

Board of Selectmen's  
Regular Meeting

**Wednesday, May 7, 2014  
7:30 PM - Town Hall**

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

First Selectman George Temple opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge Of Allegiance.  
A moment of Silence was held for Lori Gellatly.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

1. 4/2/14 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:**

Dave McKane moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**MOTION:**

Dave McKane moved to approve the 4/2/14 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. 1 Abstention by Jeff Haney. Motion carries.

2. 4/16/14 Public Hearing

**MOTION:**

Dave McKane moved to approve the 4/16/14 Public Hearing minutes as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. 4/16/14 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 4/16/14 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. 1 Abstention by Dave McKane. Motion carries.

**Amendment of Agenda** – none.

**Appointments** – none.

**Audience of Citizens** – none.

## New Business:

### 1. **FY 2013-2014 Transfer Requests**

#### MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

#### MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the FY 2013-2014 transfer requests (Attachment A) as presented and recommended by the Finance Director in his letter dated 4/15/14. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries. This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

Discussion:

Jim Hliva discussed all of the items except for item 5, books/supplies, were weather related expenses, including a furnace that had broke down, increase in price of heating oil and a storm runoff issue.

### 2. **Helmo's Peddler's Permit – Approve**

#### MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve the Peddler's Permit for Helmo's, LLC, of 33 Sachem Road in Seymour, contingent upon the following conditions:

1. No selling at Posypanko Park on Babe Ruth's Opening Day (Date TBD)
2. No selling at Jackson Cove during "Summer Nights at The Beach" series, which includes Summer Concerts (Tuesday Nights)

This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This person lives in Seymour, and it will be the same type of Peddler's Permit as Joe's Ice Cream Truck.

### 3. **2013 Homeowners Town Benefit Tax Relief Program – Approve**

#### MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to table the motion for the Homeowners Town Benefit Income Guideline for the 2013 Grand List at a cap of \$34,100 for unmarried and \$41,600 for married; with an eligibility age requirement of 65, as presented by the Tax Assessor in her letter dated 4/15/14. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Dave McKane has some questions about the list and the qualifications of the people who have applied. Also, some other residents who might not know about it, are

left out.

4. **Otter Rock Trails Property Donation – Approve**

Dave McKane made a motion to approve the Otter Rock Trails Property donation as described in a letter dated February 21, 2014 from Gail Weitzman. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: this is for a 2/10 of an acre of land, and it could be possibly used for access to the water with a canoe.

5. **Mountain Road Estates (Meadow Brook Estates), Haynes Construction Company Performance (Excavation) Bond Release – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to rescind the release of the Mountain Road Estates (Meadow Brook Estates), Haynes Construction Company Performance (Excavation) Bond, in the amount of \$200,000, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission in their letter dated 5/6/14. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: We had received a letter from Haynes Construction that it was not the correct bond that was released. It should not have been this bond.

6. **Proposed Establishing Charter Revision Commission – Discussion**

Discussion: Dave McKane discussed that he started the ball rolling on this matter because a lot of times, the Board of Selectmen vote on items, file an expenditure, and the Board of Finance drags their feet. We are the Board that puts things together and prioritizes things, and then months go by and nothing is done. He would like to see something in the Charter that states that it must be acted upon within a reasonable time frame, i.e. 30 day, 60 days, etc. Mr. McKane also stated that if the Board of Selectmen get a raise, it should not be up to the Board of Finance who gets it or doesn't. There should also be a provision concerning the ambulance.

First Selectman George Temple would like to give it another month to read the Charter, and to have the town Attorney look at it and ask questions. There is currently a clause that states no changes for a 5 year period, but First Selectman Temple stated we should be able to amend the charter if it is beneficial to the town. He asked that the Board think about suggestions for committee members. Dave McKane stated that Margaret West, the Town Clerk, should be on the committee. First Selectman George Temple would like to have 5 or 7 members on the committee and a fair balance of Democrats, Republicans, and Independent voters. We need people who understand interpretation and could work out well. Jeff Haney commented that the Charter can be changed with a unanimous vote from the Board of Selectmen and then will need to go to the Town, but anything that helps the town grow and prosper can be a good thing.

First Selectman Temple doesn't want to see the Charter be restrictive, but does think it is a good idea. Give it a month, and it will be brought up at the last meeting in June.

