

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Follensbee, Charles Smith, Jr., Larry Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Chief Sanborn, Chief Bachus, Ann Green, Jacob Burgess

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes

*Motion made by Taylor, seconded by Smith to accept the minutes of 03/25/2026 (as amended)
Motion Passed 3/0*

Reports

- A. **Fire Department** – Chief Sanborn reported the Fire Department responded to 22 calls in March. Calls included 10 medical, 4 mutual aid, 2 each for wires down and a CO alarm and 1 each for a vehicle crash, odor investigation, chimney fire, and a grass fire. YTD calls are at 60 vs 41 in 2025. With this rate of increase in calls, it may impact the salary budgeted lined item by approx. \$1,500. The new fire truck is scheduled to arrive the week of April 13th.
- B. **Police Department** – Chief Bachus reported the Police Department responded to 98 calls in March. (1 each for a sex offence, intoxicated person, disorderly conduct, criminal threats, juvenile matter, missing person, animal complaint, vehicle collision, and 2 motor vehicle complaints. He made 50 motor vehicle stops resulting in 9 summonses. The remaining calls were administrative in nature). Bachus is still working on 3 investigations, and 2 new investigations began in March. The July 4th parade planning has begun. Police coverage and permits have been submitted. Bachus was asked about the impact on July 4th activities with Route 5 being closed – he didn't think it would have much impact because I-91 can be used.
- C. **Selectboard attended meeting recap**
 - Smith attended the 3/31 Conservation Commission meeting. The group discussed invasive species by High Bridge (making sure it's not mowed), and possibly asking RISD students to help with trail clean-up and maintenance.

Old Business

A. Update of Outstanding Projects

- a) Archertown Road over Jacobs Brook bridge project. The contractor will begin work around April 20th. He removed small trees the weekend of 3/30. Paperwork to finalize the line of credit is being worked on, and the Selectboard approving the Resolution to Authorize the Loan of \$1,714,393 to finance the project.

Motion made by Follensbee, seconded by Taylor to approve the Resolution to Authorize Loan to Finance the “Jacobs Brook Bridge repairs” in form presented to this meeting, and that an attested copy of said Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting. Motion Passed 3/0 (The resolution is attached at the end of these minutes).

The Selectboard reviewed and signed various loan and legal documents pertaining to this project. The Treasurer, Administration Assistant and Town Clerk also signed where indicated.

- B. Other** – Tom Toner notified the Selectboard he will soon begin the work to remove the small garage.

New Business

- A. Illegal Junkyards/Junky Yards – Ann Green** – Green would like the Selectboard to address illegal junk yards and junky yards around Orford. There are several properties with unregistered vehicles, and trash and the owners should be held responsible to clean it up. Can our new Health Officer visit these properties? While Orford doesn't have zoning, there are state regulations that should be followed. Green provided Canaan's Junk Yard policy and Haverhill's Junk Yard Ordinance. She suggested the Selectboard look to adopt something similar. Smith will review the RSA's pertaining to what a Selectboard can do.
- B. Community Nurse – Ann Green** – Green provided information on Community Nurses and what they provide to a community. Green thought the cost would be approximately \$20,000 per year, but that is based on the need of Orford's residents. In addition, there are start-up grants the Town could apply for. The Selectboard suggested Green hold an informational meeting for residents to attend to gage the need for a Community Nurse.
- C. Floodplain Development – Jacob Burgess** – Burgess briefly discussed the Flood Plain Ordinance and application to construct in a flood plain. Smith will address with the Planning Board at their 4/14 meeting – usually this is where the process begins.
- D. Review of received “Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”**
- Property Owner: Smarts Mountain Realty, Map & Lot #08-033-001, Logger: George Evarts
- E. Review of received “Notice of Intent to Excavate Gravel”**
- Property Owner: Stacey Thomson Properties, Map & Lot #008-093-024E, Excavator: Stacey Thomson Properties
- F. Action Folder**
- Appointment - *Motion made by Follensbee, seconded by Taylor to appoint Stephen Sanborn to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for Flood Plain. Motion Passed 3/0*
 - Report of Wood Cut – the Selectboard completed the rate sheet for James Hook and George Tullar, Jr.
- G. Signature Folder**
- Request to use the Recycling Center for Food Collection for Orford Cares
 - Request to use the Community Field for Rivers Edge Soccer program

- Request to use the Softball Field for the Rivendell Rec softball practice and games

H. Correspondence

- Smith shared an email he received from Sarah Brock of Clean Energy NH regarding a webinar on C-Pacer (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency)
- Joanne Fratus filed a complaint against the Planning Board for discrimination – a copy was provided to the Selectboard as informational only

I. Other – Brandon Perkins' 90-day review is coming up on April 19th – the Selectboard and Road Agent will discuss at the April 22nd Selectboard meeting

