

APPROVED MINUTES

ORFORD BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES 1/28/2026

Niles room

Members Attending: Bill Paxton, Vanessa DeSimone, Bob Palifka, Rusty Keith

Selectboard representative: Kevin Follensbee

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

Review of 1/12/2026 meeting minutes: The minutes were reviewed and approved as read by 3 members, the 4th member arrived after the vote.

Prepare Recommendations for Selectboard: We decided to combine the recommendation process with Beginning writing our Budget Advisory Committee Report for Orford Town Meeting. A draft report had been prepared by Vanessa and Bob, and the bulk of the meeting was spent discussing our recommendations and wording. Current prices to replace all Town vehicles and rolling stock were provided by Kevin, and when those numbers project out to when new equipment is planned to be replaced, large shortfalls for a Fire truck and Grader are found. We recommend increasing contributions to the Capital Reserves for the Fire Trucks to \$97,000 and Grader to \$29,000. We also recommend reducing the Road Improvement CRF addition from \$154,903 to \$54,903, a reduction of \$100,000. This would make the new total for Article 5 to be \$448,370 instead of \$502,976, saving \$54,606.

Elderly tax credit income and assets level requirements seem way too low. The net assets value should be increased to \$100,000.

Halfway through the meeting we were informed that recommendations made in this meeting would not be included in the Town Report, as the Budget and Warrant Articles had already been shared with the public.

Any other business: None

Meeting adjourned at 5:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Robert G. Palifka, Chair

Approved 2/3/2026