



# Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL  
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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021  
TOWN HALL  
LOWER-LEVEL MEETING ROOM  
7:00 P.M.**

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**Present:**

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

Selectman Judy Williams  
Vincent Marino, Town Counsel  
Ann Denny, Secretary  
Gary Augustine, LMT  
Tom Pisano, Co-President Orange Soccer

ORANGE BOARD  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED 11/12/2021  
2021 AUG 12 PM 12:29  
MELISSA G. O'NEILL  
TOWN CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by First Selectman Zeoli. The fire exits were noted, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited followed by the roll call.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, *the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was adjourned, and the Public Hearing was convened.* All voted in favor.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Request to approve Gary Augustine LMT as a Massage Establishment** – Gary Augustine, LMT located at 35 Old Tavern Road, presented the request to the Board for their review and consideration.

*On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board closed the Public Hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:08 p.m.*

## VOTE

**Vote on the Approval of Gary Augustine LMT as a Massage Establishment** – *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request from Gary Augustine LMT to be a Massage Establishment.*

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(2 minutes per person)

- Deedee Lebov of 660 Broadview Road stated she attended the July 14th Playground meeting and was upset Park & Rec was not part of the playground decisions. She has since walked the Fred Wolfe Park property in its entirety, and she feels the playground is in a dangerous spot and should just be parking. The flat land near Peck Lane and Hemlock Drive would be a better entrance, and that land could be better utilized for the children of Orange for a playground and soccer fields instead of farming corn.
- Tom Pisano of 523 Fairwood Road stated that there was some concern at the playground meeting about traffic. He mentioned the option of using little Peck Lane as an entrance.
- Selectman Williams wanted to remind people to visit the fantastic farm markets and farm stands of Orange and sample the local corn and produce grown here.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Goldblatt announced the date of the next shredding day and mattress recycling will be on Saturday October 9, 2021, from 9-12 at High Plains Community Center and the Orange Country Fair Committee will be doing a food drive.

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memorium: Rudy Miller, Kris Powell

- The Orange Rotary Lobsterfest is this Saturday August 14<sup>th</sup>. You can dine in or take out, but you must purchase tickets in advance on the Rotary website [www.rotarycluboforange.org](http://www.rotarycluboforange.org)
- Labor Day Concert and Fireworks are Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of September 6<sup>th</sup>, Ronstadt Review is the concert.
- Orange Country Fair is September 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.
- As of last week, there were 25 covid cases in the town, 20 of which were unvaccinated people.
- An update on the Race Brook Country Club purchase, right now there is no sale or lease agreement. The Town is waiting to hear back from Race Brook and their attorneys. Race Brook is still paying their mortgage. The Town has not released any of the bond money, it is in a Town bank account.

**MINUTES**

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, ***the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen on July 14, 2021, 4-0-2, with the correction on page 3 under emergency management to add Dr. Mohammed and the OVNA as being recognized by the Orange Rotary. Selectmen Zeoli, Williams, Novicki, and Goldblatt voted aye and Selectmen Okenquist and Carangelo abstained.***

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request to end the 3-year contract with Simple Recycling and resume an agreement with Goodwill as a recycling vendor at the transfer station** – Selectman Goldblatt presented two letters, a letter of separation from Simple Recycling, and an offer of service letter from Goodwill. He explained that it was not working for Simple Recycling because they were paying on the total weight of the container and most items were not recyclable textiles it was junk that they had to dispose of. Simple Recycling is willing to leave the clothing collection bin at the community center. Their services at the transfer station will end September 10<sup>th</sup> and they will work with the town to transfer services to another vendor. Goodwill has agreed to provide a container for usable clothing and household items. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request to accept the letter of separation from Simple Recycling for services at the transfer station. On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried ***the Board approved the request to accept the offer from Goodwill to provide a storage container for usable clothing and household items at the transfer station.***
2. **Request to hold a public hearing during the Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for September 8, 2021, at 7 pm to be held in the Town Hall, lower meeting room, 617 Orange Center Road, Orange, Conn. On 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** – During discussion it was suggested by Selectman Goldblatt to hold the meeting at High Plains Community Center to accommodate more people. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request to hold a public hearing during the Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for September 8, 2021, at 7 pm to be held in the café at High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, Conn. On 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.***

3. **Waiver of Medical Benefits for 24 Town Employees** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the waiver of medical benefits for 24 town employees.*
4. **Request to install a fence at Fred Wolfe Park** – Tom Pisano, Co-President of the Orange Soccer Association presented a quote for a fence at Fred Wolfe Park. After much discussion a preliminary understanding was reached between the Board and Mr. Pisano. There was no motion on this item, it was referred to the Park & Rec Commission.
5. **Town Donation Towards the Labor Day Fireworks** – *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the Town Donation of \$8,000 towards the 2021 Labor Day Fireworks.*
6. **Request to Hold a Block Party on Ridgeview Road** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to hold a block party in the Ridgeview Road neighborhood on August 20, 2021.*

#### **COMMITTEES**

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt had no report.
2. **Emergency Management** - Selectman Novicki reported that there were no covid cases in May and June and 17 in July, and now there has been an uptick in cases with 25 so far in August. New Haven County has the highest transmission rate in the state with a positivity rate over 10%, and 69 of the 219 hospitalizations in the state are in New Haven County. Non vaccinated people are getting sick and ages 20-59 are the highest populations of hospitalizations. Governor Lamont has not instituted a statewide indoor mask mandate but is leaving up to municipal leaders. There has been no decision from the State on masks in schools for the fall. Dr. Mohammed is waiting for that guidance before speaking with the superintendents. Orange has a 70% rate of fully vaccinated residents which is fantastic but please get a vaccination if eligible. There was a vaccine clinic at the carnival put on by the State Department of Public Health and our local Health Department. We must monitor for any dramatic increases after big events.

At 8:35 P.M., Selectman Okenquist made *a motion to adjourn the meeting.* Selectman Williams seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Denny  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen