

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ORWELL SELECT BOARD
March 9, 2026
Town Office**

NOT APPROVED

**Select Board: Andrea Treadway, Chair
Mike Christian
Joe Pouliot
Hans Tudhope
Les Wood, Vice Chair**

**Maxine Saville, Recs & Parks Committee
Liza Eddy, Recs & Parks Committee
Jonathan Hescock
Allen M. Alger, Road Foreman**

**Casey Betourney
Jess Krol
Alex Kansky**

Betty Walker, Clerk of the Board

The Regular Select Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Betty Walker, Clerk of the Board.

As per VSA 24 §871, The Orwell Select Board organized for the 2026 term.

The Clerk of the Board asked for a motion for a nomination for Select Board Chair.

Les Wood moved to nominate Andrea Treadway, Chair, of the Orwell Select Board. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 Yes 0 No 1 Abstain (Andrea Treadway).

Mike Christian moved to nominate Les Wood, Vice Chair, of the Orwell Select Board. Les Wood seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 Yes 0 No 1 Abstain (Les Wood).

The Select Board reviewed the Committee sheet with changes made.

Please see a copy of the Committee Sheet attached to these minutes.

The Select Board reviewed the 2026 Organization Sheet and made changes.

The Organization Sheet will be ready for review and signatures at the next Select Board Meeting of March 23, 2026.

1. CITIZENS COMMENTS.

Jonathan Hescock attended the meeting for just a few minutes and introduced himself and stated that he will be running for the Addison/Rutland District Representative.

2. HIGHWAY REPORT.

Road Foreman Report – Allen M. Alger, Road Foreman, reported that earlier they had been plowing and sanding. Now the roads are muddy. The wind has helped to dry things up some. The culvert cleaner quit today. Hopefully we can get the parts needed and get it running in the morning. There are some culverts that the Town Road Crew cannot clean out because they are in the State right-of-way even though they are Town culverts. Mike Christian stated that GMP has a blanket right-of-way to work in the State right-of-way. Mike will look into this for the Town of Orwell. The Salt/Sand Shed is coming in mid to end of April. Discussion ensued about getting the area prepared for the 60' x 40' building. The area is mostly ledge and it would be cheaper to build up the area then to hammer out the ledge. Use the blocks for sand containment. BCI wants to start building in May sometime. We need to tear down the old Salt/Sand Shed.

Andrea Treadway reminded the Road Foreman that they need to set up a time to meet with Brian Sanderson, AOT District Manager to complete our Annual Financial Plan (T-60).

3. MINUTES.

Les Wood moved to approve the minutes of the Select Board Meeting of February 23, 2026, with the amendment of: **8. New Business b. Sewer Allocation Increase Request. The motion should say 1.75%, not \$1.75. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.**

4. SEWER REPORT.**5. TOWN CLERK REPORT.****6. TREASURERS REPORT.****7. OLD BUSINESS.**

MERP – Andrea did not meet with Jason McNolty, All Points Construction and Restoration and Shelly Pottorf, Architend, last week as scheduled. A short report was received stating that the bathroom light was changed and heat pumps installed at the Town Office. Trim work still needs to be completed, the carpet cleaned and the blower test done. Andrea asked for an update of the ramp improvement. At the Town Garage, the garage doors are still waiting for the track from Ski Door. Work to soon begin on the Firehouse. Bone Builders uses the Firehouse on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Jess Krol stated to be sure to give Fire/Rescue enough amount of time to get stuff out of the way.

8. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Library Board Trustee Resignation and Appointment – A letter was received from Kathy Buxton saying that she was resigning as Library Trustee.

Mike Christian moved to accept the resignation of Kathy Buxton, with regrets. Les Wood seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

In the Library minutes of February 19, 2026, it stated that Joni Osterhault was interested in getting back on the board. The Board of Trustees made a motion to recommend that the Orwell Select Board appoint Joni Osterhault to the OFL Trustees.

Joe Pouliot moved to appoint Joni Osterhault for replacement Library Trustee. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

b. Recs and Parks Committee – Maxine Saville had information on soccer nets for the Select Board to decide on. Andrea stated that the money to purchase these can come out of the Town Green Maintenance and Improvements or Ballfield budget category. There is also a little left in the Bandstand. These are portable and will need to be taken down for the Winter and put back up in the Spring. Soccer League starts in May. We need to get the old nets off the field. Joe Pouliot suggested contacting the Gagnons to remove the old nets when the field dries out. They can turn them in for scrap metal.

Joe Pouliot moved to go with the 7' x 21' better quality nets at \$3,952.95. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

Andrea will work on this on Thursday. The Ballfield still needs stone and weed removal. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 4th and the Town-Wide Yard Sale is May 16th.

c. ATV Petition – A petition was received with a total of 85 signatures. All have been verified. The Town Lawyer stated that we can't do Australian Ballot. We need to Warn a Special Town Meeting within 60 days of receiving the petition. This will need to be warned in the Addison Independent no more than 30 days before the Special Town Meeting. Glen Cousineau will Moderate this meeting. The question on the petition is "**Shall the voters of the Town of Orwell disapprove the 'Ordinance Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)' adopted by the Orwell Selectboard on January 27, 2026?**" Andrea Treadway explained that a "yes" vote would get rid of the Ordinance. A "no" vote would allow it to become an Ordinance that day. It was decided by the Select Board to hold the Special Town Meeting on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the Orwell Firehouse.

d. Standing Committee Appointments – The Select Board received the ACSWMD (Addison County Solid Waste Management District) appointment form, signed by Wayne Hall agreeing to once again be the Representative for the Town of Orwell. We do not have an Alternate at this time.

Les Wood moved to appoint Wayne Hall as Orwell's ACSWMD Representative. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

e. No Appeals Pending – The signing of this Certificate by the Select Board closes out the 2025 Grand List. **Hans Tudhope moved to approve the “No Appeal or Suit Pending”. Les Wood seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.**

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

Joe Pouliot asked if the old Town Garage is still being used. It is in bad shape and is a liability to the Town. Joe asked to look up the Lease Agreement.

Jolyon Larson, ACRPC Energy Planner, sent a flyer to display for the Addison County Energy and Environmental Extravaganza to be held on June 13th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Vergennes City Park. He also sent along a draft description of Orwell’s MERP projects to use for community discussions about the program.

A dog complaint form was received from Kent Anderson, Health Officer, for an incident on Church Street.

A flyer was received from VCIL (Vermont Center for Independent Living), a statewide nonprofit organization directed and staffed by individuals with disabilities. This organization loans telecommunications equipment to people who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, and other disabilities to communicate by telephone or internet.

The School Budget Re-Vote will be held on Tuesday, March 31st at the Orwell Town Office from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

There are still openings for the positions of Auditors and Listers for anyone who may be interested.

10. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Les Wood moved to pay the General Fund Orders in the amount of \$27,893.02, Sewer Orders in the amount of \$2,013.57, Orwell Youth Recreation League in the amount of \$1,750.00, Election Workers pay, and the Town Payroll. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Joe Pouliot moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. Mike Christian seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 Yes 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Walker,
Clerk of the Board

**Next Select Board Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026
Orwell Town Office
Immediately following the 7:00 PM
Warned BCA Meeting**

**TOWN OF ORWELL
VERMONT**

March 9, 2026

**SELECT BOARD
COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS**

HIGHWAY Hans Tudhope
 Les Wood

SEWER Mike Christian
 Joe Pouliot

PERSONNEL AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

 Mike Christian
 Les Wood

LEGAL AND REGULATORY BOARDS

 Joe Pouliot
 Andrea Treadway

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL

 Andrea Treadway
 Hans Tudhope