

# TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2026

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Chief Sanborn

## Call Meeting to Order

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

**Public Comments** - none

## Approval of Minutes

*Motion made by Smith, seconded by Taylor to accept the minutes of 04/22/2026*

*Motion Passed 3/0*

*Motion made by Smith, seconded by Taylor to accept the minutes of 04/29/2026*

*Motion Passed 3/0*

## Reports

- A. **Fire Department** – Chief Sanborn reported on the April activity for the department. In April there were 21 calls for service (9 medical, 2 motor vehicle crashes, 1 each for wires down, fire alarm and grass fire), and 7 calls for mutual aid. The new fire truck was delivered on April 18<sup>th</sup>, radio installed on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The vehicle was placed in service on April 20<sup>th</sup> after the bumper and winch were installed. Additional springs were added on May 12<sup>th</sup> with lettering and additional equipment to be added. Training consisted of pump training for the new fire truck and with the Utility vehicle. The old rescue truck will be placed on a fire equipment specific site for sale.
- B. **Police Department** – Chief Bachus was not in attendance, but left the department's activity in April. There were 138 calls for service, including 74 motor vehicle stops with 14 summonses issued.
- C. **Selectboard attended meeting recap**
  - Conservation Commission – Smith attended their May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The group discussed upcoming hikes, cleaning up of trails, and are working on a map of Japanese Knotweed locations in Orford.
  - Planning Board – Smith attended their May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The board discussed the Flood Plain ordinance (may need updated FEMA flood plain maps), and are working on a procedure for processing applications. The group briefly discussed the UVLSRPC July 1<sup>st</sup> renewal for services.
  - Cemetery Trustees – Follensbee attended their May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting – the Trustees discussed how the Cemetery Capital Reserve funds can be used, the new employee for the Cemeteries, and obtaining quotes for stone cleaning.

## Old Business

- A. **Brownfields** – the request from a property owner for the Town to sponsor this process has been withdrawn.

- B. **Paving for Warrant Articles #9 & #10** (This topic was address with the 4/29/26 meeting minutes). Taylor received an estimate for the paving at the Town Office of \$8,750 – because the Warrant Article approved was for \$25,000, he will ask the company to pave out further than originally planned.
- C. **Mousley Brook bridge railings** – Follensbee and Taylor reviewed the bridge guard rails and agree they can be repaired for less than \$2,500. The Selectboard will work with the Highway department on the next steps.
- D. **Archertown Road over Jacobs Brook bridge update** – Work is ongoing to remove the decking and I-beams. There was some vandalism at the site with barriers pushed into the brook, along with the portable toilet. Fortunately, there is no monetary loss.
- E. **Junkyard Regulations and Junky Yards**-Smith confirmed that written complaints the Selectboard receives for illegal junkyards will be submitted to the NHDOT Commissioners to act on.
- F. **Other:**
  - **Insuring Town owned bridges** – we can add Town owned bridges to the insurance list for a maximum value of \$150,000. This does not impact the contribution to the premium.
  - **Waste Oil at the recycling center** – Follensbee is working with Clean Harbor to remove the waste oil. There is approx. 400-500 gallons but the barrel is starting to rust. The company will need to test before it can be removed.

#### **New Business**

- A. **Review of received “Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”**
  - Property Owner: Orian Welling, #001-091-035, Forester: Tracy Burns
- B. **Review Budget vs Actual Expenses** – the Selectboard reviewed with no concerns
- C. **Appointments – Orford Scholarship Committee** – *Motion made by Follensbee, seconded by Taylor to appoint Jennifer Hebb, Laura Taylor, Charles Newton and Stephanie Gulick to the Orford Scholarship Committee for 3-year terms, Motion Passed 3/0*
- D. **Action Folder**
  - **Timber Tax Rating Sheets** - The Selectboard completed the Timber Tax Rating Worksheets for Mark Miller #1-91-49, Jennifer Whitney #8-89-6/25, and Susan Beeson #8-89-22
  - **Abatements** – The Selectboard approved and signed tax abatements for properties at 41 East Cemetery Road, w/s Route 10 and 833 Route 10
  - **Land Use Change Tax** - The Selectboard approved and signed the following Land Use Change tax forms for properties at 136 Coyote Run \$6,684, 58 Orfordville Road \$5,005, s/s Prettyman Road \$32,487, 135 Mud Turtle Pond Road \$952 and e/s Indian Pond Road \$3,071
- E. **Correspondence**
  - Email from Ann Green regarding holding an informational meeting about a Community Nurse for Orford. The meeting will be held on 05/26 at 5:30 at the Congregational Church on Main Street, Orford.
  - FEMA notice on an upcoming on-line meeting to review flood plain maps on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Smith will provide to the Planning Board members

- F. **Other** - Smith asked about the Town's liability insurance limits as the State of NH is looking to increase their requirements of coverage (The town has a higher limit than the new requirement)

**Manifests, Payroll and Accounts Payable folders**

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

**Non-Public Session**

*A motion was made by Follensbee, seconded by Taylor to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel matters at 7:30 pm. A roll call vote of member's present was taken with a decision in the affirmative*

*The Board resumed the regular meeting at 7:49 pm. A motion was made by Follensbee, seconded by Smith to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Motion Approved 3/0*

**Adjourn**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh