

**Board of Selectmen's  
Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 5, 2014**  
**7:30 PM - Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:36 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Nina Poeta, from Seymour who passed away at a young age after a battle with cancer.

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**1. 10/15/14 Regular Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 10/15/14 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**2. 10/16/14 Special Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 10/16/14 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**AMENDMENT OF AGENDA**

**1. Parks & Recreation Vehicle – Approve Funding and Purchase**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Parks & Recreation Vehicle – Approve Funding and Purchase as Item #11 and move Report of First Selectman to Item #12. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**1. Cultural Arts Commission – Appoint Joseph Calabrese**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to appoint Joseph Calabrese, of 494 Quaker Farms Road, to the Cultural Arts Commission with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/15. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple fully supports this appointment, and it is a very good choice.

**2. Library Board of Directors – Appoint Joann Briganti**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to appoint Joann Briganti, of 20 Middlefield Road, to the Library Board of Directors 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 George Temple accepts this recommendation by the Library Board.

**3. Safety & Health Committee – Appoint Members**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to appoint the following to the Safety & Health Committee:

Jim Hliva, of 138 Quaker Farms Road  
Kelly Weymer, of 61 Donovan Road  
Sharon Scinto, of 89 Governor's Hill Road  
Leonard Beauprey, Jr., of 78 Donovan Road

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

Discussion: This committee meets and discusses ways to improve the health and safety of people in the Town.

**AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

Kathy Johnson, 68 Dorman Road, recently attended a presentation at Oxford Greens on the Power Plant, and suggested that the Town of Oxford should hear the same presentation. First Selectman George Temple stated that it was presented at the Oxford High School and not many people came. He will talk to them and encourage them to do another presentation again. First Selectman Temple stated he is going to Albany next Thursday to visit the same type of plant that is six years old, and will see what it looks like, and talk to some of the neighbors and talk to the people that operate the plant. First Selectman Temple heard a lot of comments at the voting

polls, and some concerns of emissions from the power plant, and concerns of property values once it is built. First Selectman Temple gave an open invitation to anyone who is interested in attending the visit to Albany. Ms. Johnson stated she would like to go to see what it looks like, and will ride up with First Selectman Temple.

David McKane asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the Town's fleet of vehicles. One of the cars came in for gas and when he checked the oil, it was down two quarts, and the vehicle has only 7000 miles on it. This item should be addressed. East Coast usually notifies us when maintenance is due. Joanne Pelton will contact them and have them inventory our fleet for scheduled maintenance. First Selectman Temple thanked David McKane for bringing this matter to the Board of Selectmen's attention.

Fran Teodosio, 111 Great Hill Road, mentioned that Veteran's Day is next week, and the monies that were raised at the Memorial Day Road Race will be given out. The race netted over \$10,000. The American Legion will be given \$5250; Wounded Warrior will be given \$4500; the American Warrior Project will be given \$1200. First Selectman George Temple thanked Mr. Teodosio for all his efforts, and for doing a great job! November 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a ceremony at the David Miles Post in Oxford at 11 am. Traffic will be stopped on Route 67. Mr. Teodosio stated the monies will be given during that event.

John Downs, 666 Roosevelt Drive, wanted everyone to give a round of applause to Mr. Teodosio for the good job he has done.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Stipend for Website Administrator – Discuss with Possible Action**

George Temple stated that the website committee needs to get together. The Town needs a website that is easy to manage and easy to work with. This item was tabled at the previous meeting.

### **2. Ambulance Funds Request**

#### **MOTION:**

David McKane moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Jeff Haney.