Manifests, Payroll and Accounts Payable folders

The manifest, payroll and accounts payable folders were reviewed and signed where necessary

Adjourn

Motion made by Smith, seconded by Taylor to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed 3/0

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh

Resolution to Authorize \$1,714,393 Loan to Finance the Jacobs Brook Bridge Repairs

The Selectboard of the Town of Orford (the "Town") hereby resolves as follows:

1. That pursuant to the Municipal Finance Act, RSA Chapter 33, Municipal Budget Law, RSA 32, all other applicable laws, and approval of the voters of the Town of Warrant Article 2 of the Annual Town Meeting held March 10, 2026, (collectively, the "Authorizations"), the Administrative Assistant and majority of the Selectboard of the Town are authorized to agree upon the terms of a Loan Agreement between the Town and Mascoma Bank (the "Bank") in such form as they may approve, said approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of the general obligation note and supporting documents, to effect a borrowing from the Bank in the principal amount not to exceed \$1,714,393.00 to finance the Archertown Road over Jacobs Brook Bridge repairs (the "Project");
2. That pursuant to the terms of said Loan Agreement and the Authorizations, the Town is authorized to borrow from the Bank a sum of up to \$1,714,393.00, and to evidence such indebtedness, the Treasurer and majority of the Selectboard are authorized to issue a general obligation note of the Town in principal amount of up to \$1,714,393.00 (the "Note") and to pledge the full faith and credit of the Town in payment of the Note;
3. That the Administrative Assistant of the Town, acting singly, is authorized to arrange for the execution and delivery of the Loan Agreement and the issuance and sale of the Note, and any prior such actions are ratified and confirmed;
4. That the expected useful life of the Project is determined to exceed the maturity of the Note;
5. That the Note shall be signed by a majority of the Selectboard and countersigned by the Treasurer under the official seal of the Town, if any; bear interest at such rate as the signatories of the Note may approve; and be in such form as the signatories may approve, said approvals to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof;
6. That the Treasurer or Chair of the Selectboard, acting singly, is authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town such other documents and certificates, including such documents and certificates as may be required by bond counsel or the Bank, and to do or cause to be done all such other acts and things as may be necessary or desirable in order to effect the transactions hereinbefore authorized, and any such prior action by them is hereby ratified and confirmed;
7. That (i) no part of the proceeds of the Note shall be used, directly or indirectly, to acquire any securities and obligations, the acquisition of which would cause any of the Note to be an "arbitrage bond" within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the "Code"), and (ii) the proceeds of the Note and the Project shall not be used in a manner that would cause any of the Note to be a "private activity bond" within the meaning of Section 141 of the Code;
8. That the Treasurer or Chair of the Selectboard, acting singly, is authorized to designate the Note as a qualified tax-exempt obligation per Section 265(b)(3) of the Code;

9. That in connection with the Note, the Treasurer is authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town an Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate in form approved by the Town's bond counsel, and to covenant on behalf of the Town to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with the issuance of the Note, and to take all other lawful actions necessary to insure that the interest on the Note will be excludable from the gross income of the owners thereof for purposes of federal income taxation and to refrain from taking any action which would cause interest on the Note to become includable in the gross income of the owners thereof;

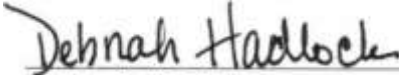
10. That the Administrative Assistant, acting singly, is authorized in consultation with Bond Counsel to implement written procedures with respect to the Note for the purpose of: (i) ensuring timely "remedial action" for any portion of the Note that may become "non-qualified bonds," as those terms are defined in the Code and regulations thereunder; and (ii) monitoring the Town's compliance following the issuance of the Note with the arbitrage, yield restriction and rebate requirements of the Code and regulations thereunder;

11. That if the Treasurer, member of the Selectboard, or Clerk for any reason are unavailable to, as applicable, approve, execute, or attest the Note or any related financing documents, the person or persons then acting in any such capacity, whether as assistant, deputy, or otherwise, is authorized to act for such unavailable official with the same force and effect as if such official had himself/herself performed such act;

12. That the Town hereby resolves and declares its official intent pursuant to Section 1.1502(e) of the Treasury Regulations that the Town reasonably expects to use the proceeds of the Bond to reimburse certain original expenditures from the Town's general, reserve, or other fund, paid not earlier than 60 days prior to adoption of this Resolution or to be paid, which original expenditures have been or will be incurred in connection with costs of the Project; and that the Town reasonably expects that the maximum principal amount that the Town will issue to finance the Project is \$1,714,393; and

13. That the Clerk include an attested copy of this Resolution with the minutes of this meeting.

A true copy, attest:


Deborah Hadlock

Town Clerk