



Town of Orange, Connecticut

TOWN HALL
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**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING 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, AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021
HIGH PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTER CAFE
525 ORANGE CENTER ROAD ORANGE, CT
7:00 P.M.**

ORANGE, CONN
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED
2021 SEP -9 PM 3:10

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
Attorney Owen Weaver
Jamie Vincent, Fire Marshal
Bob Brinton, Town Engineer
Ann Denny, Secretary

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 at 7:04 p.m., and the Public Hearing was convened.* All voted in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING

Request to approve 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. – First Selectman Zeoli

The secretary read the notice of public hearing.

There were no comments or questions from the public.

Attorney Marino reviewed the ordinance and SB1201. The ordinance would be part of Chapter 307 Public Property, Use of, of the Town Charter. He explained what would be modified under Section 307-1 adding definitions, 307-2 adding b., and 307-11 Penalties for offenses. The Selectmen each gave their view for and against the ordinance.

On a motion made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, ***the Board closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:43 p.m.***

VOTE

There were three votes taken

1. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Novicki, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved to modify the language in Section 307-2 and 307-2 b. to eliminate the word possess and possession as discussed.***
2. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Okenquist, ***to add a subsection c in Chapter 307 that would ban all smoking indoors and outdoors in restaurants within the Town, the motion failed 3-3*** Selectmen Goldblatt, Novicki, and Okenquist voting aye and Selectmen Zeoli, Carangelo, and Williams voting nay.
3. ***On a motion*** made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, ***the Board approved to accept the 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 with the changes that were voted on and approved***

At this point in the meeting Attorney Marino excused himself and Attorney Owen Weaver joined the meeting as Town Counsel.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(2 minutes per person)

Al Bucknall 439 Old Country Road
Tom Saxa 430 Old Country Road
Ashley Ecker 827 Brookside Drive
Joe DeGoursey 840 Glenbrook Road
Betty Loverme 833 Brookside Drive

The residents listed above came to express their concerns over flooding issues in their neighborhoods and asked the Town what can be done. It was explained a box culvert like the one on Treat Lane may help the Old Country Road neighborhood. Town Engineer Bob Brinton was present and explained that to help the Brookside and Glenbrook Road residents the railroad culvert must be addressed first, and it is on private property. It was decided that he was given the authority to find an engineer who specializes in this type of construction to see what can be done and then the owner of the property will be contacted. It is not going to be an easy or fast remedy to the problem.

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. Residents are limited to 5 boxes at a time, if you have more you will have to get in line again. Please try to bring shredding in paper no plastic bags. Donations to the Orange Rotary for shredding are greatly appreciated. If you want a mattress picked up at home, please contact Ken Lenz at 203-795-3906 and the Lions Club will pick it up for a \$10 donation.

Selectman Williams wanted to thank the Town and Rocky Salperto for the concert and fireworks show. It was an enjoyable evening for all those that attended.

First Selectman Zeoli made the following announcements:

In Memorium: Bill Musco and Patricia Zeoli

- Orange Country Fair is September 18th & 19th.
- Be on the look out for the spotted lanternfly a bug that has been identified in the Town of Orange and will be destructive to trees.
- A message from the Town Clerk:
Property Owners may sign up with IQS for fraud alert to receive alerts whenever a document such as a deed or mortgage is recorded under your name. Go to the Town of Orange website and the link to sign up is on the Town Clerk's page.
- Tickets are available for Patrick O'Sullivan's retirement dinner on Friday October 8th. Please contact the First Selectman's office at 203-891-4737.
- The concert and fireworks were postponed until Monday due to the rain on Sunday. A Happy Holiday and Happy New Year to all our Jewish residents who were not able to attend due to the Rosh Hashanah Holiday.

MINUTES

On a motion made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the minutes of the Public Hearing regarding a massage establishment permit and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen on August 11, 2021.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Request to Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 2 Memorandum of Agreement:** Fire Marshal Jamie Vincent explained there is no grant application at this time because the emergency management director must complete some training, as soon as it is done they can apply for the money. *On a motion* made by Selectman Carangelo, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the request to authorize First Selectman Zeoli, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, to execute the State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 2 Memorandum of Agreement.*

2. **Bid for Stone Otis House Renovation Project** - Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the bid results for the Stone Otis House Renovation Project which was done for a grant that the Historical Society obtained. The bids came in higher than the \$40,000 budget for the project and he recommends eliminating some of the items from the grant and revise the project to address the rotted exterior wood and painting of the exterior and interior preparations and painting. *On a motion* made by Selectman Goldblatt, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved awarding the bid for the Stone Otis House Renovation Project to Valley Restoration, LLC of Torrington as presented with renovations not to exceed \$40,000 and to authorize the First Selectman to execute a contract with Valley Restoration, LLC.*
3. **Bid for tree removal** - Town Engineer Bob Brinton presented the bid results for tree removal and recommended Rana Tree Removal LLC, of Milford with a base bid of \$14,999.00 for the list of trees and additional work at \$225.00 per hour for bucket truck & operator, dump truck & chipper and 2 men. *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Goldblatt and unanimously carried, *the Board approved awarding the tree bid to Rana Tree Removal LLC, of Milford as presented.*
4. **Tax Refunds for the month of September-** *On a motion* made by Selectman Okenquist, seconded by Selectman Williams, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the tax refunds in the amount of \$ 10,598.81 for the month of September.*
5. **Waiver of Medical Benefits for 1 Town Employee** - *On a motion* made by Selectman Williams, seconded by Selectman Carangelo, and unanimously carried, *the Board approved the waiver of medical benefits for 1 town employee.*

COMMITTEES

1. **Pension Board** – Selectman Goldblatt reported they met last month, and investments were up 5.72% for the last quarter. The actuary was at the meeting and the pension board voted to reduce the interest rate projection from 6.25% to 6.00%.
2. **Emergency Management** - Selectman Novicki reported that COVID numbers continue to rise, there have been 75 plus cases since the end of July and 75% of those cases were unvaccinated people. She appealed to people to please get vaccinated if you have not been.
3. **Personnel Committee-** They did not meet there was no report.

At 9:17 P.M., Selectman Williams made *a motion to adjourn the meeting.* Selectman Novicki seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Denny
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen