

# Minutes

Board of Selectmen's  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, March 1, 2023  
7:30 PM - Town Hall

First Selectman George Temple called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**In Attendance:** First Selectman George Temple, Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman David McKane (via zoom) and Administrative Assistant Kristyn Rosa

## ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

### 1. 2/15/23 Regular Meeting

#### MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 2/15/23 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

## AMENDMENT OF AGENDA:

None

## APPOINTMENTS

### 1. Board of Assessment Appeals Appointment

#### MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint Tom Jagoda to the Board of Assessment Appeals with a term to commence immediately and expire on 11/7/23. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All in favor. motion carried.

## NEW BUSINESS

**1. Recognition of Officer Gagstetter's and Officer Dyki's Actions**

First Selectman George Temple Presented a certificate and the town coin to Officers Quinn Gagstetter and Michael Dyki for their heroic and professionalism on January 28, 2023. Officer Gagstetter was off duty and witnessed a vehicle with one passenger inside shooting his weapon through his car window on route 67. Officer Gagstetter called the situation in to dispatch. Officer Dyki from Trumbull Police Department responded and asked if Officer Gagstetter was armed. He was and Officer Dyki then asked if he would assist in the apprehension of the suspect.

The suspect was taken into custody. First Selectman George Temple stated these two officers showed the highest standard of respect and police work. The town is grateful for their efforts that evening. Assistant Chief Glenn C. Byrnes from Trumbull Police Department was also in attendance for the presentation.

**2. Library Services and Technology Act Summer Enrichment Grant Application – Approve and Authorize Director to Sign and Submit Application**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the Library Services and Technology Act Summer Enrichment Grant Application and to authorize the Director of Municipal Library/Media Operations to sign and submit said application; as presented and requested in her letter dated 2/23/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: Director of Library Media/Operations Robbi Costigan explained that this grant is to enrich the reading program for the children. If awarded the funds they will be doing a musical story time, Rock Your World, The Sky is Falling, and 10 tips for managing stress. Those would run throughout the summer.

**3. Oxford High School Pool Capital Project – Award Bid**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the Oxford High School Pool 2022 Capital Project bid to CT Customs Aquatics for a total cost of \$198,970.00; as presented and requested in the Superintendent's letter dated 1/30/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple inquired if contracts have been checked and Superintendent Dr. Robert Miller stated they were.

**4. Quaker Farms School Playground Capital Project – Award Bid**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the Quaker Farms School Playground 2022 Capital Project to Premier Park & Play for a total cost of \$74,890.00; as presented and requested in the Superintendent's letter dated 1/30/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple inquired where the funds would be taken from. Finance Director Jim Hliva stated they would be taken from the Capital Project Fund. Superintendent Dr. Robert Miller stated the pool is deteriorating. He also stated that until the pool is drained, we don't have a firm idea of the condition and possible repairs that are needed. First Selectman Temple stated his concern is that after draining the pool more issues could be found. He explained that once the pool is drained and there is more detail of the condition of the pool, the Board of Selectmen should be notified. It was stated that Dr. Miller is to keep in very close contact with this Board during this process.

**5. ARPA Funding Request for Asbestos Inspection of Windows at Old Center School**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve ARPA funding request, in the amount of \$725.00, for Brooks Environmental Consulting, LLC to conduct the asbestos inspection of windows at the "Old Center School"; as presented and requested by the ARPA Committee in their email dated 2/17/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: Oxford Space & ARPA Funds Advisory Committee Chairman Jeff Luff stated that the windows do need to be checked for asbestos. This will then tell what is exactly involved. This funding will cover the windows and the walls. Currently the windows are in terrible shape.

**6. ARPA Funding Request for Inspection of Old Center School Building**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve ARPA funding request, in the amount of \$25,00.00, for an engineering study inspection of the "Old Center School"; as presented and requested by the ARPA Committee in their email dated 2/17/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: Oxford Space & ARPA Funds Advisory Committee Chairman Jeff Luff stated the last inspection was in 2016. He explained that completing the inspection before the project begins will tell of any possible issues.

**7. ARPA Payment Request for Civil 1 Invoices – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the payment request for Civil 1 Invoice #12576, in the amount of \$240.00, for 40 sets of prints, and also for Civil 1 Invoice #12512, in the amount of \$109.90, for postage and Public Hearing notices; as presented and requested by the ARPA Committee in their email dated 2/17/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: Oxford Space & ARPA Funds Advisory Committee Chairman Jeff Luff stated that these bills came after the plans were presented to Planning & Zoning and Inland/Wetlands Committee.

