

Minutes

Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 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. 8/24/20 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 8/24/20 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. 9/2/20 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 9/2/20 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Amendment of Agenda

None.

Appointments

NONE.

New Business

1. Pilot's Mall Bond Release Request – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the release of the Performance Bond Release, in the amount of \$2,275,000.00, for Pilot's Mall, LLC Technology Park, as the applicant, has decided to abandon the project. Town Council has approved for the release of the bond as the applicant has completed the construction of the bridge, which has been satisfactorily inspected by the Town Engineer (letter dated 6/15/20), and the scope of work does not include any public improvements. All as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission in their letter dated 9/2/20, Town Counsel in his letter dated 8/12/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple explained that this is for Technology Park; apparently, they decided not to go through with the application they submitted, which is fine. First Selectman George Temple supports this motion to release the bond. Selectman Jensen asked who owns the property? First Selectman George Temple explained the owners are from Stamford and it is not Town-owned land.

2. Connecticut Community Connectivity Grant Appropriation for Little River Nature Preserve Sidewalk – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve an appropriation, in the amount of a \$100,000.00 match for soft costs and a \$398,000.00 for the construction, for the Connecticut Department of Transportation Grant, Connecticut Community Connectivity for the construction of the sidewalk, lighting, benches, and Little River Nature Preserve Trail; as presented by the Grant Writer in her letter dated 9/9/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries

This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

Discussion: Kathleen O'Neil, Oxford's Grant Writer/Administrator, explained that the grant is for \$398,000.00, but this only funded construction. The Town will cover soft costs. The BOS previously approved the 100,000.00 in soft cost, but it was never appropriated. Kathleen was told by Finance Director, Jim Hliva that it's time to appropriate the funds because expenses are being accrued. The grant total is \$398,000.00, and the total is \$500,000.00.

3. Tax Refunds

No action at this time

4. Change Part-Time Fire Department/Fire Marshal Clerk to Full-Time Fire Department/Fire Marshal Clerk.

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to make this a non-union position. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. Selectman Heather Haney recused herself. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion; First Selectman George Temple explained that the Town has conformed to the union requirement as to positions that are available to the union, and there was also discussion about Selectman Haney, as current union member, recusing herself.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to *table* the matter of changing the Part-Time Fire Department/Fire Marshal Clerk to a Full-Time Fire Department/Fire Marshal Clerk. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes Motion carries.

Discussion: Scott Pelletier, Fire Chief discussed the administrative duties of the Clerk and the importance of allowing the Clerk more hours to perform these duties. The Board of Selectman decided to table the motion to allow the Board of Finance an opportunity to comment on the availability and ability to afford the increased cost of this position.

5. Hire Assistant Animal Control Officer

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Brittany Tooth, of Woodbury, as the Assistant Animal Control Officer As-Needed with a pay rate of \$16.00 per hour and a start date of Monday, September 21, 2020. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple explained that this position is part-time and on an as-needed basis to help provide coverage when the full-time Animal Control officer is off duty. Brittany is also an assistant for the Town of Southbury.

6. FY 2019 – 2020 Transfer Requests

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 FY 2019 – 2020 Transfer Requests, as presented by the Finance Director in his letter dated 9/2/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

Discussion: Finance Director, Jim Hliva explained that there are 21 transfers, and these are the final transfers for the year. Two appropriations on the next item that will close out the last fiscal year.

7. FY 2019 – 2020 Appropriation Requests

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the FY 2019 – 2020 Appropriation Requests as presented by the Finance Director. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

Discussion: Finance Director explained the appropriations to the Board of Selectmen. No questions.

8. Report of First Selectman

First Selectman George Temple was happy to announce that we received a grant from the Federal Government for \$500,000.00 for school security. This will cover the S.O.C.K program in the schools. Kathleen O'Neil, Grant Writer/Administrator, explained that the funds would cover the mass notification center, materials, and equipment for S.O.C.K. This will cost the Town \$400,000.00 besides what the government is paying. The total cost will be just less than one million dollars. This was a national completion, and Oxford was one of two towns in CT that received it. Sgt. Robert Boroski and First Selectman George Temple thanked Kathleen for her hard work in getting this grant.

First Selectman George Temple also explained that Congressman Himes received a grant for the Waterbury/Oxford Airport. This grant was awarded to cover the costs of a fence around the airport to keep the wild animals from the runways. The grant amount received was: \$765,054.00. Temple thanked Congressman Himes for thinking about us. This is something that we need, and the Town and State can't afford to put it up, so the federal government did. Thank you, Congressman Himes.

First, Selectman stated that he is working with the BOE to have a ceremony and tour of the new Oxford Middle School. The date will be announced soon. Also, the Town will be receiving the Howitzer soon.

Audience of Citizens


NONE.

Adjournment

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries

Respectfully Submitted,


Kristyn Rosa
Administrative Assistant
Office of the First Selectman

20 OCT -6 PM 12:13
TOWN OF COLEBROOK, CT
OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN
100 N. MAIN ST.
COLEBROOK, CT 06033