

Orford Parks and Playgrounds Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

October 15th, 2025

Orford Town Offices

7:00

Present: JJ Hebb, Robb Day and Larry Taylor

JJ opened the meeting at 6:20. JJ motioned to approve the August minutes as read, all were in favor. There were no minutes for the September meeting as it was a work session at Indian Pond Beach.

The 2026 budget was then discussed.

-The beach monitor position will remain level funded.

-The Indian Pond Swim Program will also remain level funded and it was suggested to keep the program length at 2 weeks.

-The mowing contracts have gone out to solicit bidders and this line is determined by the contract proposals and the Select board.

-Electricity and portable toilets are level funded.

-Parks and Playgrounds Improvements line was suggested to increase by \$500 in 2026. There are a couple of proposed projects that the Committee would like to complete in 2026 such as more picnic tables on the Common and possibly a lime treatment for the Common.

-The Garden Club line will be level funded for 2026.

There was an idea brought up to possibly offer the mowing of the Community Field to Rivendell to enable a cost reduction of the annual lease which was requested a few months ago by the RISD board. The

Select Board has contacted the School Board regarding this possibility and has not heard back as of yet.

The Bandstand repairs are due to begin soon. Herb Austic has solicited Jonah Richards of Real Hazen Construction to complete the work and the Town will purchase the supplies. Herb has contacted Robco crane company to remove the roof structure and volunteers will remove and dispose of the rest of the structure. After removal of the old structure is completed, a crew from Real Hazen will install precast concrete deck piers and build a substructure with a wood deck. 6x6 posts will be added to hold up the roof and wooden support brackets will be installed for stability. Robco will come back and reinstall the roof. The railings will be added later. The whole structure will be set higher than the old to ensure good ventilation to reduce the risk of rot. Herb will build a wooden ramp to access the stand from the side . Herb will be in contact with the Parks and Playgrounds Committee regarding the start and stop date of the demolition and construction. It should be completed in a matter of a couple of weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Minutes taken by Robb Day.