

TOWN BOARD MEETING, REORGANIZATION MEETING, JANUARY 10th, 2024

A town board meeting, and the reorganization meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, January 10th, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:30PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Absent:

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Jocelyn Harriosn, Lewis Harrison, Chris Sandford, Gary Dann, John Rappleye Highway Supervisor, Peg Rappleye, Malinda Dawn, Jim Overhiser, Ann Overhiser, Larry Baker, Gloria Waters, Zachary Waters, Rod Hoad, Thomas Peer Town Clerk

Reorganization of Town

OFFICIAL BLANKET UNDERTAKING - Sprague Insurance company

TOWNWIDE INSURANCE; Buildings and contents, Equipment - NYMIR (Carrier)
Sprague (agent)

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS: Will be the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm.

THE ESTABLISHED WORKDAY: 8-hour days

TOWN ASSESSOR: Schuyler County Assessor Patricia Bartolomeo

ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR THE TOWN: Robert Halpin, Esq.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Scot Cole

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS: Town Clerk - Thomas Peer

HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES PAY RATE Per budget.

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DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT: Holding Off

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR: Tara Abbey

TOWN HISTORIAN: Thomas Peer

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR SUPERVISOR: Community Bank

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR: Community Bank

Tax Collector is to deposit funds from Real Property Tax Collection into an interest-bearing account. - Yes

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR TOWN JUSTICE: Community Bank

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER: Review and Express with The Shopper and Hi-Lites as secondary advertising agencies

MILEAGE RATE PER 2023 ESTABLISHED RATE: .67 cents per mile

AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY REGULAR MONTHLY BILLS AS PRE-PAYS
AUTHORIZE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT, TOOLS
AND IMPLEMENTS ACCORDING TO THE TOWN PROCUREMENT POLICY.

COUNTY ASSESSOR TO HANDLE ALL DOG INFLICTED PROPERTY DAMAGES

AMOUNT TO BE CHARGED FOR ALL RETURNED CHECKS: \$35 per occurrence.

AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO INVEST SURPLUS FUNDS IN C/D'S - Yes

ANNUAL SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS: per budget

Council members \$1 ,600

Supervisor \$7,200

Clerk \$6,600

Tax Collector \$3,400

Town Justice \$5,000

Justice Clerk \$3,500

Code Enforcement \$7,200

Highway Superintendent \$50,000

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TOWN AND COUNTY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

(BAR) BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW: Nick Haner, Lewis Harrison, Gary Whyman

MEMBER/DELEGATE FOR SCCOG (Schuyler County Council of Government)
Supervisor - Heather Waters

ALTERNATIVE TO SCCOG Deputy - Tara Abbey

SCHUYLER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Thomas Peer

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM – Heather Waters and Thomas Peer

LIAISON TO HIGHWAY - John Olin and Misty Simms

LIAISON TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS: Misty Simms, Tara Abbey, Joanne Randall

LIAISON TO INSPECT BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

TOWN HALL/GROUNDS/TOWN PARK - Thomas Peer and Heather Waters

TOWN BARN/GROUNDS - John Rappleeye

LIAISON TO CEMETERIES: Thomas Peer and Joanne Randell

PLANNING BOARD: Advertised and Rick Hendrick, Larry Baker, Jocelyn Harrison, Harold Gusha, will all be a part of it.

SCHUYLER COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING: Heather Waters

DOG CONTROL: Schuyler County Sheriff Department
Brittany Sandford

Resolution #01

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Tara Abbey to accept the Town of Orange organization position.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

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Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Town Board Meeting

Audit Bills:

Resolution #02

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Misty Simms the General Fund Vouchers on Abstract #001 in the amount of \$1,634.94 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Resolution #03

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Tara Abbey the Highway Fund Vouchers on Abstract #001 in the amount of \$779.35 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

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Monthly Reports:

Supervisor - Heather Waters - I do not have any accounting information at this time. We are trying to access everything, from the building, computer passwords, banking, etc. The bank is working with me to get a password all set up so we can get things moving and paid. It has been a rough start, but we are slowly getting there. Meeting with the Community Bank about interest rates. January 23, 2023, we are looking at taking some of the money we have and placing them into short term CD's. The goal is to earn more money than what we have been getting for past interest rates. The Highway guys are all paid and on time.

Building Code Officer - Heather Waters read aloud Scott Coles report - This is from February to December of 2023 he had 40 building permits issued, \$5,746 was generated, 16 nuisance warnings mailed, many subdivisions. There is currently no standing requirement for subdivisions in the Town of Orange, only when it comes to sewer requirements. There have also been many requests for short term rental requests. Again, there is currently no standing requirement for this either in the Town of Orange, and this still falls back on the sewer restrictions. Many emails and phone calls.

Heather Waters- So are you requesting that we do this?

Scott Cole - I am just putting it out there as it has been presented to me. There is very little I can, other than telling people to clean up their property. It real depends on where the town wants to go.

Heather - So you're talking about the whole clean up end of it, and keep it kept up.

Scott - That is what the state does. The only thing I have to work with is what the state has on file.

Joanne Randall - Or we could create a local law.

Thomas Peer - Are you talking about our junk law?

Scott - That is very similar to what the state has anyway.

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Thomas - I think what he is hitting is there are a lot of Air BnB's in town now. The question is on the regulations that the town could impose. If we talk about the long term of things here its about ground pollution. Even the short-term rental with campers and hunting cabins. Subdivision with large developers, we don't have anything on those, so how are we going to manage that. Again, the state and soil and waters would be a factor, but they only have so much say. There is no meat to what Scott is covering.

Heather - Is this something they would bring to us?

Thomas - Yes, you are the governing body. Or the planning board could take over that role.

Scott - People are right at this time, setting up travel trailers in their yard, and with questions of: what's going on with the electrical, water, sewage, etc. I cannot do anything about it.

Thomas - You also nice people who are living out of their travel trailer. You also have those Air bnbs going in near County Road 21.

Dee Dann - Can anything be done with properties that look bad.

Scott - If I know about it.

Thomas - As it stands the whole town is cover by agriculture.

Dee - Is there anything we can do to that other than zoning?

Heather - Yeah, but once you start doing that you start going towards zoning.

Board Member James Rose enters the room at 6:56 pm.

Thomas - What he really is saying is that he is limited in his ability to do job parts of his job. The example is someone could be dumping waste that could end up into a stream or waterway.

Heather - How do we fix some of that?

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Thomas - That is why you having your planning board do that work and look into what can be done.

Heather - Yeah can always put an ad in the paper to see if we can get people to join the planning board.

Resolution #04

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Joanne Randall to place an ad in the newspaper to have volunteers apply for the Town of Orange Planning Board, and have it run for two weeks.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Resolution #05

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Building Code Officers report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Justice Report - Thomas Peer - There was a report, the one from November 2023 was their report. Of the \$170, the state will be collecting the \$98 for the fines and fees collected.

Resolution #06

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On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Justice report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Superintendent of Highways - John Rappleye - Snow is mostly what is happening, and we have had a few trees downed over the storms. Heather was nice enough to point me to some.

Heather - Yeah, I am very thankful for John coming and removing the trees from the road way that evening. Anything else John?

John - Yes, this communication tower they are going to be putting in over at the highway department. We should look more into it, and see what is going on. Look over what is really going on.

Heather - What are your main concerns?

John - None at this point, but you should look into it more and see what is going on with it and allow the people to know what it is and what it does. To make sure it is safe for the people and all.

Resolution #07

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Superintendent of Highways report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

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ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Fire Department Reports

Monterey - Mel Horton - Not sure if you heard or not, but I am the Chief again. We are back to working on things. We just got a new EMS vehicle, it is a Tahoe, its new to us, but we plan to use it. We are most likely to put a snow plow on our old Tahoe and use it to maintain the parking area and out front. We currently have six EMTs with us right now, four interior firefighters, and three to four exterior firefighters. It is not just us having issues, everyone is having low enrollment. We do not have a year end report yet, but we will have one for you soon, it should be all the calls for the year.

Bradford - Chris Sandford - Three calls in the district, one in Bradford. Total of 28 hours, 87 hours in drills, 55.5 hours for community service. We are working on one for the year, and you will be getting the 990s as well.

Beaver Dams - NA

Resolution #08

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the Fire Department reports as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Town Clerk - Thomas Peer - I am going to start with the tax collector first, we have our warrant, and so far we have collected \$118,253.23 in the first ten days of this year. A lot are full payments, but we do allow people to pay a 1st installment for the month of January. If you know of anyone who is having a hard time, please remind them they have time, and we will work with them. That being said, everyone got a bill this year, a new law was passed and now everyone gets a bill, even if you are in escrow. What this bill is a courtesy bill, the state wants to make sure that everyone gets it to see what they are really paying. Make sure you look it over to see if you can apply for any exemptions. We are trying to move forward with this. We are moving kind a slow with how things are getting started this year. I know that I will be busy towards the end of January. Now to the town clerk report. A check is presented to the Supervisor \$195.39, DEC will pull

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\$34.96, Humane society will get \$67.90, NYS agriculture and market will get \$13, and NYS department of health will get \$22.50 for a marriage license. There is a lot of stuff in there, mainly dogs. November and December are our busiest time of the year for dogs. We are getting ready to roll this out. The last two years have been bad in my office. I think that we have a good Supervisor now, and we can really get things done in her office as well as mine. With the changes going on and how we would like to move forward. My biggest concern is fixing the mess of the last two years. It is really going to take putting the pen to the paper to get this all done. We still need to keep moving forward with everything.

Resolution #09

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the Town Clerks reports as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

New Business

Redact the Town of Orange Employee Policies and Procedures implemented in December 2023 - Heather Waters - Yes, so we need to have this Policy removed. This policy is bad for our town because it comes off as a contract for working, and since we do not have a union contract yet. We could get in a lot of trouble if we continue to have this. I am working with John to have a sit down with the union to get this all settled, we have gone a whole year without this contract, and we need to get this worked out.

Resolution #10

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Joanne Randall to redact the December 2023 Town of Orange Employee Policies and Procedures.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

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Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Hire an accountant - Heather Waters - So I am looking to hire and account. I will be the first to say I am not an account. We need a person who is willing to look everything over and see where we are, and how we are going to get out of this mess. Payroll is a large part of the job and making sure that things go out on time. I am just looking for the board to allow me to hire the accountant to do the work that is needed. Vicky Willis is her name, she does bookkeeping for other towns in the state as well as PA. She has already looked at our budget and asked how the Highway Department got \$300,000 and the General Fund was cut \$40,000 from last budget to this budget year. That's fine, we will figure it out and see how we can manage, and I will do what we need to do to move forward. My goal is to get this town to invest into CDs and put our money for future investments to improve our town without raising taxes. I am asking the board to allow me to hire this accountant to have a fresh set of eyes, and to show me the right way of doing things.

Resolution #11

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to hire Vicky Willis to be the accountant for the Town of Orange for the full year of 2024.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Assessor - Heather Waters - I am trying to get the assessor back in our town. For the amount of money we pay to the county we need her here at least once a month. I don't plan on using that room, and moving back into the main office space.

Cleaning the Town Hall - Heather Waters - This building needs to be cleaned. We need someone to come in and clean the building at least once a month.

Zach Waters - Town of Bradford pays Troop 45 out of Bradford to clean their town hall.

Heather - Can you see how much that is and when we can do it?

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Zach - Yeah I can ask them.

Deputy Town Clerk - Heather Waters - I think it is time we hire someone to help Thomas with his job. There is a lot going on and he will need help to get things back in order. This person could do typing for Thomas, they wouldn't be doing anything else.

Thomas Peer- Well I would like a deputy, but under the law they would be only working for me and under the directive of me. If I can have the ability to hire one, then I should be able to tell them what to do. Being not appointed, I fall under different rules for having a deputy.

Heather - I can get behind that. Other towns have deputy clerks, I think it is time we allow ours to have one.

Thomas - I was going to ask this last budget season, and saving a fight I was going to hold off until this year. I would request \$2,800 for this position. Their only requirement is that they work 4 hours a week. I am only going off that number, because our old pay for the court clerk was that amount.

Resolution #12

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by James Rose to create the position of Deputy Town Clerk at the yearly pay of \$2.800.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Thomas - Thank you so much for this town board. I will play an ad in the paper and try to have one hired no later than the end of February.

Heather - Okay sounds great.

Where/what everyone wants for the town and its future - Heather Waters - What are your ideas and how can we work towards them. I would like you all to think about that and come back to our next meeting with ideas. There are a few things that I would like to see. I am not saying we are going to start right away, but somewhere to start. I would really like to do senior programs. I know we are doing things for our children around here, but we need to think about the old generation too. I am not sure on what kind of

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services yet, but I am sure we can come up with something. Second, this town hall needs to be fixed. There are so many things wrong with the building: floors are a must, painting and updating the bathroom. It is cold in the building during the winter. We do have a building fund with \$77,000 in it. We can really make improvements here.

On the motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 7:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Clerk

Thomas Peer, Town

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

A town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:30PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Absent:

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Peg Rappleye, John Rappleye Highway Supervisor, Chris Slocum, Rick Hendrick, Zach Waters, Laurie Beem, Mary Olin, Joe Sevier, Chris Sandford, Thomas Peer Town Clerk

Audit Bills:

Resolution #13

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Tara Abbey the General Fund Vouchers on Abstract #002 in the amount of \$8,156.99 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Resolution #14

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Heather Waters the Highway Fund Vouchers on Abstract #002 in the amount of \$43,689.32 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Resolution #15

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Heather Waters the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #002 in the amount of \$481.70 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Monthly Reports

Building Code Officer - Scot Cole - Still working on some things.

Justice Report - Thomas Peer- They do have money they are trying to collect. I think they are asking for a \$424 fine and fees collected for the month of December.

Resolution #16

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve the Justice Report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Superintendent of Highways - John Rappleye - Many roads were salted and sanded. We are fully stocked with salt from our local salt plants, to buy the salt it costs \$60 per ton, but ours only cost the town the wages and price of the fuel. We have had some personal changes and we have new staff members. All are residents of the town, and two of them are getting their CDLs through the Schuyler County upcoming training program. At the end of December the engine replacement on truck T8 was completed and was returned to service. The break in the weather has allowed us to do so work on Donovan Hill, Sugar Hill and Hornby roads. We have met with A.L. Blades and Dalrymple to measure up potential paving for the upcoming season. We are still not sure what the budget will be until NYS approves the state budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Tomorrow I will be one of several highway superintendent from the region meeting to support Assemblyman Phil Palmeasano at the Town of Big Flats Highway Department press conference to advocate having the Governor reinstate the \$60 Million in CHIPS and the \$40 Million in Touring Route that she has cut from the tentative 2024-2025 budget to bring back to last year's funding level and also an additional \$150 Million to be added to the CHIPS program. Our final CHIPS submittal was the beginning of February and was for approximately \$42,000. That leaves us hopefully with a rollover amount for the 24-25 budget year of \$344,000. What's on our schedule is hauling gravel to stockpile to prepare for Spring road repair. Nick is going through each piece of equipment doing inspections and repairs so the fleet is ready to go. The underground heating fuel tank has been planned to be replaced in the upcoming weeks.

