



Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL
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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 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 John Carangelo
Selectman Ralph Okenquist
Selectman PJ Shanley
Ann Denny, Secretary
Vincent Marino, Town Counsel

John Cifarelli, Finance Director
Ben Gettenger, Judge of Probate
Patrick O’Sullivan, Bicentennial Chair
Travis Ewen, Playground Chair
John Hollerbach, Creative Recreation
Lawrence Messina, Orange Lions Club
Bob Sigler, OCC Strawberry Festival Co-Chair

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)

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Goldblatt reported that Saturday April 2nd is the next shredding day, mattress recycling and the for the first time a Hazwaste disposal. The Orange Rotary Club is helping the Recycling Committee sponsor the event, donations can be made to their scholarship fund. Mattresses can be brought to HPCC, or you may make a donation to The Orange Lions Club for them to pick it up. Residents are asked to preregister for the Hazwaste collection.

2022 FEB 10 PM 1:34
ORANGE, CONN.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

- Town offices will be closed on Monday February 21st for President’s Day, but the transfer station will be open.
- Emails and phone calls have been coming in regarding mask mandates. No decision has been made yet, he will be waiting on information from the Governor and Legislature to finalize the rules.

MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, ***the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 12, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **To consider the appointment of PJ Shanley to the Board of Selectmen to fill a vacancy to November 17, 2023** – First Selectman Zeoli presented the appointment of PJ Shanley to fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen created when Connor Deane resigned. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the appointment of PJ Shanley to the Board of Selectmen to fill a vacancy to November 17, 2023.***

At this point in the meeting Judge of Probate Ben Gettinger administered the oath of office to PJ Shanley, and Selectman Shanley joined the meeting.

2. **Bicentennial Update** – Patrick O’Sullivan Chair of the Bicentennial Committee gave an overview of the Bicentennial Celebration Summer of Celebration. Many events are being planned, starting with a Founding Day Ceremony on May 28th all the way through to the Orange Country Fair in September. Updates will be posted on the town’s website as well as social media.
3. **Presentation of the proposed Playground** – Travis Ewen Chair of the Playground Committee presented the design of the new playground which will be inclusive of all abilities. They are looking to order the playground equipment from Creative Recreation, from the State of CT DAS contract list. The committee is looking to order the playground equipment now because there will be a 6-month lead time from order to delivery. Those 6 months will be used to prepare the site and the playground would be installed in late summer early fall. John Hollerbach of Creative Recreation was present to answer questions. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Shanley, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved supporting the Playground Committee in proceeding with the purchase of the playground equipment from Creative Recreation.***

4. **Request from the Lions Club to Waive the Customary Rental Fees for Use of the Gym at HPCC for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt** – Lawrence Messina of the Orange Lions Club requested a waiver of the fees for the use of the gym if needed on the rain date of the annual Easter Egg Hunt. *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to waive the customary rental fees for HPCC for the Lion’s Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 16, 2022, which is the rain date for the event.*
5. **Request to Hang a Banner to Promote the Strawberry Festival and to waive the customary rental fees for the use of the HPCC kitchen** – Bob Sigler, Strawberry Festival Co-Chairperson, requested to hang a banner two weeks prior to the Strawberry Festival to help promote the event, and requested the customary rental fees for the use of the HPCC kitchen be waived. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request from the Strawberry Festival Committee to hang a banner over Orange Center Road two weeks prior to the event and waive the customary rental fees for the use of the HPCC kitchen.*
6. **Dates for the Annual Town Meeting and Budget Referendum** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Okenquist and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the dates for the Annual Town Meeting and Referendum as presented.* (see attachment for details on dates)
7. **Tax Refunds for the Month of February:** *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$462.41 for the month of February.*

COMMITTEES

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported the committee meets next week.
2. **Capital Planning** – Selectman Okenquist reported the committee presented their list of items at the Budget Workshop on February 4th, it is now up to the Board of Finance to decide what projects will move forward.

At 7:59 P.M. Selectman Williams *made a motion* to close the Regular meeting and convene into Executive Session. Selectman Okenquist *seconded the motion*. All voted in favor. Attorney Marino and Finance Director John Cifarelli were invited to join the Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Discussion of potential land purchase**

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:15P.M.

VOTE

1.. On a motion made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, ***the board approved recommending to the Board of Finance the purchase of a parcel of land on Tyler City Road approximately 7 acres owned by Eloise Clark for \$175,000 as discussed in executive session.***

At 8:15 P.M., Selectman Shanley 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



SCHEDULING DATES FOR
TOWN OF ORANGE
BUDGET HEARING, TOWN MEETING, AND REFERENDUM

BOARD OF FINANCE BUDGET HEARING

(Has to be not less than 2 weeks before the Annual Town Meeting)

Scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2022, 7:00 p.m. at HPCC

*The following dates and times were approved at the
February 9, 2022 Board of Selectmen Meeting:*

BOARD OF SELECTMEN & ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

(Cannot be held later than May 13, 2022)

The May 2022 Board of Selectmen Meeting is Wednesday May 11, 2022, in the HPCC Gym followed by the Annual Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

REFERENDUM

(Must be held no less than 7 and no more than 14 days after the Town Meeting)

The Budget Referendum is Wednesday, May 18, 2022
From 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at HPCC

AMITY REGIONAL DISTRICT INFORMATION

Monday, May 2, 2022, 5:30 p.m.- Annual District Public Budget Meeting Location TBD

TBD- Amity Referendum from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at HPCC