

*Office of the Select Board
Town of Orange, New Hampshire
Minutes of July 11, 2017*

Present: Dorothy Heinrichs, Robert Ells, and Skip Smith

Others present: Bev Ells

Meeting opened at 6 PM. Attendance taken by the Chair in absence of the secretary.

Minutes: The minutes of June 27, 2017 were unanimously approved.

State Forest: The Board reviewed and signed the acreage and valuation data of Mount Cardigan State Forest for State reimbursement purposes. According to the town's assessments, Cardigan State Forest has a total of 5,279 acres with an ad valorem (non-current use) value of \$3,527,400.

Inventory Forms: The Board reviewed and signed a form from the DRA stating they would like to receive inventory forms (PA-28).

Zoning Ordinance: After discussion, the Board agreed that to print and mail a copy of the zoning ordinance, the cost will be \$10.00. Someone had contacted the office inquiring about the cost. Sandi will also scan it so it is available in electronic form.

Other:

- Trash report: As of June 30 the town has disposed of 40.04 tons of trash and 14.38 tons of recyclables.
- A note of thanks was received from the Hardy Snowmobile Club of Groton for the use of a portion of the Class VI roads in Orange that are part of their trail circuits.
- Bob Ells noted it was not legal to put cat litter in trash.
- Dorothy noted that on July 11 the Valley News did an article on the historic "Orange Pest House" This was an isolated home circa 1780s where smallpox victims were quarantine.
- Dorothy noted that Orange has been fortunate to escape significant damage from the recent local downpours. She supports continuing to upgrade the town's culverts whenever there is a repair to a road or culvert replacement.

Secretary's report: n/a

Reports from other Boards and Committees:

Cemetery: Skip (who is also the town's cemetery agent) said there is a monument in Church Cemetery that has toppled and should be fixed. He feels the sexton, Barry Geddis, could prop it up with granite. Regarding the fixing of cemetery headstones. Skip noted there is about \$1500 in a capital reserve specifically for that purpose. He said he reviewed the minutes of the 2012 town meeting (when the capital reserve was created) and the town's attorney had advised that because headstones are not town property, the heirs, whenever possible, should

be notified of restoration plans. He said that he reviewed the 2013 town meeting minutes which states that the town voted to have the Select Board as agents to expend from the Cemetery Monument Capital Reserve. He said that before they proceed with stone restoration, the Cemetery Trustees will attempt to locate the heirs. Skip wants to review the monuments at risk with the Cemetery Trustees and proceed with restoration as long as there are funds in the cemetery budget (or capital reserve) to do so. He also recommends adding \$500 to the capital reserve at the next town meeting.

Skip thought that perhaps when a cemetery lot is sold, the purchaser could sign some type of release allowing the town to do appropriate repairs when necessary. He will follow up with Sharon Proulx.

Skip felt that the abundant growth of grass this year could expend the cemetery budget.

Public comment: n/a

Bills and vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Meeting adjourned 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Pierson

Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs

Robert Ells

Lyell Smith