



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, NOVEMBER 09, 2022
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

Vincent Marino, Town Counsel
Ann Denny, Secretary
Bob Brinton, Town Engineer
John Cifarelli, Finance Director
Rick Katz, RJT Energy Consultants

Absent: Selectman John Carangelo

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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)

- Larysa Persano 637 S. Greenbrier Drive read an email she sent to the selectmen regarding Fred Wolfe Park.
- Kaury Kucera 850 Tall Timber Road spoke about Fred Wolfe Park and asked what is being done to support the children and this sports complex.
- Erika & Peter Higgins 303 Drummond Road thanked everyone for their public service and spoke about Fred Wolfe Park regarding the lease agreements of the cornfields and safety of the second exit on Oakview.
- Tom Pisano 523 Fairway Road gave an overview of the beginning of Fred Wolfe Park, and that Orange Soccer paid half of all costs. On average the soccer program spends about \$4,000 a year towards expenses. He would like to see these issues as an agenda item in the future instead of public participation. He said if the land is going to be leased he wants to bid it, he has insurance and could meet the lease requirements to farm the land.
- DeDe Lebov 660 Broadview Road spoke about the recreational facilities that they all want for their children and grandchildren.

ORANGE, CONN
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORDS
2022 NOV 10 PM 1:37
Mary Jo...
TOWN CLERK

- Selectman Goldblatt explained the appointment process and hopes that a committee will be formed soon. The plan for the park needs to be revised since the first one was not able to be implemented. He invited everyone to sign up for the Zoom Kristallnacht program this Sunday morning sponsored by Congregation Or Shalom, which will honor those from the Ukraine that rescued Jews from the Holocaust. The last of the Bicentennial commemoratives and raffle tickets for the quilt will be sold at the Holiday Farm Market on November 17th and the Holiday Festival on December 4th. The drawing for the quilt will be December 4th. He also wanted to thank all the poll workers, public works, police department, and the registrars for all their hard work during the election yesterday. It was a busy day and a great turnout, and everything ran smoothly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memorium: Albert Rapini and Brad Gesler

- Veterans Day is Friday November 11th and Town Offices will be closed. The Veterans Day Ceremony will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday at the Orange War Remembrance Memorial at High Plains Community Center, if inclement weather it will be in the gym. The American Legion welcomes the public and any veterans that wish to attend. Also, a reminder that you can still purchase commemorative bricks for the Remembrance Memorial, they are \$100 each for further information contact the First Selectman's Office 203-891-4737.
- Tuesday November 15th from 2 -6 p.m. A Flu Clinic and Covid Booster Clinic will be held at High Plains Community Center. No appointments necessary. For more information call the OVNA at 203-891-4752.
- Thursday November 17th – Holiday Farm Market & Craft Fair from 3:30-6:30 p.m. under the pavilion at High Plains.
- Thursday, November 24th – Thanksgiving Day - Town offices and the Transfer Station will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.
- Friday, November 25th – Day after Thanksgiving - Town offices will be closed but the Transfer Station will be open 8 - 4:30.
- Recycling Schedule for Week of November 21st, Tuesday and Wednesday are the same, but due to the Holiday recycling pick up for Thursday is on Friday and Friday is on Saturday. Make sure bins are out by 6 AM
- Sunday, December 4, 2022 is the Annual Holiday Festival/Tree Lighting Ceremony and Lighted Tractor Parade from 3-6 p.m. around the town green.
- Today is the anniversary of broken glass which commemorates the beginning of breaking into homes in Nazi Germany and Austria and the atrocities that occurred and is something that should never be forgotten.

MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Williams, ***the Board approved the minutes of the October 12, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen 4-0-1, Selectman Shanley abstained.***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **New contract for the Town of Orange and the Orange Board of Education for Electricity supplier:** Finance Director Cifarelli explained the rates for the next three-year contract and Rick Katz from RJT Energy Consultants answered questions from the selectmen. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the three-year contract between Constellation Energy and the Town of Orange and the Orange Board of Education per the terms as provided in the contract.***
2. **Design costs for Culvert Replacement Projects for Old Country Road and Coachmans Lane, and for Pine Tree Drive and Peck Lane:** Al Bucknall of 439 Old Country Road spoke on behalf of himself and neighbors endorsing what the consulting engineer (Cardinal Engineering) proposes. He also thanked the selectmen for hiring the consultant to help the residents with flooding. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Shanley, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the design cost proposals from Cardinal Engineering in the amount of \$79,100 for Old Country Road and Coachmans Lane, and \$87,600 for the Pine Tree Drive and Peck Lane.***
3. **Request to Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 2 Memorandum of Agreement:** ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request to authorize First Selectman Zeoli, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, to execute the FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 2 Memorandum of Agreement.***
4. **Replace sign at Wright's Pond:** Selectman Williams investigated replacing the sign at Wright's Pond to match others in town, the cost would be \$2,374. First Selectman Zeoli said the money would come from yearly interest received from the Richard Wright Foundation. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Shanley, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the purchase of a replacement sign at Wright's Pond.***
5. **Request to Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the Master Agreement Pole Attachment Agreement for Municipal Attachments between the United Illuminating Company and the Town of Orange:** Attorney Marino explained the agreement to the selectmen and noted some changes that he was making after discussions with the UI. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request to authorize First Selectman Zeoli, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, to execute the Master Agreement Pole Attachment Agreement for Municipal Attachments between the United Illuminating Company and the Town of Orange with the changes as noted during discussion.***

6. **Request to Authorize the First Selectman to Execute an agreement between the Town of Orange and American National Recovery Group:** This item was discussed and Selectmen Goldblatt and Williams feel the tax collector should be using the constables more. Selectman Goldblatt would like to see dates on this contract, it is written very vaguely. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board tabled this item.*

7. **Tax Refunds for the Month of November:** *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$27,388.20 for the month of November.*

COMMITTEES

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported the committee meets next week.
2. **Capital Planning** – Selectman Okenquist reported Capital requests are due tomorrow, so far three have been received.

At 8:38 P.M., Selectman Okenquist made *a motion to adjourn the meeting.* Selectman Shanley seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Denny
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen