



Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL
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**PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING SECTION OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF
ORANGE TO REPEAL CHAPTER 204 DANCE HALLS AND OTHER PUBLIC
ENTERTAINMENT
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.
LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM AT TOWN HALL**

APPROVED MINUTES

Present:

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| First Selectman James Zeoli | Tino Russo, Emergency Management |
| Selectman Mitchell Goldblatt | Maria Russo |
| Selectman Margaret Novicki | Marisa Russo |
| Selectman Judy Williams | Bob Brinton, Town Engineer |
| Selectman Ralph Okenquist | John Cifarelli, Finance Director |
| Vincent Marino, Town Counsel | Gail Nixon, Tree Committee |
| Ann Denny, Secretary | Joe Tirollo, Tirollo Bus Co. |
| Dr. Amir Mohammed, Director of Health | Stephen Hechtman, Milford-Orange Times |
| Brian Slugoski, Sanitarian | Brandon T. Bisceglia, Milford-Orange Times |
| Carol Luddy, Orange Board of Health | Pam McLoughlin, New Haven Register |
| Joan Cretella, Director Community Services | |

ORANGE, CONN.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORDS
2020 APR -2 AM 10:13
Michael B. O'Sullivan
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 was recited, followed by the roll call.

Mr. Zeoli asked Dr. Amir Mohammad the Town's Director of Health to come up and give an update regarding the coronavirus. Dr. Mohammad said that a team has been assembled to monitor the situation that includes Emergency Management, the Board of Education and the Police Department. They have been meeting weekly and want to handle the crisis by being proactive and not reactive. Information is constantly being updated and the best thing residents can do is check the CDC website and Connecticut Department of Public Health website to stay current.

On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried, ***the Board closed the Regular Meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 7:41 p.m.***

PUBLIC HEARING

Amending the code of the Town of Orange-Repeal Chapter 204 Dance Halls and Other Public Entertainment

The Secretary read the Notice of Public Hearing.

First Selectman Zeoli gave information on the history of the ordinance and how it is not relevant at this time. Fire Marshal Tim Smith had started the process to repeal the ordinance and James Vincent the new Fire Marshal sent information supporting the repeal because all the venues are required to be inspected as part of their licensing requirements.

On a motion made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo and unanimously carried, ***the Board closed the Public Hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:48 p.m.***

VOTE

On a motion made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Okenquist and unanimously carried, ***the Board voted to repeal Chapter 204 Dance Halls and Other Public Entertainment effective July 1, 2020.***

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(2 minutes per person)

- Selectman Goldblatt reminded residents of the shredding day April 25th at High Plains Community Center, this is a free event but donations to the Rotary Club are appreciated. Unfortunately, the Orange Community Women can't participate this time, but the Orange Lions Club will still be collecting mattresses, if you cannot get it there yourself the Orange Lions Club will be picking up mattresses for a \$10 donation to the Lions Club. Please contact Ken Lenz at 203-795-3906 to schedule a pickup. Selectman Goldblatt also stated that this event is now costing even more money because the paper vendor must now pay to dispose of the paper instead of being paid for it. The Rotary Club has graciously offered to pay for this added cost, however he does not know if they will be able to hold the event two times a year in the future so if you have papers that need shredding please bring them in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

- **In Memoriam**: Bob Fodero, Chairman of the Board of Health and War Remembrance Committee. Sal DiNicola, the first Park & Rec Director.
- **Happy St. Patrick's Day**: Even though all the parades have been cancelled, congratulations to Orange resident Seamus Bohan who was chosen as the Grand Marshal of the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- **Changing Town Counsel**: The Town will no longer be using Cohen & Wolf, and we look forward to working with Marino, Zabel & Schellenberg, PLLC.

MINUTES

- ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, ***the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen on February 12, 2020.***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Request to rename the Powerline Road Tribute Trail and the driveway by the tennis courts as Tribute Way** – Gail Nixon of the Tree Committee was present to explain the tribute tree program and to request the areas at High Plains Community Center be given designated location names. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request from the Tree Committee to name the Powerline Road Tribute Trail and the driveway leading to High Plains Community Center as Tribute Way.***
2. **Request for a tax abatement from Tirollo Bus Company** - ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Carangelo and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request from Tirollo Bus Company for the abatement of property taxes for a new school bus in the amount of \$854.93.***
3. **Consider and act on a bid recommendation for the replacement of the Pool Pump at High Plains Community Center**- Town Engineer Bob Brinton recommended awarding the bid to the low bidder Connecticut Hydronics, after discussion it was explained that the low bidder would be refurbishing old parts and second lowest bidder was using new parts, which was an option in the bid. The Selectmen felt it was important to use new parts. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams and carried 5-0-1 Selectman Carangelo, Williams, Novicki, Okenquist and Goldblatt voted aye, First Selectman Zeoli abstained, ***the Board approved Ruotolo Mechanical to replace the pool pump at High Plains Community Center in the amount of \$15,075.***

4. **Consider and act on a bid recommendation for the removal and replacement of the Clark Building roof-** Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the 8 bid prices but did not have a recommendation. Most of the references for the low bidder, Scholar Painting were good, but Mr. Brinton would like more time to review and meet with them before making a recommendation at the next Board of Selectmen meeting. The variation on the price per sheet of plywood was also a concern. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the request to table the bid award for the replacement of the Clark Building roof until the Town Engineer and First Selectman meet with Scholar Painting the low bidder.***
5. **Consider and act on a bid recommendation for street sweeping-** Town Engineer Bob Brinton recommended the low bidder Tri State Industrial Maintenance, LLC for the street sweeping bid. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Carangelo and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved Tri State Industrial Maintenance, LLC for the street sweeping bid.***
6. **Consider and act on the request to increase the base fee for all zoning applications** – ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved conducting a Public Hearing at the April 1, 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting on the request to increase the base fee for all zoning applications.***
7. **Consider and act on the request to increase rental fees and custodial rates at High Plains Community Center** – Finance Director John Cifarelli was present to review fees for High Plains Community Center. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Okenquist and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the increase in rental fees and custodial rates as presented for High Plains Community Center effective May 1, 2020.***

At this point in the meeting ***a motion*** was made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams and unanimously carried ***to add an item to the agenda discussing holding a Public Hearing for increasing Inland Wetlands fees.***

- 7.a. **Consider and act on the request to hold a Public Hearing at the April 1, 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting to review Inland Wetlands Fees.** ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Novicki and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved holding a Public Hearing at the April 1, 2020 Board of Selectman meeting to review Inland Wetlands fees.***
8. **March Tax Refunds Totaling \$7,249.82** - ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Okenquist and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved the tax refunds totaling \$7,249.82.***

9. **Consider and act on the request to put on the suspense list the unpaid taxes from 2016 in the amount of \$40,706.07** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to put on the suspense list the unpaid taxes from 2016 in the amount of \$40,706.07.*

COMMITTEES

Pension Board – Selectman Goldblatt reported they met last month, the good news is that the year ended very strong, pension funds were up 19.4%, and the last quarter alone was up 6%. The bad news is we don't know what will be happening this quarter, for those that are concerned about what is happening in the stock market he explained that there is a smoothing process for the pension liability where over 5 years it will average out. Contributions are set for this coming fiscal year for pension liability and what is happening in the stock market today will not affect us until over a year from now in case the overall year is bad.

Capital Planning - Selectman Okenquist had nothing to report.

Bond Construction Oversight Committee – Selectman Goldblatt reported the committee met last week to clean up a couple of things. They discussed moving forward with the dehumidification process of the pool. They want to start the project, but they know there are not enough funds in the current bond to complete that project in full and will be planning for it in the next bond because they need to address the situation.

Personnel – First Selectman Zeoli reported they met earlier in the week to discuss making two positions full time. Selectman Novicki gave an update on the two agenda items discussed, and the following motions were made. *On a motion* made by Selectman Novicki, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved* extending the hours of the Inland Wetlands/Zoning Intern to full time, 37.5 hours a week. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved* the expansion of the Assistant Building Official's hours to 37.5 hours a week.

At 8:49 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