7. **FY 2014-2015 Holiday Schedule – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following FY 2014-2015 Holiday Schedule

FY 2014 – 2015 Holidays

<i>Independence Day</i>	<i>Friday July 4, 2014</i>	<i>(Floater)</i>
<i>Labor Day</i>	<i>Monday, September 1, 2014</i>	
<i>Columbus Day</i>	<i>Monday, October 13, 2014</i>	
<i>Veteran's Day</i>	<i>Tuesday, November 11, 2014</i>	
<i>Thanksgiving</i>	<i>Wednesday, November 26, 2014 – ½ Day</i> <i>Thursday, November 27, 2014</i> <i>Friday, November 28, 2014</i>	<i>(Floater)</i>
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>Wednesday, December 24, 2014</i>	
<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Thursday, December 25, 2014</i>	
<i>New Years Day</i>	<i>Wednesday, January 1, 2015</i>	
<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	<i>Monday, January 19, 2015</i>	
<i>President's Day</i>	<i>Monday, February 16, 2015</i>	
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday, April 3, 2015</i>	<i>(Floater)</i>
<i>Memorial Day</i>	<i>Monday, May 25, 2015</i>	

**Holidays that fall on a Friday are Floaters for employees scheduled Monday – Thursday. They are observed as a Holiday for employees scheduled Tuesday – Friday.**

This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

8. **National Safe Boating Week Proclamation – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following National Safe Boating Week Proclamation and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, every year, the United States Coast Guard joins partners nationwide to raise awareness about boating responsibly. We highlight that important work during National Safe Boating Week, and we encourage all boaters to take appropriate precautions before casting off this season; and

WHEREAS, safe boating starts onshore. Americans planning to spend a day on the water should prepare by filing a float plan with family or a friend, getting a free vessel safety check, and participating in a boating safety course. As they embark, boaters should make sure they have checked the marine forecast and all passengers are wearing a life jacket. And to put an end to preventable accidents that claim too many lives every year, individuals should never operate a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol; and

WHEREAS, boating is an important part of our national heritage. This week, let us carry that tradition forward by following commonsense safety procedures and keeping our lakes, rivers, and oceans safe for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of safe boating practices, the Congress, by joint resolution approved June 4, 1958 (36 U.S.C. 131), as amended, has authorized and requested the President to proclaim annually the 7-day period prior to Memorial Day weekend as "National Safe Boating Week."

THEREFORE, I, George R. Temple, Esq., First Selectman of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut, do hereby proclaim May 18 through May 24, 2014, as NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK, in the Town of Oxford, and encourage all who participate in boating activities to observe this occasion by learning more about safe boating practices and taking advantage of boating education.

This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: A proclamation can't save lives, but boating has to do with everything around us. There is a death every year on the Housatonic River, due to a boating accident. A lot of it is careless, and it is the only license you can get without having done anything to get it.

9. **Establish Exploratory Committee for Possible Creation of Blight Ordinance and Approve Charge**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to establish an Anti-Blight Study Committee for the possible creation of a Blight Ordinance and approve the following Charge:

Charge for Anti-Blight Study Committee

By approval of the Board of Selectmen, a new Anti-Blight Study Committee shall be established to review whether or not the Town should adopt a new Blight Ordinance. Such committee will review what is currently in place in order to address blight and come up with a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to be presented at a Town Meeting.

This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. 1 Nay by Dave McKane. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple gets a lot of questions and inquiries about this. When he first started here, no one wanted it. There are people in town who need to be told to respect their neighbors. We are also getting the grant to help clean up blight properties. There are people who pride themselves in their property. We need to see if it is something we want and how do we fashion it. We need to define what a blight is and have a mechanism in place.

Dave McKane stated he has been here and had done that, but the people don't want it. It is a lot of expense going to court about this. We have a Health Department, Zoning Enforcement, Inland Wetland Commissioner, and a Building Inspector, and feels it would be just another layer. Mr. McKane stated we don't have a Anti-Blight Study Committee now so remove the "new", there is nothing in place.

Jeff Haney felt it was something we should look at. He has driven around town, and saw that someone took an old couch, and broken furniture and piled it at the end of their driveway, and nothing has been done in one month. These items are still there. A Blight ordinance won't stop people from dumping. There is even fine print in people's mortgages about this, and First Selectman Temple had once sent a letter to a bank because it deteriorates property and nothing was done. Dave McKane stated the town has been around for 200 years without a blight ordinance, and we don't need one now. There is a need for it, and there is a need to have the right person in charge.

First Selectman George Temple asked the Board to come up with a list of people who want to be on the committee.

