



Board of Selectmen Meeting – June 10, 2020

# Town of Orange, Connecticut

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**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION AND  
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020  
7:00 P.M.  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**NOTICE: In accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7B Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting will be held remotely with no in-person attendance. The meeting will still be broadcast live on OGAT and the following internet links below.**

- Orange Public Access Television – Optimum Cable Channel 79 AND Frontier Channel 6063
- Orange Public Access Live Streaming – Via the internet  
<https://media.discovervideo.com/show?vg=4985159286&vt=2>
- Orange YouTube Live Stream Link - Via the internet  
<https://youtu.be/Dm0zRbZ0i3w>
- Residents may send questions or comments on the public hearing to [jzeoli@orange-ct.gov](mailto:jzeoli@orange-ct.gov) and they will be read into the record at the public hearing on June 10, 2020.

## UNAPPROVED MINUTES

### Present on- line:

First Selectman James Zeoli  
Selectman Mitchell Goldblatt  
Selectman Margaret Novicki  
Selectman Judy Williams  
Selectman Ralph Okenquist  
Selectman John Carangelo  
Ann Denny, Secretary

Chris Kelly, OGAT  
Vincent Marino, Town Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 P.M. by First Selectman Zeoli, followed by introductions.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board closed the Regular Meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.*

### PUBLIC HEARING

#### Application for the Neighborhood Assistance Program from the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Service for funding of \$150,000 for the New Haven Hebrew Day School

The Secretary read the Notice of Public Hearing.

First Selectman Zeoli, spoke about the application and stated that no public comment had been received.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, *the Public Hearing was adjourned, and the regular meeting was reconvened at 7:12 p.m.* All voted in favor.

### VOTE

- Neighborhood Assistance Program Application submitted by the New Haven Hebrew Day School for funding for \$150,000. *On a motion* made by First Selectman Zeoli, seconded by Selectman Carangelo and unanimously carried, *the Board voted to approve on accepting the Neighborhood Assistance Program Application submitted by the New Haven Hebrew Day School for funding in the amount of \$150,000.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Okenquist thanked the Orange Volunteer Fire Department for responding to his home at 12:30 a.m. for a carbon monoxide detector. Thankfully, it was only a battery problem, but they tested the air and made sure it was safe for them. A big thank you for coming out to the house and making sure everything was okay.

Selectman Goldblatt read an announcement he received from RWA that HazWaste Central in New Haven is open as of May 30<sup>th</sup>. To protect the safety of participants and employees they are making the following changes to operations on collection days. Clean Harbors is directing the traffic flow, they are not using volunteers. There will be signs posted along the traffic pattern. All customers must pre-register online, paper forms have been eliminated. Please take advantage of properly disposing of any hazardous materials, there is no cost to residents for the program and it is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon except for holidays.

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memoriam: Phyllis Farace, Don Nielsen, Dr. Paul Barash, Anthony Pegnataro

- Congratulations to all the Graduates from nursery school to college!
- Town Hall is open, but many transactions can be done on-line. If you need to enter the building; please wear a mask and wait at the doorway of the office you wish to enter until you are recognized and maintain social distancing when in the building.
- HPCC is open with the same restriction. There are no programs at Park & Rec or for the seniors at this time. In speaking with the directors today programs are coming back, and camp is open for registration and the aquatics director hopes to open the pool around August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- June is dog license month. Postcards have gone out asking people to renew online or apply by mail. Instructions are on the town website or call the Town Clerk's office with any questions.
- Taxpayer Attestation forms are available on the Town's website for residents financially impacted by COVID-19 who may need help with this year's tax bill but, it does not help on any prior taxes owed to the town.
- The following town events have been cancelled due to COVID 19
  - Fourth of July Concert and Fireworks
  - Volunteer Fireman's Carnival – They are still trying to hold the raffle. The Fire Truck 50K Challenge is a go fund me that was set up to help the department with paying for a new truck. There is a button on the town website where donations can be made.
- The Farmer's Market will begin on the last Thursday in June, the 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. at HPCC

### MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, ***the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen on May 13, 2020.***

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request from the Garden Club of Orange to place floral arrangements on the Town Green for National Garden Week on Friday June 12th** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request from the Garden Club of Orange to place floral arrangements on the Town Green for National Garden Week on Friday June 12th.*
2. **Request from Simple Recycling for an exclusive 3-year contract to place a container at the Town of Orange Transfer Station** - Selectman Goldblatt presented the proposal from Simple Recycling to replace the Goodwill container at the transfer station. After much discussion it was felt that more information was needed before a decision could be made. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist and unanimously carried, *the Board approved to table the request from Simple Recycling for an exclusive 3-year contract to place a container at the Town of Orange Transfer Station.*
3. **Request to Approve the Tax Refunds for the Month of June** – *On a motion* made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds for the month of June in the amount of \$7,910.17.*

At this point in the meeting Selectman Goldblatt asked to add denouncing the tragedy that took place in Minneapolis to the agenda.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to add Denounce the tragedy that took place in Minneapolis to new business on the agenda.*

4. **Denounce the tragedy that took place in Minneapolis** – First Selectman Zeoli spoke about the recent event that took place in Minneapolis and *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki and unanimously carried *the board approved the sentiments of First Selectman Zeoli denouncing the tragedy that took place in Minneapolis and racism that is being dealt with and must be dealt with here and around the world, and support for First Selectman Zeoli and Chief Gagne's statement from the Orange Police Department, and reaffirm that the Town of Orange is a friendly community.*

**COMMITTEES**

**Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported they met last month and in the first quarter of 2020 pension investments were down 15.9%. Total earning last year were around 8%. From the snapshot on March 31<sup>st</sup> to the meeting in mid-May a good portion was recovered. The pension fund is in a very solid position with just over 21 million in assets.

**Emergency Management** – Selectman Novicki reported the subcommittee on COVID 19 continues to meet weekly. Cases continue to go down and there are less than 20 active cases in the town. Traffic and activity in town is increasing since the partial reopening. There is concern that businesses follow the guidelines and will not allow entry to people without masks. A main concern is people who will let their guard down and another outbreak could be on the horizon. Orange Economic Development and the health department had a webinar with business owners regarding phase II reopening on June 17<sup>th</sup>. All regulations are on the state website. The Health Department will start contract tracing soon. PPE is still being handed out to businesses through Emergency Management. Businesses may contact Tino Russo if they need any. June 12<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school and June 30<sup>th</sup> will be the last day of food distribution. Town buildings have been cleaned and getting ready to reopen. Town clergy has been meeting and some houses of worship will be having outdoor services, some will continue with online services, and some will have limited re-openings.

**Personnel** – First Selectman Zeoli reported that the personnel committee will be meeting soon to discuss non-union staff, the Assistant Sanitarian position has been advertised, and the Director of Community Services will be posted soon.

At 8:32 P.M., Selectman Okenquist made *a motion to adjourn the meeting*. Selectman Williams seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ann Denny  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen