Absentee ballots are available in the Town Clerk's office.
- **Daylight Savings** ends November 7th remember to set your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed Saturday night.
- **Funtober** Saturday October 23rd with a rain date of October 24th at High Plains Community Center. There will be all kinds of Halloween fun from 1-3 pm call the Park and Recreation office to register at 203-891-4790.
- **Thank you letter** - Karen and Pat O'Sullivan sent a thank you letter for the retirement party on Friday night at RBCC.

MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, ***the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 8, 2021 Public Hearing regarding the adoption of a resolution establishing an ordinance prohibiting the smoking of tobacco products and the smoking and consumption of cannabis products on all property owned by or under the control of the Town of Orange and the smoking of cannabis products in the outdoor sections of restaurants within the Town, and The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Flood Culvert Studies Proposal from Cardinal Engineering** – First Selectman Zeoli read the memo from Town Engineer Bob Brinton regarding the proposal from Cardinal Engineering. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the proposal from Cardinal Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$87,000 to perform flood studies as described in the proposal.***

2. **Request for purchase of a pickup truck with plow for the Highway Department from the State Bid list** – This pickup truck is to replace the 2005 pickup that has numerous mechanical issues. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the purchase of a pickup truck with plow for the Highway Department using the state bid list for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.*
3. **Bid for snow plowing services** - Bob Brinton, Town Engineer spoke with the high bidder on the list, and they agreed to adjust the price to \$310.00 per hour. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved awarding one truck to each contractor as presented and adjusted for snow plowing services for the 2021-2022 season.*
4. **Proposal for fencing at Fred Wolfe Park using LoCIP funds**- The Board discussed the proposals presented. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved awarding the proposal for fencing to Orange Fence for 5' fencing in the amount of \$21,175.00, and replacing the damaged guardrail in the amount of \$1,300.00 using LoCIP funds.*
5. **Orange Lions Club Request for Thanksgiving Dinner at HPCC** – Mike Muttitt of the Orange Lions Club reported the Thanksgiving Dinner will be in person and dinners will also be available for delivery. Please contact Community Services to make a reservation. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo 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 28, 2021 at High Plains Community Center.*
6. **Board of Selectmen Annual Town Report** – Selectman Goldblatt asked that the names of commission and board members that passed away be added under In Memoriam. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the Board of Selectmen 2020-2021 Annual Report as amended.*
7. **Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule for 2022**- The calendar was reviewed, and the September meeting was changed to September 7, 2022. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the 2022 Selectmen Meeting schedule as amended.*
8. **Tax Refunds for the Month of October**: *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$11,614.13 for the month of October.*

COMMITTEES

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported a special meeting was held to discuss what is being presented in Executive Session.
2. **Emergency Management** - Selectman Novicki reported the last meeting of the Emergency Management Advisory Council was held September 24th. A budget is being presented to the Board of Finance for funding that the Town has received from the American Rescue Plan. The Department of Health is looking to cover operational needs regarding personnel and future clinics. Covid numbers in Orange are on a downward trend after the Delts variant peaked in August and September. The Town has a 75% vaccination rate but anyone who has not been vaccinated please do it's not too late.
3. **Capital Planning** – Selectman Okenquist reported the letters were sent out to department heads for capital requests. The committee will start meeting in December.
4. **Personnel Committee** – First Selectman Zeoli reported the committee met yesterday to discuss making a second full time position at the transfer station. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved adding this as item number 4 to discuss in Executive Session.*

At 8:03 P.M. Selectman Carangelo *made a motion* to close the Regular meeting and convene into Executive Session. Selectman Okenquist *seconded the motion*. All voted in favor. Attorney Marino joined the meeting during Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Discussion of application for disability for 2 Employees of the Police Department.**
2. **Agreement between the Town of Orange and Communication Workers of America AFL-CIO**
3. **Agreement Between the Town of Orange and Local 1303-316 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO - School Nurses**
4. **Discussion of making a second full time position at the Transfer Station**

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:55P.M.

VOTE

1a. On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, ***the board approved to accept the duty injury disability retirement application for pension benefits for Police Officer Christopher Brown as discussed in executive session.***

1b. On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, ***the board approved to accept the duty injury disability retirement application for pension benefits for Lieutenant Jeremy Dexter as discussed in executive session.***

2. On a motion made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved accepting the tentative agreement between the Town of Orange and the Communication Workers of America AFL-CIO and authorize the First Selectman to execute the contract consistent with the terms of the tentative agreement.***

3. On a motion made by Selectman Goldblatt and seconded by Selectman Carangelo, ***the Board approved accepting the tentative agreement between the Town of Orange and Local 1303-316 of Council #4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO - School Nurses and authorize the First Selectman to execute the contract consistent with the terms of the tentative agreement.***

4. On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, ***the board approved to make the part time Assistant Equipment Operator at the transfer station full time as discussed in executive session.***

At 9:00 P.M., Selectman Okenquist 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