



TOWN OF OXFORD

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

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 7, 2021
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 7:33 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. 3/17/21 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 3/17/21 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

None.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Appoint Hearing Officer

Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Great Oak Middle School Evaluation & Improvement Committee's Preliminary Expenditure Request

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Nays. Motion does not carry.

2. Public Works Capital Request for Removal and Replacement of Cab & chassis on Truck #7

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Public Works Capital Funding Request, in the amount not to exceed \$69,969 (\$44,469 to Shaker's for cab & chassis and \$25,500 to Equipment Specialists for body transfer) to be taken from the General Fund Balance, in order to remove and replace cab and chassis on all-season stainless-steel body of Truck #7 which is completely rotted and unsafe for use on roads; as requested on 3/11/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Wayne Watt, of 1 Toppenfjell Lane, Oxford, CT and Director of Public Works, explained that the truck has been repaired several times. The chassis and body will be replaced instead of replacing the entire vehicle. Discussion on long-term program for vehicle replacement.

3. Public Works Capital Request to Purchase 2021 Granite 42FR Mack Spec

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Public Works Capital funding Request, in an amount not to exceed \$225,031.00 to Gabrielli Truck Sales to be taken from the General Fund Balance, for the purchase of a 2021 Granite 42FR Mack Spec truck to replace the 1995 Ford Dump Truck #6; as requested on 3/11/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Wayne Watt, Director of Public Works, placed this request because this will be a Public Works' need going forward. The ultimate approval for this item will be contingent upon the Public Works long-term capital plan.

4. Public Works Capital Request for Construction of a 15'X20' Addition

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Public Works Capital Funding Request, in an amount not to exceed \$30,585.00 (\$21,185.00 to Diamond Rosa Construction, LLC and \$9,400.00 to Pelletier Mason, LLC) to be taken from the General Fund Balance, for the work involved to contract a 15'X20' addition to the Emergency Operations Center/Fire Marshal's office; as requested on 3/11/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Wayne Watt, Director of Public Works, explained that this is to expand the emergency operation center in order to accommodate meetings with town and emergency personnel during town emergency situations. Scott Pelletier, Fire Chief, added that the town would be totally independent by increasing the space should all power and communications be down during a town emergency.

5. Oxford Center Fire Company Use of Town Hall Parking Lot Request

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the use of the Town Hall parking lot between the hours of 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Saturday, July 24, 2021 (with a rain date of July 25, 2021) for spectator parking during a Car Cruise Fundraiser event which is being held at the Oxford Center Firehouse; as requested in their letter dated 3/24/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This event occurs every year. It benefits the Center Fire Department.

6. Community Support Committee's Application for Oxford Cultural Arts Commission's Make Music Day

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Community Support Committee's Application for Oxford Cultural Arts Commission's Make Music Day, in the amount of \$3,500.00 (\$1,000.00 to be used for a generator and \$2,500.00 to be used for sound and lighting equipment); as approved by the Community Support Committee at their meeting of 10/13/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Cynthia Soucy, Oxford Cultural Arts Commission Chairman, introduced Rich Franzino, Commissioner with Oxford Cultural Arts. Rich described the equipment

and its purpose. The sound equipment will include two (2) monitor speakers and two (2) trees of lighting. Questions and discussion centered around equipment storage and generator purchase vs. rental. First Selectman George Temple would like to see the equipment.

7. 9th Annual Riade for Hope Charity Motorcycle Ride – Approve oxford Routes and Authorize First Selectman to Sign Special Use Permit

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the use of Route 67, Route 188 and route 42 through the Town of Oxford, on Sunday, June 13, 2021, between 10:00 AM -12:30 PM, for the 9th Annual Ride for Hope Charity Motorcycle Ride and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Application for Special Use Permit. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This is an annual event that is well- attended.

8. Meadowbrook Estates Bond Release and Reduction – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve to reduce Mountain Road Estates/Meadowbrook Estates Soil & Erosion surety Bond #KF6036 from \$300,000 to a \$30,000 Maintenance Bond to be held for one (1) year after the last closing which was 11/1/20; all as presented and approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their meeting held on 3/16/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: The Town of Oxford always accepts the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the recommendations of the town engineer.

9. Planning & Zoning Commission C.G.S 8-24 Referral for Tarby Lane Improvements

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the C.G.S. 8-24 Referral from the Planning & Zoning Commission for the requested regrading and other public improvements to Tarby Lane as shown on site plan entitled "Clay Lacy Tarby Lane Reconstruction Permitting Set, Waterbury-Oxford Airport, Oxford, CT" prepared by Civil 1 and dated February 6, 2021 CONTINGENT UPON the review and approval from the Town Engineer; as presented and approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their meeting held on 3/16/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: Dave Sauter, Planning & Zoning Commission Chairman, explained that there is a 35-day window for approval from the date of submission. He continued to describe the work that will be performed. The approval is contingent upon the engineer's approval. This will be at no cost to the town.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the motion to add “at no cost to the town”. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

AMENDED MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the amended motion, C.G.S. 8-24 Referral from the Planning & Zoning Commission for the requested regrading and other public improvements to Tarby Lane as shown on site plan entitled “Clay Lacy Tarby Lane Reconstruction Permitting Set, Waterbury-Oxford Airport, Oxford, CT” prepared by Civil 1 and dated February 6, 2021 CONTINGENT UPON the review and approval from the Town Engineer at no cost to the town; as presented and approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their meeting held on 3/16/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

10. Tax Collector’s C-Pace Partial Release Agreement – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the C-Pace Partial Release Agreement between the Town of Oxford and the Connecticut Green Bank, F/K/A Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority, as presented, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple had some questions for the tax collector.

MOTION:

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

11. Tax Refunds

Tabled.

12. Non-Union Employee Raises

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve raises for non-union Town employees (Attachment A) for the two (2) year period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021 at a rate of 2% per year. Retroactive will be from July 1, 2019 and the employee medical cost share

will increase 2% beginning April 1, 2021. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This is to bring the pay rates of non-union employees comparable to the pay rates of union employees. Selectman Heather Haney requested that Senior Center Drivers be added to the list.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the motion to include Senior Center Drivers under the same terms as the rest of the motion. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

13. Report of First Selectman

1. **Town-Wide Clean Up Month.** Town-Wide Clean Up Month, from April 1st – April 30th, is an important activity for the spring. There are many volunteers for the activity, and the Department of Public Works will do additional clean-up.
2. **Fishing Rodeo.** The Fishing Rodeo will take place on May 8th. The activity is for Oxford youth and is held at Kirk's Pond. The pond will be stocked with fish.
3. **Clinic for Covid-19.** The second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine will be administered this Saturday, April 10, 2021. Another Covid clinic is also being planned. The town is not doing well with the virus. Younger people are now being affected by the virus.
4. **Meeting with Dr. Browne.** The First Selectman and Dr. Browne, infectious disease at Griffin Hospital, will meet on April 15th to discuss the complete opening of the Oxford Town Hall.
5. **Memorial Day Parade.** The Memorial Day Parade will be held as scheduled. The event will follow Covid-19 guidelines.
6. **Carnival.** The Quaker Farms Fire Department Carnival will be held this year with fireworks. Covid-19 guidelines will be followed.
7. **Oxford Town Meeting.** The Town of Oxford will not hold a Town Meeting on the budget based on Covid-19 guidelines and regulations. There will be a referendum regarding the town budget. The Board of Selectmen has the power not to hold the meeting because of the current health situation.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Brett Olbrys, 17 Apple Drive, asked the Board of Selectmen if the people of Oxford have the ability to join the budget meeting and if they will be able to vote. In response, the people will not be able to attend the meeting virtually due to the difficulty in providing control of the meeting. People will have the opportunity to use the referendum to vote on items.

Brett then asked if the various boards will be able to resume meetings at Town Hall. First Selectman George Temple did not know if that would be the case. The health and safety of everyone is the goal of the town, and recommendations would be followed. Discussion regarding the opening of schools compared to board meetings ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mary LoPresti", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary LoPresti
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

		CURRENT	2019-2020 raise at 2.00%	2020-2021 raise at 2.00%	Annual Salary 2020-2021	Retro 7/1/2020 to 3/31/21
BUILDING DEPARTMENT						
WAGES - BUILDING OFFICIAL	Gramolini, Gordon	82431.44	\$1,648.63	\$1,681.60	\$85,761.67	\$2,433.63
CONSERVATION COMMISSION						
WAGES - ENFORCEMENT	Herde, Michael	56232.28		\$1,124.65	\$57,356.93	\$821.86
DOG WARDEN						
WAGES - WARDEN	Jason, McInain	41600	\$832.00	\$848.64	\$43,280.64	\$1,228.16
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT						
WAGES - DIRECTOR	Luff, Jeffrey	61994.92		\$1,239.90	\$63,234.82	\$906.08
ELDERLY COMMISSION						
WAGES - MUNICIPAL AGENT	Jelenik, JoAnn	11021.4	\$220.43	\$224.84	\$11,466.66	\$325.39
FINANCE DEPARTMENT						
WAGES - FINANCE DIRECTOR	Hliva, James	109265	\$2,185.30	\$2,229.01	\$113,679.31	\$3,225.84
FIRE MARSHAL						
WAGES - FIRE MARSHAL (FULL-TIME)	Pelletier, Scott	82431.44	\$1,648.63	\$1,681.60	\$85,761.67	\$2,433.63
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES						
WAGES - SOCIAL SERVICE COR.		1050.92	\$21.02	\$21.44	\$1,093.38	\$31.03
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS						
WAGES - REGISTRARS	Crowe, Linda and Jelenik, JoAnn	32607.12	\$652.14	\$665.19	\$33,924.45	\$962.66
SELECTMEN						
WAGES - ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.	Rosa, Kristyn	71442.28	\$1,428.85	\$1,457.42	\$74,328.55	\$2,109.20
WAGES - FIRST SELECTMAN	Temple, George	89303.76	\$1,786.08	\$1,821.80	\$92,911.63	\$2,636.52
WAGES - SELECTMAN	Jensen, Arnie	15759.12	\$315.18	\$321.49	\$16,395.79	\$465.26
WAGES - SELECTMAN	Haney, Heather	15759.12	\$315.18	\$321.49	\$16,395.79	\$465.26
TAX COLLECTOR						
WAGES - TAX COLLECTOR	Schremmer, Ashley	71442.28	\$1,428.85	\$1,457.42	\$74,328.55	\$2,109.20

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