Resolution #17

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Heather Waters to approve the Superintendent of Highways Report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Town Clerk - Thomas Peer - For the month of January, \$1,517 was taken in by the clerk's office. \$1,053.28 has been presented to the supervisor, DEC will pull \$375.82 from a lifetime license sold, \$74.90 will go to Schuyler County Humane Society, \$13 will

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go to NYS Agriculture and Markets. We are doing a lot of work to try to ketchup on things. Two programs have been offered to me. We are looking into, if we can get our trucks signed up with NYS, we could get grant money for a clean energy program. We will be labeling the vehicles that we have in our fleet, we can get up to a \$10,000 grant for having newer, cleaner vehicles. The other grant is labeled up to \$50,000 by taking out town builds and filing our energy usage with the state. Its called benchmarking, we will enter data that will track what the state is asking for, that data will show how our builds are being run. Hopefully we can get funding to help fix those issues. Now on to the tax collection. So far we have collected \$1,074,199.27, with a remaining balance of \$618,273.21, out of that money, there really is about \$400,000 that still could be collected of real taxable money. By taking out the state land and franchises that is how you get that number. We hired the new Deputy Town Clerk at the beginning of this month, Cheryl Smith, she is with us tonight as well. She has been working with me for two weeks now, and she is great to have around.

Resolution #18

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to approve the Town Clerk Report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

Fire Departments

Bradford - Chris Sandford - One call in Orange, 15 in Bradford. Most calls happened January 9th. 50 hours of calls total. 90 hours on drills, bingo is turning out good, we just don't have the numbers yet.

Supervisor - Heather Waters - I had a meeting to talk about the Town of Orange Comprehensive Plan, we got a grant for it, and we have already paid our share of it. To keep this moving forward, we need more volunteers to be a part of this, like seven to nine people. It is to set up a plan as to what we are looking to do for our community. There is a timeline, and we are at the part of forming the group. We are also looking for someone to chair this community. I meant with Community Bank to talk about CD's for the town. There is a building fund with \$75,129.11. I am looking at putting this into a CD for three months and see what we can do to turn out some better interest rates. We will

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

be meeting with the Teamsters to move forward with the worker's contract. We have a meeting next week, so hopefully we will have this all taken care of next week.

Resolution #19

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve the Supervisor Report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

New Business

Fixing the floors in the town hall - Heather Waters - We have that \$75,000, we will not do it like next month, but here soon. We need to start updating this building. It is hard to tell people to be up to code, when our town hall looks the way it is. We hope to ask for bids and see what we can do.

Resolution #20

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Misty Simms to approve the bid ad for flooring installation.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – not present

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

On the motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 6:59PM.

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Respectfully submitted,
Town Clerk

Thomas Peer,

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

A town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:30PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

James Rose, Councilman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Absent:

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

OTHERS PRESENT: Jocelyn Harrison, Lewis Harrison, Jeremy Abbey, Gary Dann, Dee Dann, Larry Baker, Peg Rappleye, Mary Olin, Sam Mattison, Chris Sandford, Thomas Peer Town Clerk

Audit Bills

Resolution #21

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the General Fund Vouchers on Abstract #003 in the amount of \$51,229.92 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – not present

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Resolution #22

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the Highway Fund Vouchers on Abstract #003 in the amount of \$7,296.61 were paid

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – not present

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Resolution #23

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Tara Abbey the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #003 in the amount of \$13,973.01 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – not present

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Monthly Reports

Building Code Officer - Scot Cole - 4 permits, 1 building inspection, 4 new building inspections, and many communications.

Resolution #24

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the Building Code Officer report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – not present

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Joanne Randall enters the room at 6:34 pm.

Justice Report - Thomas Peer - The town is paying out \$424 that was due for December, and \$919 for the January to the state.

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

town board meeting is April 10th, we can run this for a few weeks and have the sealed bids in by no later than April 5th.

Fire Report

Bradford - Chris Sandford - Five calls this month, one in Orange and four in Bradford. 18.5 hours in calls, 97.5 hours for drills. For 2023 here is our year total, 16 calls in Orange and 34 in Bradford. 297.5 hours on fire calls, 323 hours on drills, 376 hours in class training, 2621 hours in fundraising, for a total of 4610 hours. This Saturday we are doing Bingo as well.

Heather - SCOPE Meetings, I have not been able to attend these meetings and would like someone on this board to attend in my place. I will find out the meeting time and locations.

Joanne Randall - I would be willing to go.

Heather - Great.

Fix the deputy clerk's pay - Heather Waters - When we first pay it we were under the idea that the pay we set at \$2,800 would have been a good wage and somewhat equal to minimum wage. I would like to move that pay to \$3,500 a year to make the pay more fit for the role.

Resolution #25

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the new pay for the deputy town clerk at \$3,800.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Resolution #26

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to appropriate funding for the deputy town clerk to attend the NYSTCA conference if they are available to attend.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

Heather - I just want to let everyone know that you can reach out to me anytime. I know there are a lot of rumors going around, but please reach out. I just want everyone to know that we do have a union contract, and it is signed and ready to go. We do have a list of roads that will be paved and stoned. We are trying to take it easy because we do not know what NYS government is doing with funding so far.

New Business

Jeremy Abbey - Fence for the park, we keep having people come into our yard, and we just don't want to take over that kind of responsibility.

Heather - We are just looking for the park money and see where it was moved to. The money was not recorded correctly, and we are looking over it to see where it went.

Jeremy - I am willing to put the fence up if the town were to buy the material to do so.

Dee Dann - What is going on with the pavilion?

Thomas - Good question, with warm weather coming we are hoping to start it soon. We are looking at April right now, weather pending though. We need to build the form for the pad, Terry Kiser is going to help with that, we already have the stuff for the forms. I would like the pad to sit for ten days before we do anything on top of it. It needs to harden and dry a little before we place all that weight on it. The ground work is done, we just have to build the forms and go from there. We do need a building permit before we get started as well, but don't see that as an issue.

Dee - What about putting electricity in the pavilion?

Thomas - There was talk at some point, but in the current plans, no.

Dee - Why?

Thomas - I am in the same boat, why? I know with either talk it was not part of the plans. I know that it could be ran and operated on a switch in the town hall.

Heather - Why was it not planned?

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

Thomas - I know with the first planning with the friends of the park that are no longer with us, did not want the pavilion to have power to it. I also wanted other things as well, but you know how committees work. But we can always add it later, to me it is simple to add to the pavilion. The park can have lots of things added to it, we left a lot of room to grow the park over the years to come.

Lewis Harrison - I was wondering if we did anything about the assessor yet?

Heather - No, I have gotten a few things in the mail from them. I have not had a chance to reach out yet. It is on my list though. It would be nice to get her back here so people don't have to drive to Watkins all the time.

Gary Dann - Is the town going to have a clean up day?

Heather - Yes, we are looking for either May or June of this year to do it. There is some talk as well to do it in the fall again too, we would like to do at least two this year and see what we can do.

Gary Gray - So the County was going to have a class for the towns to hire CDL drivers. What we are doing now is paying the towns, the County would like to see them work six months and then will pay back the town for any cost for the driver. It is limited to two people per township per year.

Mary Olin - What about the Saturday trash drop off? Has anything been talked about with that so far.

Heather - So far, no. We have talked to Scott about doing it again, but the conversation did not go that far yet. It started with a no, then slowly moved to a maybe. Greenleaf has helped us so far with our reporting with the state.

Resolution #27

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to hold a public hearing on March 25th, 2024 to approve the 2024 Fire Contracts.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYES

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYES

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYES

James Rose, Councilman – AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 5

NAYS 0

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, MARCH 13TH, 2024

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Tara Abbey to close the meeting at 7:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Clerk

Thomas Peer, Town

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, April 10, 2024

A public hearing and town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:30 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, Town Residents

Public Hearing

Opening of bids for Cemetery Mowing Contract.

Three bids where open at the meeting:

Jon Lisefski - \$19,500

Hawley Hill Farm - \$30,000

Twin Ridge Dirt Worxs - \$17,850

There was a small conversation with all whom bids were read aloud to the town board, many questions were asked to the gentleman who attended the meeting that submitted bids.

Resolution #30

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall, to award the Twin Ridge Dirt Worxs the 2 year mowing contract for the Town of Orange.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – ABSTANE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Tara Abbey to close the public hearing at 6:49pm

Town Board meeting

Resolution #31

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the General Fund Vouchers on Abstract #004 in the amount of \$33,581.17 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Resolution #32

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the Highway Fund Vouchers on Abstract #004 in the amount of \$25,651.49 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Resolution #33

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #004 in the amount of \$1,878.08 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Code Office report delivered by Scott Cole.

Justice Report N/A

Superintendent of Highways report delivered by John Rappleeye.

Town Clerk Report delivered by Thomas Peer.

Fire Department reports only presented by Monterey and Bradford.

Resolution #34

On motion of Tara Abbey, seconded by Misty Simms to approve all town reports.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Planning board report presented by Heather Waters.

Supervisor report presented by Heather Waters.

County Executor meeting with Town Supervisor. Discussing Camp Monterey, getting the Assessor back in town, and setting up a program to help new Supervisors.

Working on fence up around the park presented by Heather Waters.

Schuyler County Health Department presented their mission and services that they provided.

On the motion of Tara Abbey , seconded by Heather Waters to close the meeting at 7:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

Heather talked about the assessor to come back to the town to conduct business hours at the town hall.

Heather covered the town clean up day, June 1st seems to be the best date to make sure we can get the word out. \$3 for tires.

Thomas Peer covered General Code, it is a company that covers codifications of our town laws and policies. Pay Gov is a credit card company that would allow us to use a credit card reader for nothing, the fee only gets passed to the customer. 61111

On the motion of Heather Waters , seconded by Joanne Randall to close the meeting at 8:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, June 12, 2024

A town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:33 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, Town Residents

WHEREAS, the Town of Orange was awarded funding from the New York State Department of State's Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant Program to prepare a Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Orange has resolved to hire Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board to help the Town implement the grant, and

WHEREAS, the first step is for the Town Board to appoint members to a Comprehensive Planning Committee by resolution, and

WHEREAS, once the committee is appointed, regular meetings can be conducted for the development of the plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board appointed the following people to be the Comprehensive Planning Committee:

Rick Hendrick

Larry Baker

Brenda Bomysoad

Harold Galusha

Holly McNulty

Amanda Ratchford

Joe Sevier

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Resolution #43

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Tara Abbey the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #005 in the amount of \$4,171.77 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Megan Dorritie - Town Attorney introduction.

Vicki Willis - Town account presented her report.

Code Office report delivered by Scott Cole.

Justice Report N/A

Superintendent of Highways report delivered by John Rappleye.

Resolution #44

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept 284 Agreement with the Town of Orange and the Highway Superintendent in the amount of \$348,000 for road repair and improvements of Highway funds.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Resolution #45

On motion of Joanne Randall seconded by James Rose to a full time position with civil service for the highway department.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Town Clerk Report delivered by Thomas Peer.

Resolution #46

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve the flooring material and installation of flooring in the town hall.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – NAYS

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 1

Fire Department reports only presented by Monterey and Bradford.

Resolution #47

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve all town reports.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

Supervisor report was presented by Heather Waters.

New Business

Tara Abbey is leaving the town board, so we are looking to advise the board.

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 7:29PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, June 17, 2024

A special town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Monday, June 17, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:00 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, Town Residents

Resolution #48

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to ratify the mowing contract for the two year term of the agreement with Twin Tier Dirt Worzs.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED

AYES 3

NAYS 0

Thomas Peer talking about how Tara Abbey seat will be filled, and the special election that will be held.

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 6:19PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #006 in the amount of \$2,058.08 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Resolution #52

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Misty Simms enter executive sessions.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

At 6:33 the Town Board enters into executive session.

At 6:54 the Town Board enters back from executive session.

Resolution #53

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Misty Simms to hire Nearess & Koegel PLLC and allow the Town Supervisor to sign a contract with them.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Code Office N/A

Justice Report reported by Thomas Peer.

Superintendent of Highways N/A

Town Clerk report presented by Thomas Peer

Resolution #54

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve town clerk report.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Fire Department reports presented by Monterey.

Planning board report presented. Working on a Comprehensive plan.

Supervisor report presented by Heather Waters.

Filling the Town Board Seat, only three people applied to the position: Terry Wilcox, Jordan Frost, and Alicia Palmer.

Resolution #55

On motion of Misty Simms, seconded by Joanne Randall to approve Alicia Palmer to fill the open position seat until December 31, 2024.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – AYE

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – ABSENT

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN BOARD MEETING, August 26, 2024

A special meeting town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Monday, August 26, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:00 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Tara Abbey, Councilwoman

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

James Rose, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, Town Residents

Topic Town Attorney

Heather Waters stated that the Town of Orange is in need of an attorney. There are a lot of personal matters that we can not cover tonight, but the attorney has many skills in this area that we need to be covered on. We have tried to cover this without one, but we need one to take on the matters.

Resolution #61(113)

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP Attorney for the Town Town Board Member Randall offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, a current employee and a former employee of the Town of Orange Highway Department have filed complaints against Highway Superintendent John Rappleye with the New York State Division of Human Rights alleging that Superintendent Rappleye engaged in unlawful workplace misconduct, including sexual harassment (the "Allegations"); and

WHEREAS, the Town has also received a number of complaints that Superintendent Rappleye often misuses and mistreats Town equipment, sometimes resulting in dangerous working conditions for Town employees and residents, and damage to Town equipment;

WHEREAS, the Town has learned that on at least one occasion Superintendent Rappleye recently sent all but one Highway Department employee home for a workday, with pay, for no apparent reason other than that he has the power to do so; and

WHEREAS, it is the Town's policy to provide an employment environment free from harassment based on race, color, gender, religion, religious creed, sex, marital status,

among other things (Town of Orange Harassment Prevention Policies & Procedures Handbook, Section 1); and

WHEREAS, recently, the Town Board hired the law firm of Nearpass & Koegel PLLC to conduct an internal investigation into the Allegations and prepare a report about the results of the investigation (the “Report”); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received the Report and reviewed its contents; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Allegations, the Report described claims from current and former Town employees that Superintendent Rappleye loses his temper, yells at employees, and has angry profanity laced outbursts; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Allegations, the Report described claims from current and former Town employees that Superintendent Rappleye has threatened to commit acts of violence against certain individuals; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Allegations, the Report described claims from current and former Town employees that Superintendent Rappleye uses racial slurs and vulgar sex-based language regarding females; and

WHEREAS, the Town now determines that in order to protect the welfare of Town employees and residents, as well as the Town from liability, the Town Board must implement certain constraints on the Superintendent’s interactions with Town employees and limit his use of Town equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board understands that the Superintendent has certain statutory rights under Section 140 of the New York State Highway Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board also understands that it is ultimately responsible for “seeing that the functions of the town highway superintendent, which are financed with town moneys, are not negligently, arbitrarily, or wastefully performed”; and

WHEREAS, the Town has a fundamental interest in ensuring the general welfare of all Town employees and wishes to prevent and correct any alleged harassment or any other discriminatory or retaliatory behavior; and

WHEREAS, the Town does not condone, authorize, participate in, or otherwise approve of any alleged harassment or any other discriminatory or retaliatory behavior; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board considers sending employees home with pay for no reason to be a waste of Town resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as a result of the Allegations and the information contained in the Report, and other information that has been brought to the Town Board's attention, the Town Board enacts the following censure against Highway Superintendent Rappleye effective until the end of his current term:

1. The Town Board expresses to Highway Superintendent Rappleye its desire that he conduct himself in a dignified and professional manner at all times while representing the Town and the people of Orange.
2. The Town admonishes Supervisor Rappleye to always conduct himself in a dignified and professional manner while representing the Town and the people of Orange.
3. Superintendent Rappleye must abide by all policies of the Town of Orange, including those located in the Town's Harassment Prevention Policies & Procedures Handbook.
4. Superintendent Rappleye must not use any language that discriminates or harasses for any reason, but particularly, on the basis of: race, color, creed, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, an employee's or dependent's reproductive health decisions, familial status, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, physical or mental disability, genetic predisposition, age, veteran status, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, certain arrest or conviction records, domestic violence victim status, and every other legally protected status.
5. As a supervisor, Superintendent Rappleye must immediately document and report the use of discriminatory or harassing language by any Highway Department employee to the Town Supervisor, as required by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and New York State Executive Law § 296.
6. Superintendent Rappleye must complete harassment, discrimination, antiretaliation, workplace violence, and any other training as assigned by the Town Supervisor. Training will be assigned on a rolling basis, and Superintendent Rappleye will have 21 days from the date of assignment to provide verification of completion to the Town Supervisor.
7. Superintendent Rappleye's in-person workplace interactions with Town Highway Department employees are limited in the following ways:
 - a. The Deputy Superintendent of Highways and/or Working Foreman must be present whenever Superintendent Rappleye is in the presence of, meets with, or interact with automotive mechanics, laborers, construction equipment operators, motor equipment operators, safety training officers, and any other individuals employed or engaged by the Highway Department.

b. The Deputy Superintendent of Highways and/or the Working Foreman will communicate the assignment of tasks, as decided by Superintendent Rappleye, to other Highway Department employees related to the repair and maintenance of Town highways, roads, sidewalks, and bridges and the removal of obstructions caused by snow.

c. The Deputy Superintendent of Highways will assign all Highway Department tasks unrelated to the repair and maintenance of Town highways, roads, sidewalks, and bridges and the removal of obstructions caused by snow.

8. Superintendent Rappleye's in-person workplace interactions with all other Town employees are limited in the following ways:

a. Superintendent Rappleye may not be in the presence of, meet with, or interact with other Town employees unless such interaction is in the context of a departmental or open meeting and/or in the presence of one or more of the individuals listed below.

b. The Town Supervisor is the only individual Superintendent Rappleye may meet with and interact with in person outside of the presence of another individual.

9. Superintendent Rappleye is prohibited from operating or in any way using any Town equipment, and must surrender to the Town Supervisor all keys to such equipment immediately.

10. Superintendent Rappleye should not send employees home—with or without pay—unless for a legitimate reason, such as injury, illness, or appropriate request by the employee.

11. This censure shall take effect immediately and last through the end of Superintendent Rappleye's elected term. If this censure is violated, the Town Board will move forward with all available remedies.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town determines that Superintendent Rappleye's conduct rises to the level of misconduct, maladministration, malfeasance, or malversion in office, and refers the removal of Superintendent Rappleye from elected office to the Schuyler County District Attorney pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law section 36. To this end, the Attorney for the Town is authorized to cooperate with the District Attorney in the removal process.

Seconded by Town Board Member Simms and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Town Councilman Palmer voting Aye

Town Councilman Simms voting Aye

Town Councilman Randall voting Aye

Town Councilman Rose voting Aye

Town Supervisor Waters voting Aye

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 6:32PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

ADOPTED

AYES 3

NAYS 0

Resolution #73

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to the Town Clerk report as presented

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor – AYE

Misty Simms, Councilwoman – ABSENT

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman – AYE

James Rose, Councilman – AYE

ADOPTED

AYES 3

NAYS 0

Fire Department reported by Bradford and Monterey.

Planning Board report presented.

Supervisor report presented by Heather Waters.

Budget workshops the 23rd and 30th, both are Wednesday, and 6pm at the town hall. There will be an ad in the newspaper.

SPCA presented by Heather Waters. The Town of Orange will be leaving the SPCA and seeking other options for dog control.

Open Board seat for November will be a write-in on the ballot.

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to close the meeting at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

BUDGET WORKSHOP, TOWN OF ORANGE, October 23, 2024

A town budget workshop of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:29 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

Empty seat, Council

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

James Rose, Councilman

OTHER PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk

Fire Departments:

Total increase of \$6,000 to the overall fire tax collections, and to be divided as is: Monterey Fire Company \$2,500, Bradford Fire Company \$2,500, and Beaver Dams Fire Company \$1,000.

General Fund:

Town Board Salary \$6,400 to \$8,000

Town Justice no change

Town Supervisor Salary \$7,200 to \$12,000

Tax Collector Salary \$3,400 to \$4,000 and Contractual to \$750

Assessor \$15,000 lowered from \$20,000

Bookkeeper \$2,000 to \$6,000

Town Clerk Salary \$6,600 to \$11,000 and Contractual \$2,500 to \$4,500

Deputy Town Clerk \$3,800 to \$4,800

Town Attorney \$10,000 to \$15,000

Insurance \$44,000

Building Code Salary same and contractual \$1,290 to \$1,500

Public Health Town Clean Up Day \$2,000 to \$4,000

Blood testing to \$400

Street Lighting \$1,500 to \$2,000

Garage \$30,000 to \$40,000

Publicity \$2,000 to \$2,500

Park Equipment \$50 to \$1,000 Bank account should be made for Park Funds added annually

Culture and Recreation \$6,100 to \$7,500

Historian \$50 to \$100

Planning Board \$400

Banner Project \$100 to \$500

Trash and refuse \$13,000 to \$18,000

Cemeteries \$17,500 to \$20,000

Highway Department Appropriations:

Personal Services same

Perman Improvements (CHIPS) same

Fuel same

Clothing Allowance same

Workers' Compensation \$41,000 to \$45,000

Most things not mentioned remained the same or did not change at all. Most lines items and Revenues were not expected to change.

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at 8:48PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

BUDGET WORKSHOP, TOWN OF ORANGE, October 30, 2024

A town budget workshop of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:04 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

Empty seat, Council

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

ABSENT:

James Rose, Councilman

OTHER PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, and others

The overall tax rate increased .0075%, the current tax rate \$5.953578 per \$1,000, and with the new rate applied of .0075% the new amount would be \$5.998229855 per \$1,000, with an overall change of \$.044651835 per \$1,000.

A total of \$6,000 has been distributed to the Fire Departments. Monterey to get \$2,500, Bradford \$2,500, and Beaver Dams \$1,000.

State aid for the Highway Department, CHIPS, Weather Recovery, Pave NY, Fix Pothole NY, we are only looking at CHIPS as that is a defiant number we know will be funded by State Legislature. \$516,512 is the CHIPS program.

Fire tax is currently \$.888060 and with the rate change of the overall of \$6,000 will change the Fire Tax by \$.0006675 and the new rate will be \$8887275.

James Rose, Councilman enters the room at 6:34 pm.

Resolution #74

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the as presented 2024 budget with all changes for the public hearing to be held on November 13, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Monterey Fire Department.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat , Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

On the motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms to close the meeting at
6:51PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Peer, Town Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING AND TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF ORANGE, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

A public hearing and town board meeting of the Town of Orange was held on Wednesday, November 13th, 2024, in the Town of Orange Town Hall at 6:30 PM with the following members present:

PRESENT:

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman

Empty seat, Council

Misty Simms, Councilwoman

James Rose, Councilman

OTHER PRESENT: Thomas Peer Town Clerk, and others

Public Hearing 2025 budget

Heather Waters – Supervisor – There are no increases in town taxes. Our budget is balanced, and the Town Budget is decreasing, and the Highway Budget is increasing, Town salaries have changed as well. The salaries increase is to make the town position more competitive with the same position held in other towns in Schuyler County. We made a side-by-side comparison. Our bookkeeper has changed as well. Attorney costs have increased. We are carrying over a surplus from 2023.

Resolution #75

On motion of Joanne Randall, seconded by Misty Simms to accept the as presented 2025 budget with all changes.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat, Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED

AYES 4

NAYS 0

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Town Attorney presented and reported on town business

Building Code Officer presented report

Resolution #79

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Building Code Officer report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat, Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Superintendent of Highways presented report

Resolution #79

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Superintendent of Highways report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat, Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Town Clerk presented report

Resolution #80

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Resolution #83

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Misty Simms the Trust and Agency Vouchers on Abstract #012 in the amount of \$8,159.16 were paid.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat, Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– ABSENT

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Superintendent of Highways presented report

Town Clerk presented report

Resolution #84

On motion of Heather Waters, seconded by Joanne Randall to accept the Town Clerk report as presented.

Heather Waters, Town Supervisor– AYES

Empty seat, Councilman–

Joanne Randall, Councilwoman– AYES

James Rose, Councilman– ABSENT

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 3 NAYS 0

Fire Department presented report

Planning Board presented report

Supervisor presented report

The Year End Meeting December 26th, 2024 at 6:30pm.

Resolution #85

James Rose, Councilman– AYES

Misty Simms, Councilwoman– AYES

ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0

Budget Amendments

General Funds

Increases in Budget

A1330.5 \$521.59

A1380.4 \$11,878.75

A1410.12 \$2,624.94

A1410.2 \$630.62

A1420.4 \$54,242.50

A1620.2 \$8,833.09

A1620.4 \$15,482.02

A1620.41 \$8,273.36

A1910.4 \$723.57

A3310.4 \$454.87

A3620.4 \$76.89

A5010.4 \$923.30

A5132.4 \$3,556.23

A6410.4 \$564.70

A7110.2 \$6,206.00

A7310.4 \$1,310.80

A8810.4 \$150.00

\$117,495.41

Decrease in Budget

