

O ELECTION 2023 RANGE



RE-ELECT
FIRST SELECTMAN
Jim Zeoli

*Inside:
This Didn't Happen by Accident.
Strong Economic Development.
Enhancing Our Quality of Life.
Meet Our Team.*

Our Orange Community



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ELECTION 2023

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DESIGNED & PRINTED IN CONNECTICUT

Paid for by the Orange Republican Town Committee,
Daniel Brigham, Treasurer

Paid for by the Friends of Zeoli
Kevin Houlihan - Treasurer, approved by Jim Zeoli

COVER PHOTOGRAPH Fred Wolfe Park Playground



Old Tavern Road Development nears completion

Orange is a wonderful town with excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and protected green spaces.



This didn't happen by accident. Sound town management and fiscal planning by our First Selectman and his Republican team has enabled us to achieve many objectives for the people of Orange. Add to that a strong spirit of volunteerism, and you have a formula for success.

Excellent schools require strong financial planning. Education comprises over 61% of our budget, so Jim Zeoli and our Board of Finance pay close attention to the requirements of both Amity Regional and Orange elementary schools and the need to keep your taxes under control.

As Chairman of the Orange Board of Education (OBOE), Republican Bill Kraut worked with our school superintendent, teachers, and the OBOE to safely provide both remote and in-person learning throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jim Zeoli, working with our Board of Finance, made sure that funds were available to modify our schools, allowing them to remain safely open. Orange schools were one of less than 3% of school systems statewide to have in-school learning during the COVID pandemic.

Safe neighborhoods require the strong support of our police and Orange Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD). We continue to support our police with needed upgrades to communications, fleet, and other requirements.

A spirit of volunteerism is strong in Orange. From people who serve on our boards and commissions to those who work behind the scenes at our town events to our volunteer fire department, these people help make Orange a great place to live.

Open space acquisition has greatly increased during Jim Zeoli's time in office. As a result of sound management and strong economic development, we were able to achieve S&P's AAA bond rating. This lowers the cost of borrowing for open space purchases.

We continue to protect our community's green character through strategic open space purchases. The acquisition of the Racebrook Country Club was an important step in controlling its future development while generating revenue for the town.

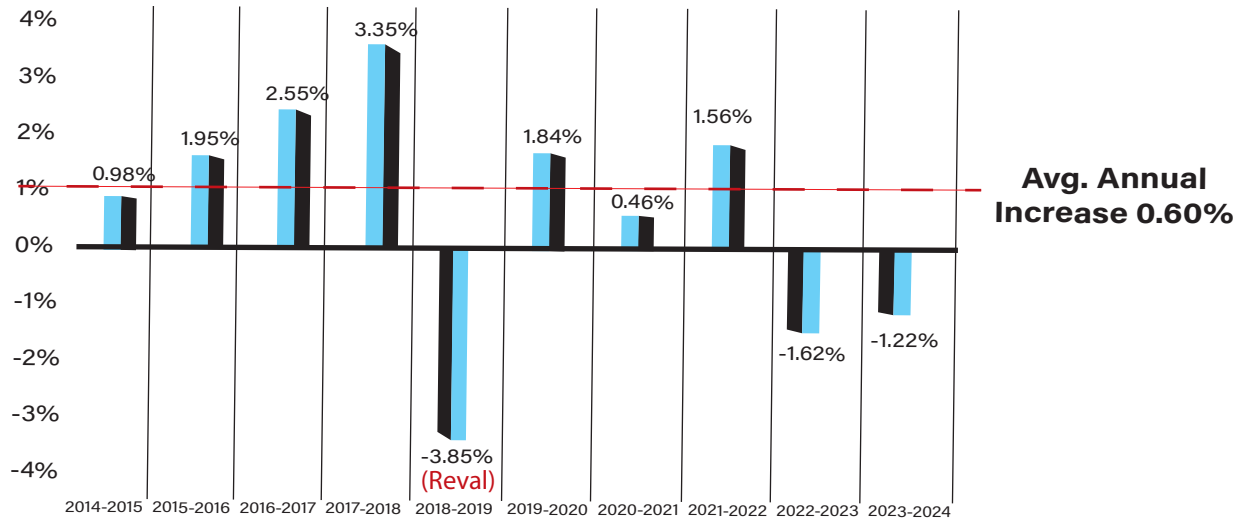
Orange has recently acquired land on Wheeler's Farm Road.

