

**Board of Selectmen's  
Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**  
**7:30 PM - Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:48 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Esq. Selectman Jeff Haney, Joanne Pelton,  
Administrative Assistant

Absent: David McKane

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**1. 2/17/15 Special Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 2/17/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

**2. 2/18/15 Regular Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 2/18/15 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

**3. 2/19/15 Special Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 2/19/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

**4. 2/24/15 Special Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 2/24/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Jeff Haney stated that there was one item that he believed had a change to the 2/18/15 Regular Meeting minutes. First Selectman George Temple stated that since the minutes were approved, Jeff Haney will need to come back at a future meeting to correct them. First Selectman George Temple stated the special meetings were the budget meetings.

### **AMENDMENT OF AGENDA**

1. **Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company Request for Use of Town Hall Property for Carnival**

#### **MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company Request for Use of Town Hall Property for Carnival as Item #10 and move Report of First Selectman to Item #11. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes.  
Motion carries

### **APPOINTMENTS**

None.

### **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

First Selectman George Temple presented Selectman Jeff Haney with an Oxford Animal Shelter Jacket for all the work he has done at the shelter.

Selectman Jeff Haney stated that there will be a team coming in on this Saturday to do tiling. The fencing is done, the painting is done, and the Shelter should be complete by the end of March or the beginning of April.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Emergency Appropriation for Snow Removal – Approve and Possible Town Meeting**

*No action. This matter is still on the table. No information available.*

2. **FY 2015-2016 Town Operating Budget – Approve and Forward to Board of Finance**

#### **MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the FY 2015-2016 Town Operating Budget, with a total Municipal expenditure of \$15,128,979, and to forward this matter to the Board of Finance

and then to Town Meeting. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated they have spent a long time on this, and this is only phase 1 of the budget and he expects it to be discussed and trimmed at many meetings after this.

**3. Capital Improvement Plan – Approve and Forward to Town Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the Capital Improvement Plan, as presented, and to forward this matter to a Town Meeting on Monday, March 9, 2015 per Town Charter. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated once again the same as above; there is no harm in approving everything on the Capital Plan based on the fact if the Town doesn't have the money, they won't do it. Some of the items require grants. Everything on the Capital Improvement Plan is worthy to be on the plan.

**4. H&D Catering Peddler's Permit – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to *table* this matter until action is taken by the Parks & Recreation Commission. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries. (Note: the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting was canceled on 3/2/15).

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple asked Debbie Gatto if this was approved. She stated yes it was.

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to rescind the motion to table this matter. First Selectman George Temple rescinded the second to the motion to table this matter.

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the H & D Caterers Permit.

Discussion: Debbie Gatto stated she misunderstood, and the catering permits were not approved. Debbie Gatto stated that The Parks & Recreation committee did not have a quorum so it was not approved. This was a special meeting. First Selectman George Temple stated to Debbie Gatto to try to have another special meeting to get the Peddler's permits approved as soon as possible. As a courtesy they should know by early spring.

First Selectman George Temple stated that they have put restrictions on these in the past, and will probably have to do it again. Debbie Gatto will meet with First Selectmen George Temple to discuss this matter.

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to rescind his motion to approve the H & D Catering Peddler's Permit.

Items 4 & 5 will remain tabled.

**5. Dad's Food Truck Peddler's Permit – Approve**

This item is still tabled.

**6. Jackson Cove Gate House**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to award the Jackson Cove Gate House bid to Sinopoli Contactors, Inc., of 119 Hawley Road, with a bid amount not to exceed \$29,000.00 as presented in their bid submitted on 2/24/15 and as approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission on 3/4/15. This was seconded by George Temple.

Discussion: Debbie Gatto stated that tonight's meeting was a special meeting to try to get the Jackson Cove Gate House approved. She had plans drawn up and she presented them to the Board of Selectmen. It will be a concrete block and steel, approximately a 10 X 15 building, and will have a loft. The Gate House will be placed in the area where the picnic table is now where the kids sit to check for beach permits. There will be a new process and we will be using a Samsung Tablet with credit card reader ability so people can obtain a beach permit at the gate. There will be power in the gate house (60 amps) and a telephone line. Debbie Gatto had received three quotes under the Commission's charge, and two were in the \$42,000 range, and Sinopoli was \$29,000. She did verify that everything was included with Sinopoli.

First Selectmen George Temple stated that this is not how it should be done, and it violates the bidding ordinance if it is over \$20,000. The Charter states you have to have 3 quotes, and the Bidding Ordinance tells you how to do it. The Board of Selectmen cannot approve this unless it conforms to our Bidding ordinance.

First Selectman George Temple stated we will table this item tonight and have Debbie Gatto meet with J. Hliva to get this done right, and have the notice to bid out in the newspaper.

First Selectman George Temple asked where the funds are coming from and it was stated there is a special activities fund when fees are collected that go into this fund. The architectural plans were paid, the fee was \$3000, and that does not have to go out to bid.

Once the notice to bid gets in the newspaper, it usually takes approximately a minimum of 10 days for the bids to come in. The Parks and Recreation Department should have everything by their first meeting in April.

Jeff Haney stated for a 10 X 15 building, it is a lot of money.

*This matter is tabled.*

**7. Tax Refunds**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$2,085.50, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector in her letter received on 3/2/15 and authorize two signatures. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: These are for real estate taxes of \$654 and motor vehicle taxes of \$1430 that were overpayments.

**8. Resident State Trooper Contract Amendments for Contract Agreement 7/1/13 to 6/30/15 – Discuss, with Possible Action**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following State of Connecticut Resident State Trooper Amendments for Contract Agreement dated 7/1/13 to 6/30/15 and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

WHEREAS, the Town of Oxford (hereinafter the “Town”), has requested that the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police (hereinafter the “State Police”), increase the number of Resident State Troopers providing services to the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the Town paying all costs pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 29-5 and other good and valuable consideration, the contract fully executed on July 15, 2013 is hereby amended as follows:

Effective upon full execution of this Agreement, the State Police have and shall provide the services of One (1) additional Resident State Trooper during the above-referenced contract period and One (1) temporary duty Resident State Trooper until the end of the contract period.

All other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in full force and effect.

This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple had three meetings with Lieutenant Davis at the Southbury barracks. First Selectman George Temple is not happy with the Governor's request that towns bear the full costs for Resident Troopers. However, the Amendment above is from now until July, 2015. We have 1 officer out who was hurt and another officer on administrative leave. We are in the process of hiring 2 Oxford Police officers now and we need to have adequate coverage. First Selectman George Temple recommends we do this now.

**9. Changes to Registrars of Voters – Discuss with Possible Action**

Discussion: The Secretary of State is suggesting instead of having a Republican and a Democrat registrar, have only 1 Registrar instead. First Selectman George Temple stated that having one person in of a particular party could have electoral problems. It is important that it is fair to both parties. First Selectman Temple will bring this matter up at the next COG meeting which will be in April. He knows he is not the only one opposed to this. The Waterbury Mayor O'Leary agrees with First Selectman George Temple. Streamlining could be a possibility of voter unfair advantage depending on whatever party is in or not in at the time. First Selectman George Temple supports our Registrars, both of them. The result of the vote at the COG meeting will be sent to the Secretary of State. First Selectman George Temple stated we don't need a vote from this Board, but wants it to be done fairly. He feels it should be unanimous that it will not get passed.

Jeff Haney stated a two party system is important.

First Selectman George Temple stated there will be no action taken, but wants people to know where he stands on it.

**10. Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company Request for Use of Town Hall Property for Carnival**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the use of the rear parking area at Town Hall for Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company's Carnival on Friday May 29, Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31, 2015 (with set-up beginning on Wednesday, May 27, 2015), and to approve the use of a beer garden (not for the general public) for a short period of time following the parade on Saturday, May 30, 2015; all as part of their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration as they requested in their letter dated 2/24/15. This was seconded by George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Scott Pelletier discussed the event, and stated originally it was going to be at the Fire House but there are power lines around the facility, so they could not set rides up there, so this is a viable option area. The smaller parking lot and the grass area by the pond will have 5 or 6 Kiddie rides for the community after the parade. No events will be going on during Town Hall hours.

First Selectman George Temple has no problem with this.

First Selectman George Temple addressed the beer garden and it is for the adults when they get done participating in the parade. Scott Pelletier will watch over it to be sure no heavy drinking is allowed. The events will be held the week after Memorial Day.

Jeff Haney is in favor of it.

## **11. Report of First Selectman**

First Selectman George Temple touched on the Governor's proposal for charging 100% use of State Troopers to the Towns. First Selectman Temple discussed it with the Legislature last week. It will save \$4 million for the State. Nobody believes it will go through. This is a huge impact on our town. Until we hire more local officers, or go to our own police force, or we may possibly have to do what Southbury does, which is they have 29 police officers and 1 sergeant State Trooper that acts as their chief. He is not happy with Hartford. Anytime there is an emergency, anyone of our State Troopers is out of here to backup other troopers.

First Selectman George Temple stated that the Legislative Committee on Planning is asking to put the land of Golf courses as open space and not be taxed. It would cost Oxford approximately \$30,000. First Selectman George Temple opposes this. The people that are recommending this stated that golf courses in CT are in financial difficulty and this would allow them to get bailed out. First Selectman Temple does not see why any town would subsidize the golf courses. He has spoken to a few other Selectmen and they also agree with First Selectman George Temple's stand on this.

There was a leak in the roof at the Quaker Farms Fire House caused by an ice dam. It is insured, but we will see this problem with this winter.

Today, there was an oil truck rollover on Rt. 188 close to the Southbury border. The truck was removed without any oil spilled.

Congratulations to the Firemen. The Board of Selectmen attended the ball and had a great time and the food was terrific.

There was a Chili eating contest to benefit the Grange. The food was terrific. This is a historic spot in Oxford. The Cultural Arts Committee is working very close with them, and they do an open mic at the Grange.

AMENDMENTS

None.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski  
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

15 MAR 10 PM 4:39  
T.C.  
George Temple  
First Selectman