

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING, OXFORD TOWN HALL  
OCTOBER 24, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairman Jack Kiley; Tom Kelly; Sue Arpin; Robert DeBisschop; Dana Flach. Also present: James Hliva, Finance Director. Absent: Lila Ferrillo

The Regular Meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Jack Kiley. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3) Acceptance of Minutes  
(a) September 26, 2016 Regular Meeting**

Mr. Kiley offered the Committee members some time to review the previous meeting Minutes. With no comments, Ms. Flach made a Motion to accept the Minutes of the September 26, 2016 Board of Finance Regular Meeting. Mr. Kelly seconded the Motion. A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes and the Minutes are accepted.

**4) Amendments to the Agenda**

Mr. Kiley made a Motion to make an amendment to add sod (\$30,000) and bleachers (\$12,000) as Item (e) to the Old Business. Ms. Flach seconded the Motion. A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes.

**5) Audience of Citizens – N/A**

**6) Old Business**

(a) Tabled Transfer for Legal Expenses 2015-2016, \$21,304

- (b) Tabled Transfer for fire Marshal 2015-2016, Various
- (c) Tabled Appropriation for Legal Expenses 2015-2016
- (d) Tabled Transfer for non-union wages 2016-2017
- (e) Add on Tetlak Park request for sod (\$30,000) and bleachers (\$12,000)

(a) Tabled Transfer for Legal Expenses: Mr. Kelly said the reason this was tabled was because of lack of information. Mr. Hliva had bills to show counsel is spending at least \$8,000 per month and the budget was for \$5,000 per month. This was from 2015-2016 budget. The two biggest items were power plant and Nichols vs. The Town of Oxford. Ms. Flach made a Motion to transfer \$21,304 from Legal-Contingency; Mr. Kiley seconded the Motion. A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes

(b) Tabled Transfer for Fire Marshal 2015-2016: Ms. Flach made a Motion for discussion; Ms. Arpin seconded.

Mr. Kiley confirmed that this item is from the 2015-2016 budget. He then proceeded with a lengthy discussion regarding the issue of Fire Marshal fees and the history regarding same. A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes

(c) Tabled appropriation for Legal Expenses 2015-2016: Town Counsel expense was \$4,339.84; Outside Counsel expense is \$57,242.99. \$30,000.00 was budgeted for Outside Counsel. Additional expenses concern a legal incident with a police officer who went to Federal court; the Town won; case was appealed; Town won. Also police contract, clerical contract, several police department grievances with two police officers. Mr. Hliva explained \$4,339.84 going to Town Counsel from and \$57,242.99 is going to Outside Counsel, both from General

Fund Balance. This will go to Town Meeting. Ms. Flach made a Motion to approve; Mr. Kelly seconded this Motion.

Mr. Kiley asked what is left in budget for legal. Mr. Hliva said for Town Attorney is \$60,000, for outside counsel is \$30,000. He said there is still one police case still ongoing; several grievances; still issues with Karen Guillet.

A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes. This item will go to Town Meeting.

(d) Tabled Transfer for non-Union wages, 2016-2017: These wages are actual except for Fire Marshal which needs to be approved by Board of Selectmen. Ms. Flach made a Motion to accept the transfer; Ms. Arpin seconded the Motion. A vote was taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes to accept the transfer.

Ms. Flach asked if there was a meeting scheduled with BOS to discuss the non-union benefits. Mr. Hliva responded that there was a meeting scheduled for October 27, 2016. His belief is that insurance will be switched over to HAS which will reduce cost to the Town.

Mr. Kiley began a discussion concerning issues regarding medical and benefits allotted to Town workers. When they contribute to insurance, people will want pay increases.

Mr. Hliva said he believes it will take several meetings for discussions. One meeting will involve bringing in insurance people.

(e) Tetlak Park Committee sod and bleachers:

Mr. Kiley began a discussion of what happened after BOF denied this at the Special Meeting. The First Selectman said he could take it to Town Meeting. Mr. Kiley pointed out that the Committee was using their contingency it would be reduced. If BOF rejects this tonight, it will go to Town Meeting.

If Board of Finance denies a request for appropriation, a petition of fifty (50) people can send the denial to a Town Meeting.

Mr. DeBisschop makes a Motion to reconsider the request for appropriation. Ms. Arpin seconded the Motion. A vote is taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes

Mr. Kelly made the Motion to authorize approval for \$12,000 for bleachers and \$30,000 for sod to be taken from the project Contingency. Mr. DeBisschop seconded the Motion. A vote is taken.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tom Kelly		
Jack Kiley		
Bob DeBisschop		
Dana Flach		
Sue Arpin		

All in favor; Motion passes

7) **New Business**

Mr. Kiley asked Mr. Hliva for updated on library. Mr. Hliva said bids were opened last Friday. Bids came in at \$3.1MM to \$3.8MM which means there is not enough money to proceed with project. Mr. DeBisschop said suggestions could be made to the low bidder with recommendations to cut back on specs.

As an aside, Ms. Flach asked about the status of the Board of Education building and rental contract.

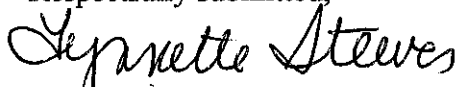
8) **Monthly Reports**

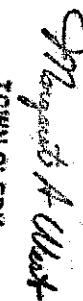
Updated on Audit:

Audit will be done by the of week on Town side and moving on to Board of Education. Two people will be going into Tax Office on Tuesday, October 25. The auditors are on track for about 2-3 weeks away from completion. As scheduled, audit should be presented at the December BOF meeting.

There being no further discussion, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kelly, and seconded by Ms. Flach. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lynnette Steeves  
Clerk

16 OCT 31 AM 9:16  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
  
TOWN CLERK