10. **Hire Parks & Recreation Summer Employees**

**MOTION:**

Dave McKane moved to hire the Parks & Recreation Camp Counselors and Lifeguards as presented by the Parks & Recreation Director in her letter dated 5/1/14 (Attachment B). This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: 80% of the counselors and lifeguards have previous experience, and a few new people. Most of them are from Oxford.

11. **CL&P Existing Transmission Work Within Town Property – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign**

**MOTION:**

Dave McKane moved to allow CL&P the temporary access in the Town-owned right-of-way located on Bower's Hill Road in order to inspect and work on its transmission facilities for compliance with NERC standards, as requested and presented in their letter dated 4/25/14, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign CL&P's Work Agreement. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion:

John Chankus, Contractor, for CL&P and Rita Landry, Project Manager, discussed the town's project upgrade for safety purposes. They are looking to expand the easement 25

feet wide by 150 feet long on property next to the Tetlak Park fields. They will be putting crushed stone there for access. The project is planned to be complete within three months. A question was asked if this is the only area they are working on or are there other areas in town. They are working in other areas, but CL&P are dealing with the individual homeowners. CL&P is requesting a permit until the end of this year. Dave McKane asked if they are planning on taking the stone once the project is complete. Mr. Chankus stated it can be taken out or leveled off and put in another area. It was suggested that the committee for the Tetlak Park was looking to use the stone for the park. Mr. Chankus would be willing to work with the Town of Oxford on the use of the stone..

12. Young Entrepreneurs Cotton Candy Peddler's Permit – Approve

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the Peddler's Permit for Young Entrepreneurs Cotton Candy, of 16 Kerski Drive, contingent upon the following conditions:

1. No selling at Posypanko Park on Babe Ruth's Opening Day (Date TBD)
2. No selling at Jackson Cove during "Summer Nights at The Beach" series, which includes Summer Concerts (Tuesday Nights)

This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This is the same person as last year, Mark Robinson.

13. **Report of First Selectman**

Save The Date for "BHcare Community Day" in Ansonia. This is the Birmingham Group.

CT Citing Council met and there is a change in the height on the monopoles, they will be 20 feet higher. These are the new tension wires.

The last item is the tragedy that happened today, with the loss of one life, and another in critical condition. Thank God there were no more losses in this incident. It is just a tragic loss. One of the dogs was shot also. The Town's major concern was the schools during this incident, and we had police at the schools, and police from other area towns did the investigation. Police from Bethany, Litchfield, and Troup A all came to help. They knew that the perpetrator was not around and they found him in Winsted. They could have called a Code Red announcement, but felt the perpetrator might have received it and then he would not have been found. The Security worked well in the schools, and the town worked with the Federal and State Government. The Commissioner thought we did a great job and everyone got along well.

**Amendments**

None.

**Audience of Citizens**

None.

## Adjournment

### MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynda Romanowski".

Lynda Romanowski

Clerk, Board of Selectmen



**To: Board of Selectmen**

**April 15, 2014**

**From: Finance Director**

**Re:2013-2014 Transfer requests**

tem #		Department	Account	Account Number	Amount
1	TO:	Ambulance	Facility Maint Serv	5210-613	\$ 1,000.00
	FROM:	Ambulance	Facility Supplies	5210-614	\$ 1,000.00
	Motion				
	Seconded				
	Vote				
	Comments				
2	TO:	Ambulance	Heating Oil	5210-625	\$ 2,466.69
	FROM:	Contingency	Finance Contingency	5320-560-5320	\$ 2,466.69
	Motion				
	Seconded				
	Vote				
	Comments				
3	TO:	IWWC	Contract Services Engineering	5265-570-111	\$ 1,000.00
	FROM:	IWWC	Legal Service Land Use	5265-672	\$ 1,000.00
	Motion				
	Seconded				
	Vote				
	Comments				
4	TO:	Elderly	Snow Removal	5295-736	\$ 1,243.00
	FROM:	Contingency	Finance Contingency	5320-560-5320	\$ 1,243.00
	Motion				
	Seconded				
	Vote				
	Comments				

received  
4/15/14

To: Board of Selectmen

April 15, 2014

From: Finance Director

Re: 2013-2014 Transfer requests

tem #	Department	Account	Account Number	Amount
5	TO: Fire	Books	5325-525	\$ 93.50
	FROM: Fire	Supplies	5325-685	\$ 93.50

Motion

Seconded

Vote

Comments

14 MAY 12 PM 5:39  
TOWN OF UXBOROUGH, CT  
TOWN CLERK  
*Stephanie A. West*