**8. Main Street Project Update**

Oxford Main Street Project Chairman Jeff Luff stated Phase 1 is complete. The light post is currently on back order. Phase 1B, the second part, is waiting for funding approval. Detailed plans need to be completed for Phase 2 which will bring the sidewalk down to Quarry Walk. The town received a \$3.4 million grant for this project.

**9. Oxford Ambulance Association 2023 Tax Abatements – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the following Oxford Ambulance Association Tax Abatements for 2023 as presented and requested by the Director:

Timothy Crouch	140 Chestnut Tree Hill Road	\$2,000.00
Ariella Bourdeau	92 Coppermine Road	\$1,500.00
Patrick Gannon	3 Griswold Road	\$1,500.00
Joseph Galla, Jr.	37 Freeman Road	\$1,500.00
Bethany Sherback	8 Shannon Court	\$1,000.00
Jeffrey Spear	31 Macintosh Drive	\$1,000.00
Breanna Toomey	5 Skyline Drive	\$1,000.00
Gabriella Saad	40 Ancient Highway	\$1,000.00
Danielle Rossi	123 Chestnut Tree Hill Road	\$1,000.00

This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Hire Part-Time Receptionist**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Rosemary Harner as a Part-Time Receptionist at a pay rate of \$15.61 per hour and a start date of Monday, March 27, 2023. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple stated that he supports the hiring of Rosemary Harner. She will do a great job and is perfect for this position.

**11. Oxford Town-Wide Cleanup Month Resolution**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the following Town-Wide Cleanup Month Resolution as presented and requested by the Conservation/Inland Wetlands Agency:

**WHEREAS**, the Oxford Conservation Commission Inland Wetlands Agency has declared from April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> as Town Wide Cleanup Month; and

**WHEREAS**, Town Wide Cleanup Month is celebrated annually to recommit to protect our flora and fauna and make Oxford a beautiful place to live; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Oxford reaffirms its commitment to the goals and principles of Town Wide Cleanup Month and in keeping with our goal to protect and make Oxford a beautiful place to live, and supports Town Wide Cleanup by:

1. Inviting and encouraging all citizens, businesses, organizations, schools, clubs, neighborhoods and families to participate in community Town Wide Cleanup activities; and
2. By providing support through participation of Town Departments.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Oxford declare from April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> as Town Wide Cleanup Month and authorizes the Public Works Department to remain open until 5:00 PM on the last two (2) Saturdays of April.

This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: It was stated that the Inlands Wetlands Commission would like to see more people attend Earth Day. They would also like to place banners at Public Works and Town Hall for this event.

**12. Hire Part-Time Grant Writer**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Karen Cook as a Part-Time Grant Writer at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour and a start date of Monday, March 6, 2023. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated Karen Cook is well qualified for the position. She has had great education and background for this position. Acting Tax Collector (previous Grant Writer) Helen Leung will train her. She interviewed very well.

**13. Hire Full-Time Public Work's Utility Man**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Jason McLain as a Full-Time Public Work's Utility Man at a pay rate of \$26.18 per hour and a start date of Monday, March 6, 2023. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple explained that Mr. McLain is our current Dog Warden. He has done a fantastic job. He is currently plowing and has the license needed to drive the plow truck. Mr. McLain is still licensed as a Dog Warden. This is a very good hire.

**14. FY 2023 – 2024 Municipal Operating Budget – Approve and Forward to Board of Finance**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the FY 2023 – 2024 Municipal Operating Budget, with a total Municipal expenditure of \$21,829,862. and to forward this matter to the Board of Finance and then to a Town Meeting. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

**15. Report of First Selectman**

First Selectman George Temple mentioned that today was the first ever High School State Basketball Tournament.

On March 12, 2023 First Selectman George Temple Will be marching in the New Haven parade.

On March 11, 2023 is the Fireman's Ball.

First Selectman Temple explained that we continue to work on the garden. A possible location could be Christian Street. First Selectman George Temple will attend the Agricultural Advisory Committee's next meeting to get their thoughts and involvement.

As of April 3, 2023 the town Hall hours will change as follows.

Monday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

On March 6th and 7th, 2023 an Art Show will be held at the High School. Art from all schools will be featured.

#### **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

First Selectman George Temple moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

***KATHLEEN SUNDSTROM***

Kathleen Sundstrom

Clerk

TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
*Kathleen Sundstrom*  
TOWN CLERK

2023 MAR 15 P 12:41