These objectives could only have been achieved with the sound management practices of Jim Zeoli and his team, along with the volunteers who help out at our events and serve on our boards and commissions.

LEADERSHIP MATTERS

The Republican leaders of the Orange Board of Finance have worked diligently to meet the needs of our community by "DOING MORE WITH LESS" to keep taxes under control.

OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS ANNUAL TAX RATE INCREASES AVERAGED ONLY 0.60%

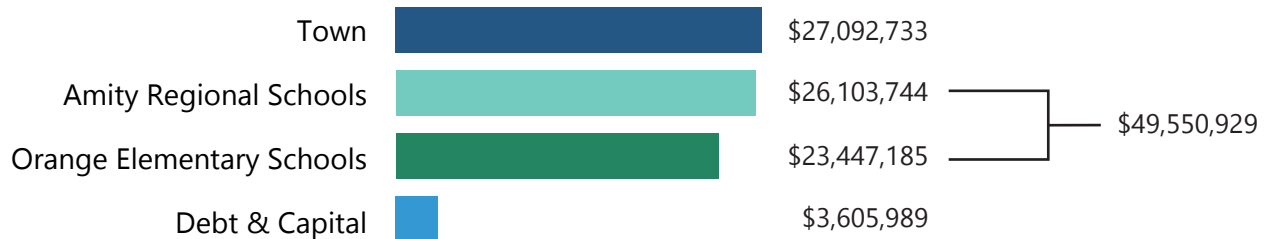


*Inflation rate 2021-2023 = 5.73%. Inflation rate 2013-2023 = 2.73% Data from Town records; analysis completed by Republican OBOF members

EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT ENSURES THAT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS.

Calls to reduce our fund balance are irresponsible. Our healthy fund balance not only ensures that money is available for emergencies (like flooding in one of our schools or the COVID pandemic), but most importantly, it helps maintain our AAA credit rating.

Over 61% of the Orange budget supports our schools (\$49,550,929)



BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Judy Wright Williams

"My special interests as Selectman are to promote educational excellence and to preserve our rural character by supporting open space preservation and the historic core values of Orange."

"This includes improving the quality of life for both families with children and seniors who want to remain in Orange."

- Orange Board of Selectmen
- B.S., Southern Connecticut State University
- M.S. in Special Education, SCSU
- Graduate, Orange and Amity Schools
- Teacher in Orange for 33 years
- Human Service Commission
- Historic District Commission



Ralph Okenquist

"As a selectman, I will continue utilizing my management, municipal, and capital planning expertise to cost-effectively plan and implement improvements in our School and Town facilities."

- Orange Board of Selectmen
- B.S. Fairfield University
- M.B.A. University of New Haven
- Fred Wolfe Park Committee 1995-98
- Park & Rec Commission 9 years, Past Chairman
- Capital Planning Committee Chairman
- Allied Signal - Manager, Advanced



John Carangelo

"As a member of the Board of Selectmen I will continue my efforts to keep taxes under control and continue to improve our town's infrastructure and schools."

- Orange Board of Selectmen
- B.A. Syracuse University
- J.D. Quinnipiac College School of Law
- Judge of Probate for the District of Orange 1998-2010
- Attorney with over 28 years of legal experience.

John Carangelo is a member of the American, Connecticut, Milford, and New Haven Bar Associations and the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association.

He is a lifelong resident of Orange and resides here with his wife, Kathrine. Their son Michael attends Amity High School, and their son Joey attends Indiana University.

Our Plan

- Continue to support needed town services, infrastructure improvements and the education and safety of our children.
- Keep taxes and spending as low as possible by doing more with less.
- Keep our fund balance in a healthy condition as a rainy day fund and maintain our excellent AAA credit rating.

**VOTE ROW B
NOV 7**



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Experience · Dedication · Commitment

Our candidates for the Board of Selectmen **have been an integral part of the successful running of The Town of Orange.**

John Carangelo, Ralph Okenquist and Judy Wright Williams, possess a combination of experience, proven judgment, and dedication to our community.

Under the leadership of **Jim Zeoli**, our policy of intelligent economic development takes pressure off our residential taxpayers. We have supported education, our seniors, infrastructure improvements, and important town services while controlling taxes.

- Effective town management.
- Keeping spending under control using effective budgeting practices.
- Continued strong support for our excellent schools.
- Modernization of our facilities and improvement of our infrastructure.
- Ongoing economic development to increase our commercial tax base.

FIRST SELECTMAN
Jim Zeoli

Working for you, **the Orange Taxpayer**



A wide variety of new businesses have come to Orange under the leadership of First Selectman Jim Zeoli.

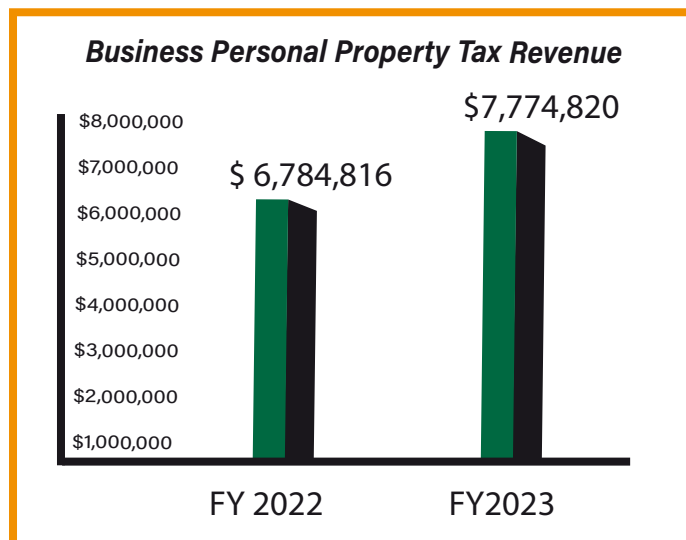
Businesses moving to Orange include not only retail but a wide variety of business types and organizations. These include utilities and service-oriented corporations, some of which support the expansion of online shopping.

In addition, we attracted healthcare facilities, manufacturing firms, and senior living communities.

All of these partners expand our tax base and help keep residents' taxes under control.

Residential taxpayers benefit from strong economic development.

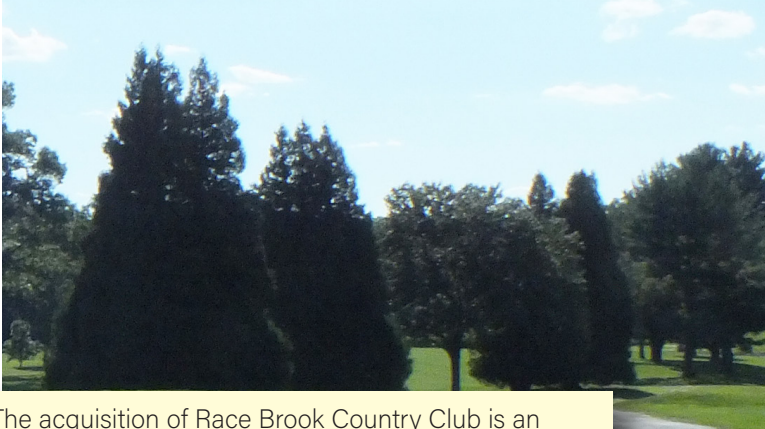
Revenue from the tax on equipment, computers, and other business personal property increased by \$990,005 in FY 2023, primarily from our top corporations.



ENHANCING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Building for Orange's Future

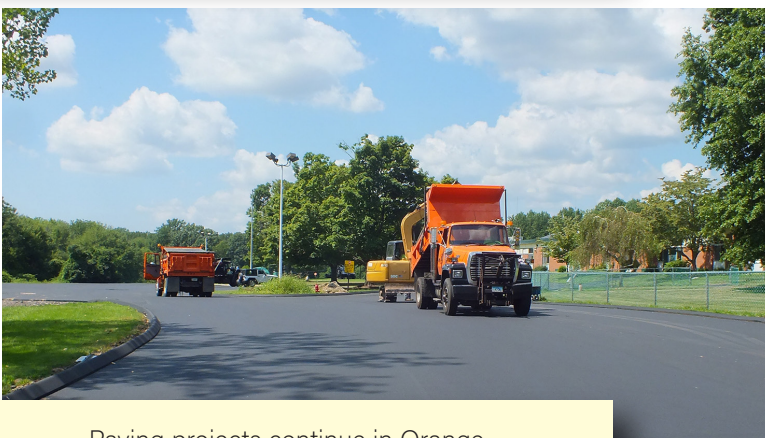
*Adding Outdoor Recreation Opportunities
and Keeping Orange Green.*



The acquisition of Race Brook Country Club is an example of the effectiveness of our open space policy. This purchase gives the town control over any future development of its 287 acres, while generating income for Orange.



The 2 courts at High Plains are newly resurfaced and ready for pickleball or tennis.



Paving projects continue in Orange.



Under town leadership, development of Fred Wolfe Park continues.

A state-of-the-art playground has been built. Over 90% of the construction cost was paid for by a state grant. That's your taxes paid to Hartford coming back to Orange to benefit our community.

Work on improved road access to the park is nearing completion, and safety fencing has been installed.

Additional plans are ongoing, including paving and possible development of new areas in the park.

BOARD OF FINANCE



Kevin Houlihan

"It has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Finance since 1999. I am respectfully asking each of you as residents for your support so that I may continue to make decisions in the best interest of the Town."

- B.S. in Accounting, University of Rhode Island
- Certified Public Accountant
- Chairman Board of Finance since 2009
Board of Finance Member since 1999
- Orange Capital Planning Committee
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accounts



Jim Leahy

"When I first came in 1983, I considered the Town of Orange a 'hidden gem,' a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Since then, it has been my pleasure to volunteer and contribute to our town. I respectfully ask for your support to continue in my role on the Board of Finance. Thank you."

- B.A. in Mathematics, Bates College
- M.B.A. Harvard Business School
- Vice Chairman Board of Finance, 2009
Board of Finance, 2005 - present
- Amity Finance Committee, 2005 - 2009
- Orange Man of the Year Award, 2000
- Chairman, OVFD Firetruck \$50K Challenge raising \$165K

Jim brings over 39 years of experience and a proven track record of accomplishment with Fortune 100 organizations. He has consistently communicated his overarching theme of "Doing More with Less" and shown how to utilize those principles in town budgeting and government. During his 18-year tenure, Orange has reduced its spending by 57% annually while maintaining town services and educational excellence.

AAA

A graphic featuring the letters "AAA" in a large, bold, black font. The text is centered within a yellow-to-orange gradient rounded rectangle. A red horizontal line extends from the left side of the rectangle across the page.

Orange's
Standard & Poor's Rating

Why is Our Credit Rating so Strong?

- Efficient fiscal policies.
- Strong economic development.
- Solid Fund Balance.
- Fully funding pension obligations.

AAA Rating decreases our Bond interest rates so we pay less interest for borrowing.

TOWN PLANNING AND ZONING



Judy Smith

"I will utilize my many years of zoning experience by striking a balance between the quality of life of the residential districts and our vibrant commercial and light industrial zones."

- M.B.A. in Restaurant & Hotel Management University of New Haven
- B.S. in Marketing - University of Connecticut
- General Manager Orange Hills Country Club
- Instructor – University of New Haven, 1986-1988
- Member of the Orange Town Planning and Zoning Board: 1995, 1999, 2003, 2011-2019
- Vice Chairman of Planning and Zoning Commission, January 2006 to Present



Tom Torrenti

"As a lifelong Orange resident, it is an honor and a privilege to serve on the Town Plan and Zoning Commission."

"I will use my 40 years of engineering and construction experience to make decisions that preserve property values and quality of life in Orange."

- B.S. in Civil Engineering, Syracuse University
- Owner of Thomas A. Torrenti, P.C. Consulting Structural Engineers Founded in 1986
- Licensed Professional Engineer State of Connecticut
- ACE Mentor Program Volunteer for Students interested in pursuing careers in Science, Engineering & Architecture.

Tom and Donna Torrenti have resided in Orange for 40 years and have 3 children.

2023 | SUPPORTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHILE PROTECTING OUR RESIDENTIAL ZONE



The Firelite Plaza development nears completion. This mixed-use development contains 72 apartments plus commercial and retail space.



The Vero in Orange has opened their new senior living facility on Indian River Road.



Ulta Beauty relocates to Orange.



Lascana Homes is completing an affordable housing complex located here in Orange on Smith Farm Road.



Racebrook Medical Center is under Construction on the Boston Post Road and will house medical offices for Connecticut Orthopaedics and Hartford Healthcare.

ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION



Bill Kraut

"We have a responsibility to give all the children of Orange a safe and secure learning environment and provide the best education possible."

"I will continue to work in a bipartisan manner to do my best for all Orange children."

- Chairman, Board of Education 2011 to present
- Bond Committee 2012 - 2013
- Bond Construction Oversight Committee 2013 to present
- Chairman of Construction Oversight Committee 2018 to present
- B.S. University of Rhode Island
- Owner Newport Tennis, Inc.

Bill and Phyllis Kraut have lived in Orange for 35 years. Their daughter, Michaela, attended Orange public schools and Amity Regional and graduated from the University of Rhode Island.



Ken Ziman

"For me, teaching was always a calling, never a job."

"I will continue to use what I know about how people learn, and combine it with what I have experienced as a parent and citizen to serve the children of Orange on the Board of education."

- B. S. in marketing, University of Bridgeport
- M. S. in education, University of Bridgeport
- Classroom Teacher Specialist Southern Connecticut State University
- Elementary School Teacher K - Grade 6 Bridgeport CT 36 Years

Ken Ziman is a 37 year resident of Orange with his wife Pat. Ken is the father of 2 children who attended Orange Schools and graduated from Amity.



Anthony Scarinzi

"As a third-generation Orange resident, I understand the value of our excellent schools."

"I now have two children and a nephew in the Orange School System. As a board member I will work to ensure that the best education possible for them and their classmates continues."

- B.A. in Computer Science and Business Southern Connecticut State University
- Graduate Amity Regional High School, Class of 1996
- Computer Programmer, Aquarion Water Company Shelton - 1999 to present

Anthony is a lifelong Orange resident and lives here with his wife Amanda and their two children.



Bill Kraut, Chairman of the Orange Board of Education, worked with our school superintendent, teachers, and town officials to safely provide both remote and in-school learning throughout the COVID pandemic.

First Selectman Jim Zeoli, working with our Board of Finance and Board of Education, made sure that funds were allocated to meet state mandates, allowing our schools to remain open.

The Orange school system was one of less than 3% of school systems statewide to have in-school learning during the COVID pandemic.

AMITY BOARD OF EDUCATION



Cathy Bradley

"We have an amazing town and excellent schools. After attending several board meetings, I decided to run for the Amity Board of education."

"Transparency is key. Parents and students have a right to understand and in some cases choose what's appropriate for their children."

- B.A. & B.S. in Business Economics, UCONN
- M.B.A. University of New Haven
- Advisory Board for Dean of Business School, UNH
- Board of Directors Orange Chamber of Commerce
- Member of Zoning Board of Appeals
- Network of Executive Women member
- President at-Large Rotary of Orange

Cathy Bradley has lived in Orange for 40 years. She and her husband raised two sons who benefited from the Orange school system. They competed academically and athletically.



Mike McDonough

"I look forward to working to keep our schools the excellent institutions we are proud of and known for. I want to ensure that my daughter and all incoming families are guaranteed the best possible education and experience while enrolled in our school system."

- B.S. in Business, Albertus Magnus
- CT Paramedic Licensure, Norwalk Community College
- Massage therapy Licensure, Galen Institute
- Little Engineering Services Outside Sales and Service
- President/Owner, Sage Ave,-K&M Property Mgmt.
- American Medical Response Paramedic, 1994-2005
- Member of Orange Inlands Wetlands Commission
- Peck Place & Amity Middle School PTA
- Orange Little League Softball Coach, 2015- 2021

Michael lives in town with his daughter, and their dog Friday. He is proud single father of a wonderful daughter who has benefited from our incredible school system, especially from the facility .



Dana Lombardi

"My passion for serving has been uniquely shaped by one of my sons, who has bravely faced and triumphed over a learning disability. As a board member I will advocate for this often-overlooked group. I will support a truly inclusive and nurturing learning environment for every student."

- B.S. Southern CT State University
- Television Production and Management
Dick Clark Productions 1995-97, Viacom 1997-2000
- Yale University Financial Assistant, 2000- present
- Turkey Hill School & Amity Middle School PTA

Dana lives in Orange with her husband Chad, sons Dominick and Carlo, and her dogs Buck and Mocha. She is a proud mother of two wonderful children who thrived within the Orange/Amity school system.

- ★ Provide our students with an opportunity to realize excellent educational outcomes by providing advanced curriculum and technology and by focusing on academic success.
- ★ Improve management oversight of the Amity Regional School District.
- ★ Assure that Orange taxpayers get value for their tax dollars spent at Amity.



Under Jim Zeoli, **OUR TOWN-OWNED OPEN SPACE HAS DOUBLED.**



Housatonic Overlook



Racebrook Tract



Fred Wolfe Park



2

Orange Triangle Trail



Ewen Farm Preserve



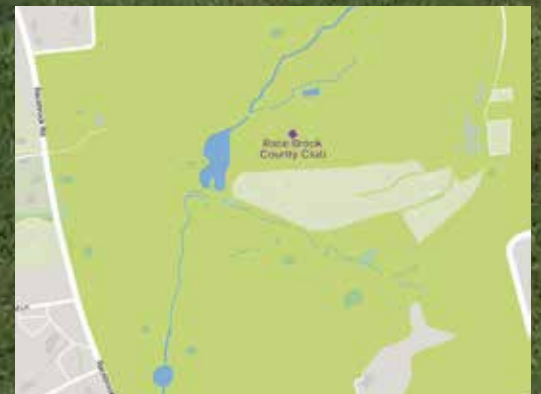
Paul Ode Nature Trail



Wright's Pond



Turkey Hill Preserve



Race Brook Country Club

Jim Zeoli and Our Republican Team



First Selectman Jim Zeoli

Board of Selectmen



John Carangelo



Ralph Okenquist



Judy Wright Williams

Board of Finance



Kevin Houlihan



Jim Leahy



Judy Smith

Town Planning & Zoning



Tom Torrenti

Town Clerk



Mary Shaw

Tax Collector



Tom Hurley

Orange Board of Education



Bill Kraut



Anthony Scarinzi



Ken Ziman

Amity Board of Education



Cathy Bradley



Dana Lombardi



Mike McDonough

Constables



Jody Daymon



Mike Donadeo



Glenn Papelo



Gary Palermo

**VOTE ROW B
NOV7**

RE-ELECT

FIRST SELECTMAN

Jim Zeoli

STAY THE COURSE

Economic Growth

✓ Dynamic economic development continues. Local businesses help to reduce the burden on residential taxpayers.

Community

✓ We are able to maintain reasonable taxes and low bonding costs thanks to strong town management. This enables us to support our excellent schools and improve our infrastructure. We also assist our senior citizens and veterans through helpful services and tax relief initiatives.

Keeping Orange Green

✓ In Orange, we value our open spaces. During Jim Zeoli's time as First Selectman we have increased open space by over 50%.

Communication

✓ All meetings of our Boards and Commissions are open to the public and include public participation. Many of our residents volunteer to serve on committees providing valuable input. Access to our First Selectman is readily available.

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**VOTE ROW B
NOV 7**