



TOWN OF OXFORD

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall
486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 2, 2020
7:30 PM – Virtual Meeting/Hangout Meets

The Town of Oxford Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:30 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Esq., Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman Heather Haney, Kristyn Rosa, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman

Absent: None.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 8/12/20 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 8/12/20 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. 8/19/20 Regular Meeting

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 8/19/20 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

1. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the agenda to add Tax Refunds as Item #6 under New Business. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Howitzer Static Equipment Display – Discussion with Possible Action

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the agenda to add Howitzer Static Equipment Display – Discussion with Possible Action as Item #7 under New Business. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. Great Oak School Renovation Project Bond Resolution – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the agenda to add Great Oak School Renovation Project Bond Resolution – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign as Item #8 under New Business and move Report of First Selectman to Item #9. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

4. Hire New Tax Assessor

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to amend the agenda to add hire Penelope Mudgett, of 5 Meadow Crest Drive in Woodbury, as the new tax assessor for the Town of Oxford with a starting date of 9/14/2020 at a yearly rate of \$77,112.03 as Item #9 and move the Report of First Selectman to Item #10. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hawley Road Drainage Easement and Agreement and Resolution – approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the following Hawley Road LOTCIP Grant Resolution and approve the Drainage Easement and Agreement and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Oxford has been awarded a grant for Hawley Road through the LOTCIP Program through the Connecticut Department of Transportation in the amount of approximately \$2,291,000.00.

IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION, the Honorable George R. Temple, Oxford First Selectman, is duly authorized to enter into and sign any required contracts

required by this award. George R. Temple, Oxford First Selectman is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the Connecticut Department of Transportation in connection with said contract and to execute any amendments, rescission or revisions thereto.

This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: Kathleen O'Neil, Oxford Grant Writer/Administrator, indicated that this is not the correct *Resolution*.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen move to *table* this Motion. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This will be addressed later during this meeting.

2. Sustainable CT Resolution – Establish Sustainability Team and Appoint Members

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to establish an advisory Sustainability Team and approve the following Charge:

Sustainable CT Mission

Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities. An independently funded, grassroots, municipal effort. Sustainable CT provides a wide-ranging menu of best practices. Municipalities choose Sustainable CT actions, implement them, and earn points toward certification.

Sustainable CT also provides opportunities for grant funding to help communities promote economic well-being and enhance equity, all while respecting the finite capacity of the natural environment. The program is designed to support all Connecticut municipalities, regardless of size, geography or resources. Sustainable CT empowers municipalities to create a high collective impact for current and future residents.

This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Selectman Arnold Jensen explained the two-point program and a one-to-one grant match. Jeff Luff, Economic Developer, added other information related to donations for trail systems. Joe Lanier spoke about obtaining student interns through grant funding.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint the following Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency members as the Sustainability Team:

Brian Smith, of 10 Heather Lane
Ethan Stewart, of 24 Laura Lane
Susan Purcella Gibbons, of 279 Loughlin Road
Joseph Lanier, of 257 Chestnut Tree Hill Road

Andrew Ferrillo, of 93 O'Neill Road
And Jeff Luff, of 253 Oxford Road, as the Town Hall contact.

This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This is a wetlands commission with a town hall contact.

3. Hire Youth Conservation Corp Members

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Meghan Leung, of 1 Little Valley Road, and Olivia Garcia, of 1 Wisteria Lane, both to the Youth Conservation Corp with pay rates of \$12.00 per hour and effective Monday, September 7, 2020; as presented and recommended by the Youth Conservation Corp Supervisor in his letter dated 8/28/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Joe Lanier explained that the two students have worked over the summer and may now join the corp.

(Return to #1 for approval)

1. Hawley Road Drainage Easement and Agreement and Resolution – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to take Item #1 under New Business off the table. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to withdraw the original Item #1 Motion. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to approve the following Hawley Road LOTCIP Grant Resolution and approve the Drainage Easement and Agreement and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

RESOLVED, that the Oxford Board of Selectmen authorizes the Town of Oxford to accept and approve the Agreement between the Town of Oxford and the Connecticut

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the drainage easement on Hawley Road, Oxford, CT.

IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION, the Honorable George R. Temple, Oxford First Selectman, is duly authorized to enter into and sign any required contracts required by this Agreement. George R. Temple, Oxford First Selectman, is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in connection with said Agreement and to execute any amendments, rescission or revisions thereto.

This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Kathleen O'Neil, Oxford Grant Writer/Administrator, discussed the background of this project. The State pays 80% of the project. First Selectman George Temple explained the project to the other selectmen. The drainage easement means the Town is responsible for maintenance.

4. FY 2019 – 2020 Annual Report – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to *table* the FY 2019 – 2020 Annual Report. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

No Action Required.

5. FY 2019 – 2020 Transfer Request

Left on the Table. No Action Required.

6. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Tax Refunds, totaling \$12,015.96, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 9/1/20 and authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

7. Howitzer Static Equipment Display – Discussion with Possible Action

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to discuss the Howitzer Static Equipment Display with Possible Action. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Andrew Ferrillo discussed the conditional loan of the Howitzer, Towed, Medium, 155mm (M114A2 Series) for a memorial and/or historical display. He has been working on this project for eight (8) years. Discussion among the Selectmen included the location of the display (either Center School Annex or Veterans' Park) as determined by visibility and space. Provisions and requirements dictated by the Department of Army were discussed, as well as the logistics involving the moving and placement of the Howitzer. A Conditional Deed of Gift Static Display legal loan agreement will be initiated prior to moving of equipment. Movement will only occur once an actual Release Letter is sent to all parties.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the acceptance of a Howitzer, Towed, Medium, 155mm (M114A2 Series) for a memorial and/or historical display for the Town of Oxford and to comply by the required steps as indicated above and to authorize the First Selectman to sign any and all documents in conjunction with fulfilling the requirements as presented by the Department of Army in their letter dated 8/27/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

8. Great Oak School Renovation Project Bond Resolution – approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the following Great Oak School Renovation Project Bond Resolution and authorize the First Selectman to sign said documents:

The Town of Oxford, CT (the "Issuer") hereby express its official intent pursuant to § 1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations, Title 26 (the "Regulations"), to reimburse expenditures paid sixty days prior to the date of passage of this Resolution, and thereafter, in the maximum amount and for the capital project defined above with the proceeds of lease financing, bonds, notes, or other obligations ("Obligations") authorized to be issued not later than 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the substantial completion of the project, or such later date that Regulations may authorize. The Issuer hereby certifies that the intention to reimburse as expressed herein is based upon its reasonable expectations as of this date. The Director of Finance or his designee is authorized to pay project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of reimbursement bonds, and to amend this resolution.

This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: James Hliva, Finance Director, gave background for the bond. Bond issue will be reimbursed within 60 days after the start of bill payments.

9. Hire Penelope Mudgett as Oxford Tax Assessor

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint Penelope Mudgett, of 5 Meadow Crest Drive, Woodbury, CT, as the Town of Oxford Tax Assessor at a rate of \$77,112.03 per year starting 9/14/2020. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Penelope Mudgett is currently on temporary assignment in Naugatuck. She has a Type 2 (CCMA2) Classification. Discussion among Selectmen regarding her past experience.

10. Report of First Selectman

- 1. School Opening.** Oxford Public Schools will reopen differently this year. The plan of action has been well prepared by the Oxford Board of Education. There must be a "Plan B" in the event of another outbreak. Tomorrow will be convocation for all Oxford teachers beginning at 8:30 AM.
- 2. Senior Center Programs.** Programs will initially be offered for Oxford residents only due to Covid-19 restrictions. The opening of the Senior Center must be done sensibly. We cannot take unnecessary risks.
- 3. Town Hall Meetings.** The Town of Oxford will be consistent with the CT State mandates.
- 4. Oxford Grange Chili Cook-Off.** The Oxford Grange will have its Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, September 12, 2020 starting at 4:00 PM outside rain or shine. Selectmen Heather Hany and Arnold Jensen will be in attendance.
- 5. Police Presence on Oxford Roads.** The Oxford Police will be vigilant on the roads with the children going back to school.
- 6. New Middle School.** The new Oxford Middle School is completed. First Selectman George Temple would like to have an open house one day on a weekend so the public can tour the new building.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

None.


ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary LoPresti
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

RECEIVED 9/7/2020
AT 9:30 AM
TOWN OF OXFORD

ASSTOWN CLERK