

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2026

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Road Agent Nutter, Health Officer Joanna Bligh

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 05/13/2026 (as amended)

Motion Passed 3/0

Reports

- A. **Highway Department** – Road Agent Nutter discussed on going work by the Highway Department. Culvert cleaning, ditching as needed. As of May 22nd, Nutter is the only employee working in the Highway Department. A help wanted ad has been place for a full-time employee in various locations. Brandon Dyke was contracted to replace two culverts on Indian Pond Road near Cole Farm road. Nutter also received 2 estimates to replace a large culvert on Archertown Road with Paige Excavating providing the lowest estimate.

The Board reminded Nutter that the Highway Department needs to remove the concrete slab that was under the small garage recently removed. Nutter said that will have to wait for a while. Smith will put up stakes and caution tape around the structure.

- B. **Health Officer** – Joanna Bligh provided a report on work for May. She completed a NHHS Foster Care review and submitted forms to NHHS. She received a request from Tim Cole to review the property at 709 Route 10. She will be attending a training course on June 3rd, and will address any action to be taken on this property after that. She will also work to create a work flow for her and the Selectboard to use when complaints are sent to her.

C. **Selectboard attended meeting recap**

- Parks & Playgrounds – Taylor attended their work session in May – the group put out the docks at Indian Pond, and cut brush. There was a request from a few organizations for the group to put up a large sign on the Common to advertise for various events. Taylor wasn't sure if the deed allowed for this, and after discussion, the Selectboard felt this would not be a good idea.

Old Business

A. **Update of Outstanding Projects**

- **Archertown Bridge over Jacobs Brook Bridge** – A change order was submitted to NHDOT to add Material Testing to the Construction Engineer's contract. The cost of \$13,000 will be 100% reimbursed by the State. A letter will

be sent to NHDOT from the Selectboard to authorize and accept the change order.

- **Town Office Parking Lot** – Anna White with UVLSRPC wants to have a brief meeting with the Board or their representative to discuss a design to reconfigure the parking lot. The initial engineering will be paid for with a grant, and the Town can choose to move forward on the final design or not. However, there is no commitment for that to happen. Smith will meet with Ms. White.
- **Community Nurse presentation** – the date has been changed to Tuesday, June 2nd. at 5:30 at the Congregational Church
- **Waste Oil** – the oil can't be removed until testing is complete, which is pending. Smith has found a few grants to cover the cost to remove the oil. The Board has received an estimate from Enviro Serve of \$2,300 (as long as no gas in is the oil), with oil and gasoline the cost is \$4,500. Still waiting for an estimate from Clean Harbor.
- **Illegal Junk Yards** – Smith reported the Town should have an ordinance that addresses this issue. Enforcement of Chapter 236 (motor vehicle junkyards) is the responsibility of the NH Dept of Transportation headed by the Commissioner of Transportation, who had broad authority to regulate and impose penalties. Local enforcement is also possible by the Town's governing body, working with the NHDOT. The Health Officer can look at junk vehicles to make sure there are no leaking fluids or a fire hazard.

New Business

- A. Tax Warrant for July 2026** – the July tax bill warrant, based on the 2025 tax rate, was reviewed and signed by the Selectboard.
- B. Review of received "Notice of Intent to Cut Wood"** – none received
- C. Signature Folder**
 - Request to hold a raffle during the summer concerts was reviewed and signed by the Selectboard.
 - The McGoff Salvage Yard Junkyard renewal license was reviewed and sign by the Selectboard
- D. Correspondence**
 - Notice of Safety Recall for the 2 Western Star trucks for an issue with the positive junction posts
- E. Other**
 - Fuel Contract – Dobbins-Marsh requested the Board authorize her to sign the fuel contract once the rate is set. This is needed because once the Town accepts the rate, the contract needs to be sign and submitting on line.
Motion made by Follensbee, seconded by Taylor to authorize Dobbins-Marsh to sign the fuel contract when received. Motion Passed 3/0
 - The Tree Warden wanted the Selectboard to know that he will be contracting out the work to have an ash tree removed from the East Common, and stump grinding on the West Common.

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 7:00 pm. A roll call vote of member's present was taken with a decision in the affirmative

The Board resumed the regular meeting at 7:28 pm. A motion was made by Follensbee, seconded by Smith to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Motion Approved.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh