

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, October 7, 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 David McKane, Joanne Pelton, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Selectman Jeff Haney – out of town.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 9/14/15 Special Meeting

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the 9/14/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. 9/16/15 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

David McKane moved to table the approval of the 9/16/15 Regular Meeting minutes until the next meeting. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

- 1. Addendum to Developer's Permit agreement between Haynes Construction Company and the Town of Oxford and Rt. 67 Sewer Water Line agreement between Haynes Development Company and the Town of Oxford and approve and authorize the First Selectman to sign.**

MOTION:

David McKane moved to amend the agenda to add the addendum agreement between Haynes Construction Company and the Town of Oxford and Rt. 67 Sewer Water Line agreement between Haynes Development Company and the Town of Oxford and approve and authorize the First Selectman to sign. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Name of the Flower Garden at Lily Park

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to amend the agenda to name the flower garden at Lily Park after Patty Palmer who was a town hall employee who deceased four years ago. This was seconded by David McKane. All 2 Ayes. Motion Carries.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Amy Cote, 42 Newgate Road, as the Chairman of the Board of Education, discussed the issue at Center School with odors in the building and will need to remediate this problem. There will be a point where we will need to put a portable classroom at that location and the Board of Education may need additional funding for this portable classroom. Currently, two of the classes have been moved to the art room and the Library. There will be a meeting tomorrow to work on planning to resolve this issue. These two classrooms are in the main building. The mid-range plan is to get a portable classroom, and the long range plan is the need to build a new building, in order to conform to the educational specifications. This has been in the capital plan for two years at this point and has not had any funding. There was a facility study done in 2007, which is out-of-date. A new facility study is the first step in that long term process of taking care of Center School's needs.

First Selectman George Temple stated someone from Central Office needs to talk to him about this. This is much more expensive than you think, in the realm of \$300,000, and the Education specs should have been done a long time ago. We currently have a location for a new Center School and have a committee working on it and we want to get going on it.

Amy Cote stated that it will be more than the \$300,000, and they are waiting on that estimate, and have been trying to compile those. We have to work in utilities, and find a site on that location to put another portable classroom. They have been asking for this for two years and it has not been funded in the capital plan. Jack Kiley stated it is part of the capital plan but has not been funded in the past couple of years. It had cost \$50,000-\$60,000 to have that facility study done and doesn't know how many people read the study. Amy Cote stated the facility study was done in 2007, and will do another one if that is what is needed to get this done, but that will take 4 – 6 months. First Selectman George Temple stated that you are asking for another \$50,000 to get that study done, to buy us some time, and a portable classroom for \$300,000 which will alleviate the problem to a temporary facility. We need to get a meeting with the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance, and get to the bottom line. Thank you.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2014 Grand List Manufacturing Exemptions – Discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the following 2014 Grand List Manufacturing Exemptions as based on the filing of their 2014 Personal Property Declaration – Summary Sheet Line Item #13:

- The Macton Corporation of 116 Willenbrock Road for 2014 Grand List Assessment of \$2,346,860
- Balfor Industries of 327 Riggs Street for 2014 Grand List Assessment of \$135,180

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

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to do this manufacturing exemption, and that both of these companies were late in filing their tax declaration and by statute they do not get their exemptions. Peter McDonald from the Macton Corporation stated that they had someone responsible for it, and the company had to do some cutbacks and when the person went to file the form on November 3, the office at Town Hall was closed, so they filed it the next morning. It is an economic hardship for the company. First Selectman George Temple stated that there is only one shot at this and there is a time to do things and they have to do it on time. The Board of Selectmen can exempt this but the Assessor cannot, and we rely on our books to be on time. This needs to be done a week ahead of time, not at the last minute. David McKane stated that both of these companies have been good companies in Oxford and the ownership is on them to get the paperwork in. When the new bill became due it should be paid on time. Going forward get the paperwork in. It is in everyone's best interest to approve this.

Rich Ballot from the Balfor Industries stated he was in the same boat, but that the form was filed quite a bit later, and his accountant was ill, and has just filed for an extension of taxes for 2014 a month ago. His business is tied to oil and gas and is having a tough time, and the bill went from \$195 to \$5000, he is asking for a one time pass on this. It is also a hardship for his company. First Selectman George Temple stated he understands, but accounting principles and procedures have not changed. First Selectman George Temple stated that both companies will get the exemptions.

2. Proposed Manufacturing Exemption Ordinance – Discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

David McKane moved to table the approval of the proposed Manufacturing Exemption. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple would like to have Town Counsel review this first.

3. Bruno Petronis Soil & Erosion Bond Release – Approve

MOTION:

David McKane moved to release the Soil & Erosion Bond for Bruno Petronis, 149 Punkup Road, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission in their Memorandum dated 9/14/15. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Planning and Zoning met on this and unanimously voted to release the bonding for the amount of \$10,000.

4. Oxford Land Trust, Inc Open Space Land Acquisition (Fiddlehead Road & Jem Woods Road) – Discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

David McKane moved to exempt the Oxford Land Trust, Inc. from payment of taxes for the Grand List of October 2014 for their two recently acquired properties identified as:

1. Jem Woods Road, Map ID: 12/48/25
2. Fiddlehead Road, Map ID: 11/48/22

Due to the fact that they are a tax-exempt organization having qualified as a 501(c)(3) corporation under the Internal Revenue Code; as they presented and requested in their letter dated 9/18/15. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Fred Stanek from the Oxford Land Trust stated there were two bills one for \$376.90, and a second bill of \$389.38 on the grand list of 2014. These will be exempt for any future bills, but the Land Trust acquired these last December and they are a 501(c)(3) corporation. David McKane has been involved with the Land Trust and they have been a 501(c) when they started and have had properties fall into the same category and have had exemptions granted.

5. **Diaper Need Awareness Week Proclamation – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign**

MOTION:

David McKane moved to waive the reading of the proclamation. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the following Diaper Need Awareness Week Proclamation and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

WHEREAS, Diaper Need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to ensure that infants and toddlers are clean, healthy and dry, can adversely affect the health and welfare of infants, toddlers and their families; and

WHEREAS, national surveys report that one in three mothers experiencing diaper need at some time while their children are less than three years of age forty-eight percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

WHEREAS, the average infant or toddler requires an average of 50 diaper changes per week over three years; and

WHEREAS, diapers cannot be bought with food stamps or WIC vouchers, therefore obtaining a sufficient supply of diapers can cause economic hardship to families; and

WHEREAS, a supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for infant and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early education programs; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Town of Oxford recognize that addressing Diaper Need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's low-income families and can lead to improved health for families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Oxford is proud to be home to various community organizations that recognize the importance of diapers on helping provide economic stability for families and distribute diapers to poor families through various channels; now

THEREFORE, I George R. Temple, First Selectman of the Town of Oxford, do hereby proclaim the week of September 28th through October 4th, 2015 as **DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK** in the Town of Oxford and encourage the citizens of oxford to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and those organizations that distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in the Town of Oxford and environs.

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

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated we look for people to solicit for this very worthy cause, and have boxes in the lobby of Town Hall, and he whole heartedly supports this.

6. Hire Children's Librarian

MOTION:

David McKane moved to hire Robyn Rivero, of 78 Old Ridge Road in New Milford, as the Children's Librarian, at a pay rate of \$18.64 per hour (per union contract) and effective Monday October 19, 2015; as recommended by the Library Director in her letter received on 10/6/15. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple interviewed this applicant and she was one of the finalists, and she will be a very good hire. David McKane stated she has a very good resume, and that we are lucky to have her.

7. Hire Police Officers

MOTION:

David McKane moved to hire the following as Oxford Police Officers, CONTINGENT UPON the passage of all exams and training as set forth by the CT Police Officers Standards and Training; as recommended by the Resident State Trooper:

Keith Buinauskas, of Oxford, at a pay rate of \$28.59 per hour.

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

Discussion: Keith Buinauskas will be a retired Resident Trooper and we are very lucky to have him. He lives in Oxford, and has a very good resume, and this is a great hire, and we welcome him aboard. Dave McKane stated Keith Buinauskas has a very impressive resume.

MOTION:

David McKane moved to hire the following as Oxford Police Officers, CONTINGENT UPON the passage of all exams and training as set forth by the CT Police Officers Standards and Training; as recommended by the Resident State Trooper:

Robert Haas, Jr., of Southbury at a pay rate of \$23.30 and to send him to the Police Academy

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

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple has met this man and is involved in the Southbury Fire Department. We look for that when hiring a person, if a person is involved in their own community, and when they police our community. First Selectman George Temple feels he will do very well. David McKane stated it is a good opportunity for him and us.

A picture will be taken of the new officers at the end of the meeting.

8. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$2,849.41, as presented by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 10/7/15 and to authorize two signatures. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

9. Animal Control Fundraising Events – Approve

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the following fund raisers for the Oxford Animal Shelter Dog Fund as requested by the Assistant Animal Control Officer in her letter dated 10/2/15:

- November 2015 – 5th Annual Pet Photos (and children) with Santa to be held at the Oxford Animal Shelter. Start-up cost \$0.00. Estimated profit between \$300 to \$400
- January and February 2016 – 5th Annual Pasta Dinner to be held at the Crowne Plaza in Southbury from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Start-up cost \$0.00. Estimated profit \$2500

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

Discussion: This makes our animal shelter self-sufficient excluding utilities. Sometimes the animals need veterinary care then they use these funds to pay for care. David McKane has been to almost all of these and it is a fun night.

10. FY 2015 – 2016 Transfer Requests

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the following FY 2015 – 2016 transfer requests as written and forwarded by the Board of Finance:

TO: Tax Collector	5505-517-0023	\$34,902.00
FROM: Tax Collector	5505-515-0022	\$34,902.00

TO: Conservation/I. W.	5265-811-000-000 (Vehicle Maintenance)	\$300.00
FROM: Conservation/I. W.	5265-676-000-0000 (Maintenance Detention Ponds)	\$300.00

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

Discussion: The Tax Collector item is an administrative/housekeeping item. First Selectman George Temple stated they need to look into getting a glass window for that whole area.

11. **Addendum to Developer's Permit agreement between Haynes Construction Company and the Town of Oxford and Rt. 67 Sewer Water Line agreement between Haynes Development Company and the Town of Oxford and to approve and authorize the First Selectman to sign.**

MOTION:

David McKane moved to approve the addendum to the Developer's Permit agreement between Haynes Construction Company and the Town of Oxford and Rt. 67 Sewer Water Line agreement between Haynes Development Company and the Town of Oxford, and to approve and authorize the First Selectman to sign said agreement.

Discussion: Fred D'Amico, from the Sewer Authority, commented that they are in agreement, but the only concern is they want to be sure that where it says \$10,000, it was clear that it was for the inspection of the sewer main not including the private sewers inside the complex. This should be clear that it is only for the sewer main itself. First Selectman George Temple stated that where it states "any fees for inspection conducted by Oxford and/or by WPCB should be limited to a total amount of \$10,000." This is how much Haynes is going to give the Town. If it is over this amount, the town of Oxford will be responsible. First Selectman George Temple thanked the Sewer Authority for all the work they did on this. Selectman David McKane is good with this, but asked that when it is inspected will they send cameras down to check it? Fred D'Amico stated he believes it is correct and they do this at the end, but during the process of installation, there will be an inspector there on-site to be sure it is compacted properly.

- 12: **Name of Flower Garden at Lily Park**

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to amend to name the flower garden at Lily Park after Patty Palmer, who was a town hall employee in the Wetlands Department for years

and was somebody who loved kids and would love to have her name associated with it. This was seconded by David McKane. All 2 Ayes. Motion Carries.

11. Report of First Selectman

It's October, and is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and time for "Pink the First Selectman"!! Wednesday, October 21st at 12:00 noon at the Town Hall. First Selectman George Temple's wife put together a basket to be raffled off. Get your donation into the Selectmen's office as soon as possible. Last year the Mammogram bus was here from Griffin Hospital. We definitely support this project and the entire Town Hall supports it.

This is an election year and will have people walking around knocking on doors, so please drive carefully. Also we implore both parties not to put signs on Town owned property. The exception will be on Election Day at the polls. Also, school is back in session, so keep an eye on how fast you are going throughout the town.

Next week we are receiving an award for energy conservation, to be held at 8 a.m. in Cromwell, CT. The Board of Selectmen is happy that Oxford won this.

AMENDMENTS

None.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Bill Guillotte, is aware of the situation with the Police Dept., and would like to know who is running the place? First Selectman George stated that Sgt. Semosky is the immediate supervisor, and the First Selectman is Chief of Police. Whatever Resident Trooper is on is senior and we have one Trooper on all three shifts. Mr. Guillotte asked if we have anyone in charge on the day to day basis. Selectman David McKane stated yes, Sgt. Semosky, and has been in charge of the Police Dept. for as long he has known him. Before that it was another Sergeant from Southbury. First Selectman George Temple stated to Mr. Guillotte to go down and see Sgt. Semosky any time, the police encourages interaction with the residents. Mr. Guillotte questioned his professionalism, and asked about his background. First Selectman Temple has no doubt about Sgt. Semosky's credentials and he suggested to Mr. Guillotte to set up a meeting with Sgt. Semosky and that this is a personnel matter, and cannot talk about it here.

Kathy Johnson, Dorman Road, was happy to see the town hired two new police officers, and she supports him on that, and also supports the Police Department and wanted to thank First Selectman George Temple for that.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

15 OCT 14 AM 4:49
TOWN OF STAFFORD, CT
Stephanie A. West
TOWN CLERK