

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, June 17, 2015
7:30 PM - Town Hall

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 5/18/15 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 5/18/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries. David McKane stated he was not present but is aware of what was discussed.

2. 5/20/15 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 5/20/15 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

1. Board of Education 2015 – 2016 Capital Plan Approval to Spend Resolution

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Board of Education 2015 – 2016 Capital Plan Approval to Spend as Item #9. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Fire Department 2015 – 2016 Budget Adjustment Request

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Fire Department 2015 – 2016 Budget Adjustment Request as Item #10. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. Summer Employee Hiring Clarification

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Summer Employee Hiring Clarification as Item #11. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

4. Cellular Tower Bids Discussion and Possible Action to Forward to Town Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Cellular Tower Bids Discussion and Possible Action to Forward to Town Meeting as Item #12 and move Report of First Selectman to Item #13. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

5. MOTION:

David McKane moved to amend the agenda to add award bid for the school roof from New Britain Roofing Co., Inc. in the amount of \$640,750. This was seconded by Jeff Haney.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple suggested having a special meeting on this item during the week to review all of the details prior to bringing it to this meeting. He wanted to give everyone time to think about it.

David McKane withdrew the Motion.
Jeff Haney withdrew his Second to the Motion.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Lake Zoar Authority - Appoint Jamie Dobrovich

MOTION:

David McKane moved to appoint Jamie Dobrovich, of 161 Freeman Road, to the Lake Zoar Authority with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/16. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple stated he is well known and is interested in the Lake Zoar Authority, and will do a good job.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Jack Kiley, 88 Bee Mountain Road, questioned hiring a summer employee for the Public Works Department. This was taken out of the budget. He stated the town had to make a lot of cuts to the budget in all of the departments and wanted to know where the money will be coming from to pay for this. The town had to borrow from the general fund to pay the additional \$600,000 for snow removal for the Public Works Dept. and hiring someone for summer employment was not a budgeted item. In order to keep the mill rate the same all departments had budget cuts. How about the Board of Education, Police Dept., Fire Dept. and all the other departments that all had to take cuts.

Dick Burke, 447 Quaker Farms Road, commented on the same topic. He stated we should not start breaking the rules and what about the other departments. The Public Works had an overrun last year due to the snow and we had to borrow from the General Fund. The tax payers did not approve this expenditure in the upcoming budget, and it is not in the budget.

Kathy Johnson, Dorman Road, asked why the Track & Field athletes are going out of town for meets, and why are they not using our fields. First Selectman George Temple stated he cannot answer for the Board of Education, but he thought it was because they are in need of some pads for certain field events. Ms. Johnson asked that she had heard a rumor that the field was not big enough to throw the javelin and asked if this was true? First Selectman Temple stated that it was not an accurate rumor.

David Stocker, 144 Punkup Road, stated that the Public Works Department Head stated he didn't need summer help and that it was taken out of the budget. He also wished that when it comes time to vote, he would hope that Selectman McKane would recuse himself since he works for the Public Works Dept. This item is not part of what we voted for a few weeks ago. Parks and Recreation have their own budget to pay for summer help. First Selectman Temple will respond when this item comes up.

Jack Kiley stated this is a unique situation, when you have an employee sitting on the Board of Selectmen overruling the head of the department. Why did you push it to item 11?

David McKane stated he does not need anyone telling him when he needs to recuse himself from.

Dick Burke, 447 Quaker Farms Road, can't believe what he has just heard. He has been an elected official for 12 years, and I can't tell you how many meetings he has been at that Mr. McKane has asked people to recuse themselves.

Kathy Johnson, Dorman Road, stated Mr. McKane always does the right thing. First Selectman George Temple does not want to discuss this now.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Miss Connecticut Senior America Pageant 2015 Representative**

Catherine Szerszen of Oxford was acknowledged for her being selected for Ms. Connecticut. Ms. Szerszen gave a brief description of what the title means and how the contributions to the community help serve all seniors. Seniors are the foundation of America and her role is to spread the message that we continue to make our mark in this world, and age does not matter. She stated it is an honor to represent our state.

2. **Oxford High School Girls Basketball Team Recognition**

First Selectman George Temple presented certificates to the Girls Basketball Coach to be given out to all of the members of the Oxford High School Girls Basketball Team. Members of the team that were present were introduced. Congratulations to all of the girls!

3. **Oxford High School Diamond Project Committee Update**

MOTION:

David McKane moved to table this matter until the next Board of Selectmen's meeting. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

The Chairman of this committee was not able to make tonight's meeting so it will be postponed until the July 1, 2015 Board of Selectmen meeting.

4. **Hire Summer Employee Parks & Recreation/Public Works**

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to hire Matthew Hanna, of 5 Walter Lane, as a Parks & Recreation/Public Works Summer Employee, with a start date of Wednesday, June 3, 2015 and a pay rate of \$10.45 per hour. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated that when Wayne Watt went before the Board of Finance, it was a different situation than it is now. He has two employees in the Public Works Department that are not up to par physically at this time. The Public Works Department has taken on different parks and also is expected to do the normal paving at this time of year. In contrast to what he has heard tonight, First Selectman George Temple has talked to several of the workers at Public Works, and Glenn would love to have three Matt Hanna's. First Selectman Temple supports this motion and stated that Matt Hanna is experienced, and has been there for two years and has never had a

problem with his work ethics, or ability. First Selectman Temple stated that Wayne Watt is for it and the Board of Finance have not talked to him in a long time. Jeff Haney feels we should not hire him for Public Works. We have a double motion here. We can hire him with Parks and Recreation where he is currently, and can bifurcate the motion.

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the motion to hire Matthew Hanna, of 5 Walter Lane, as a Parks & Recreation Summer Employee, with a start date of Wednesday, June 3, 2015 and a pay rate of \$10.45 per hour. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Most of what he is doing will be with Parks & Recreation. Those who looked at the high school last year, the grounds looked like a mess, and this year it looks great. Selectman Dave McKane asked if the money is coming out of Parks & Recreation budget. Yes it is for this part.

MOTION

First Selectman George Temple moved to amend the motion to hire Matthew Hanna, of 5 Walter Lane, when needed as a Public Works Summer Employee, with the same amount of pay per hour. This was seconded by David McKane for discussion. 1 Aye by First Selectman Temple, 1 Opposed by Selectman Haney, 1 Abstention by Selectman McKane. Motion does not carry.

Discussion: Question was asked when he works for the Public Works Department where will the money be coming from? It will come from the Public Works Dept. J. Hliva stated it will come out of Public Works. Until June 30th, there is some money, but after June 30th, there isn't any money.

5. FY 2014 – 2015 Transfer Requests

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the FY 2014 – 2015 transfer requests as presented by the Finance Director. This was seconded by David McKane . All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: J. Hliva stated that the Board of Selectmen should look over each one and ask any questions. This is for the year-end cleanup. Item #19 was for hazardous recycling Day, and the turnout was tremendous, and the cost coming from COG was almost \$8000. Item# 21 was for the police negotiations and defense of G. Soules case. Item #22 was for the legal work, and all of the meetings held with the citing counsel. Discussion was held regarding the overtime for the State Troopers. We have three vacancies, and had no choice but to bring in officers. We have interviewed, but no certified officers have applied. There is no commitment for them to stay for any amount

of time. First Selectman Temple asked where we stand on this, and J. Pelton stated that there are two more interviews set up. First Selectman Temple stated to get it done by next week.

The last item for security cameras was discussed, and will be an action item tonight to award the bid. This is to put the money in place. This will be contingent upon approval of the Board of Finance. First Selectman George Temple stated that this is an emergency funding, this is for safety, and it does not need the Board of Finance approval.

6. Fire Truck and Public Works Vehicles Lease Agreements – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the Fire Truck and Public Works Vehicles Lease Agreements between the Town of Oxford and First Niagara Leasing, Inc, dated 5/28/15, and authorize the First Selectman to sign. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes, 1 Abstention by David McKane. Motion carries.

Discussion: These are trucks that are being leased.

7. ARCADIS Ground Water Monitoring 2015 – 2016 Contract, Quaker Farms School – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the ARCADIS Ground Water Monitoring 2015 – 2016 Contract for Quaker Farms School and authorize the First Selectman to sign. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

8. Award Surveillance System Bid and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

David McKane moved to award the Surveillance System bid for six (6) cloud based surveillance cameras with solar power to be located at Ryan's Court and Lily Park to Setronics Corp, of 5 Executive Park Drive in Billerica, MA, for an amount not to exceed \$17,834.00 as presented in their proposal dated 5/14/15. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries. (Note: there will be 2 cameras placed at Ryan's Court and 4 placed at Lily Park).

Discussion: Can we take the funds out of LoCIP money? Discussion held that we would have to amend the Capital Plan and go to a town meeting. First Selectman George Temple stated it is something the town needs since it is a park that attracts young children and it needs surveillance. If we don't do it that way, which way can we do it? The only

other place is General Fund balance or Finance Contingency. This will need to be sent to the Board of Finance for appropriate transfer.

9. **Board of Education 2015 – 2016 Capital Plan Approval to Spend Resolution**

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following Resolution:

Whereas the 2015 – 2016 Capital Plan was approved at Town Meeting on March 9, 2015, and;

Whereas the Board of Education had several projects included in the plan, and;

Whereas the Board of Finance moved the funding for the projects into the Capital and Non-Recurring account and Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Town Meeting approval is needed to spend from the Capital and Non-Recurring account.

Therefore be it resolved that the Board of Selectmen approve the attached list of Board of Education projects that are included in the Capital Plan. Also be it resolved that the items approved in the 2015 -2016 budget and placed in the Capital and Non-Recurring fund for the Board of Education are forwarded to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting for approval as amended. Be it further resolved that no money can be expended until bids or quotes have been received and have been approved by the Board of Education and the First Selectman.

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

Discussion: Rosemary Hanson discussed that the plan was approved, but not the funding. This is the piece to get the funding approved to move forward on this. The time frame is during the summer. Especially the roof replacement. If the Capital Plan was approved, but not the funding, then that means that the Town referendum did not address the funding of the capital plan. It was discussed that this is a problem with the Charter, anything has to go to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Town Meeting. It was approved by the Board of Finance, and was approved at the referendum. The one capital item that was not approved was for a facility study which is done every ten years. We will not be spending money on a study. She discussed that the money will be spent on “finishing the fields” including pavers to the concession stand, misc. landscaping near the javelin area, football player walkway needs some landscaping, at Wolverine Field the plan is to move the storage container from outside the central office and move it near the concession stand. Not included in this is athletic equipment, but they will push the BOE to utilize some of the rental money to purchase athletic equipment. The town does still “pay to play.” This offsets the budget. Dave McKane asked why it is taking so long. Technically it is not ours yet, we still have a building committee. As long as we have a standing, active building committee it is theirs. Is there any potential reimbursement for

any of these items from the State of Connecticut? We had a building for storage and it was turned in to a Snack Shack. There was no track 5 years ago.

10. Fire Department 2015 -2016 Budget Adjustment Request

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following Fire Department 2015 – 2016 budget adjustment request:

Remove \$5,600.00 from account 5325-603 – Equipment, Depreciable.

Move \$1,750.00 to account 5325-612 – Facility Improvements
(for the purchase and installation of a smart board at Riverside Fire Station)

Move \$3,850.00 to account 5325-604 Equipment, Expensed
(for equipment with a higher priority than the portable pump)

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

11. Sumer Employee Hiring Clarification

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to rescind the following motion made at the 5/20/15 Board of Selectmen’s meeting:

Motion by Jeff Haney to hire Kassidy Rosa, of 6 Skyline Drive, as a Part-Time Fill-In Employee, at a pay rate of \$10.50 per hour, effective immediately. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

First Selectman George Temple wishes to withdraw his second to the motion.

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to hire Kassidy Rosa, of 6 Skyline Drive, as a Full-Time Summer Employee, at a pay rate of \$10.50 per hour, effective immediately. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

12. Cellular Tower Bids Discussion and Possible Action to Forward to Town Meeting

J. Hliva discussed various options for the Cell Towers. Currently we have leases, and we get rental monies between \$55,000-\$60,000 per year for both towers. It was offered to extend the leases for 20 years at \$1,200,000 or a 50 year lease for \$1,350,000. First Selectman George Temple stated it will give us money to fund some very important projects. First Selectman Temple believes it is a good idea to do it. This is something to think about, and the bid has a 45 day window, but both companies are willing to waive this. It was suggested by First Selectman George Temple to discuss this at the same meeting regarding the roof at Quaker Farms School. Once the Board of Selectmen approve, a contract can be drawn up and be reviewed by Council. The monies will go into the general fund. Chief Pelletier asked if the top of the tower became available in the future, the Fire Dept. could move their equipment up to a higher location and they agreed to that. If anybody in town had to change equipment, they will pay for the engineering. Question was raised if there would be provisions for dismantling at their cost, and yes they own them. There would be a demolition bond.

13. Report of First Selectman

We had put out to have a feasibility study done at no cost to the town on the old dump site for putting in solar energy panels to subsidize energy use for all of the town owned buildings. There may or may not be a problem associated with it, but it is no risk for the town. If we did it, it would have to go to a town meeting. It is something worthwhile pursuing.

Steel Corporation is making an application to Inland/Wetlands to come to Oxford for a 400,000 square foot building. Additionally, there is a new flex style building purchased by Kovaacs Construction company from Danbury.

Oxford Girls softball team won the State championship. Ashley Guillet, had a perfect game, and pitched a no hitter, and she just graduated from Oxford High School and we are very proud of her and the team.

Congratulations to the Board of Education for their attitude for the girls and boys to excel in athletics. The boy's basketball team also did very well.

First Selectman George Temple attended a promotional ceremony today at Oxford High School for the Great Oak students and a graduation on Monday for the Oxford High School students. First Selectman George Temple was very impressed with the Oxford kids. The fields looked great today! The teachers don't always get recognition, and they really deserve it. You don't send good kids out without good parents and teachers. First Selectman Temple would like to recognize the teachers here in Oxford.

The first Annual Food & Arts Festival was very successful.

AMENDMENTS

None.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

David Stocker, 144 Punkup Road, had a question on the solar panels on the roof at Great Oak School, and asked if they were operational. Yes they are operational and they are feeding the system. It is being productive. His concern was that over the winter, he didn't know if the panels got out of alignment and are just sitting on the roof. It was discussed that the misalignment is for the fire boxes that tie all of the panels together, and they recently had maintenance work done. The panels save \$23,000-\$25,000 in revenues back to the town. Electricity is zero during July and August, but in September when the kids are back in school, it goes back up and we utilize everything in the buildings until it snows. When it gets snow covered, we cannot remove the snow from the panels.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

David McKane moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

15 JUN 22 PM 5:11
TOWN OF GARDNER, CT
Margaret A. Ullrich
TOWN CLERK