Discussion: The Ambulance Association is asking for an additional \$2000. A report was sent in two years ago for \$199,000 to purchase a new ambulance, and the Finance Board cut the amount down to \$170,000. Proper bidding was given to them, and the Ambulance Association wants to get the amount for the new ambulance back to \$199,000 along with another \$2000 since the bid was done two years ago and the price has gone up. First Selectman Temple does not want to release any funds until we get the RFP bid specs on it and it is in compliance with the Board of Finance. First Selectman George Temple also stated that any emergency equipment be in the name of the Town of Oxford. If the Town

is purchasing it, it is the Town's property. It was stated that the bid has been submitted three times, and the Board of Finance has a copy of it, and that it was part of the capital plan. Jim Hliva stated that the next Board of Finance meeting will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. The Board of Selectmen meet before their meeting so they can review it prior to their meeting and it can go to the Board of Finance at the end of the month.

**3. Pulte Homes, Oxford Greens Phase III Soil & Bond Release – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to release the Soil & Erosion Bond, in the amount of \$71,250.00, for Pulte Homes, Oxford Greens, Phase III as approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their meeting on 10/7/14 and as recommended by the Town Engineer in his letter dated 9/9/14. This was seconded by David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Jeff Haney discussed that he would like to follow the Planning & Zoning Commission's letter recommending releasing this bond. First Selectman George Temple stated that this is for Phase 3 and this phase is completed.

**4. FY 2014-2015 Transfer Requests**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to table the FY 2014 – 2015 transfer requests as presented by the Finance Director on 10/31/14 until the next Board of Selectmen meeting. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**5. Sale of 105 Willenbrock Road – Approve and Forward to Town Meeting**

**MOTION:**

First Selectman George Temple moved to approve the sale of 105 Willenbrock Road and to transfer the property to Attorney Stephen Bellis or his designee in the amount of \$8500 plus an appraisal fee of \$3000, along with any legal fees, and to forward it to the Town Meeting.

This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This property is 1.07 acres of raw land which the Town owns and cannot do anything with. It is not a building lot. The initial offer was that it be given to them but Town Counsel wanted to get this land appraised. The appraisal came in at \$8500. An investor is trying to get other property to build a 10,000 square foot building. The appraisal price was given and they had accepted this price and agreed to pay for the

appraisal fee, of which they have done. If they do build on it, the Town will be able to get tax money, and as of now, the Town cannot do anything with this property.

**6. Annual Town Report – Approve**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to table the acceptance of the 2013 – 2014 Annual Town Report. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

**7. Great Oak Middle School Garden Grant – Approve to Submit and Authorize First Selectman to Sign**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following Connecticut Department of Agriculture School Garden Grant Application Resolution, authorize the First Selectman to sign; as presented and recommended by the Grant Writer in her letter dated 10/29/14:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Oxford Board of Selectmen:

That a filing of an application for a grant by the Town of Oxford in the amount of \$48,500 is hereby approved and that the Oxford First Selectman, George R. Temple is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and to provide such information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the representative of the Town of Oxford and the Department of Agriculture.

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

Discussion: Kathleen O’Neil, the Town’s Grant Writer coordinated this through the Department of Agriculture, to establish an outdoor classroom behind Great Oak Middle School. This will be part of the children’s Natural History course. The Town will be pleased with the funding when it comes in. First Selectman Temple talked with the Science teachers and they think it is a terrific project. The Board of Education has to present it to the Facilities Committee, for their approval before the Board of Education can approve it.

**8. Webster Bank N.A. New Account Resolution – Approve and Authorize the Board to Sign**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following Webster Bank N.A. New Account Resolution as requested by the Finance Director:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Selectmen authorize the Town of Oxford to open bank accounts at Webster N.A. The purpose of the account is to accept deposits from credit cards used by residents for Parks & Recreation activities. The signers on the account will be the Board of Selectmen, Town Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer.

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

Discussion: This will be to open an account with one of the banks in Town, and there won't be any fees associated with it.

**9. Tax Collection Correction Adjustments – Approve**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to approve the amount of \$129,000.23 to be removed from the Town of Oxford's Tax Rolls by Operational Law due to the fact that these accounts are remnants from the former Tax Collector; as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector and the Tax Collector Action Committee. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Jim Hliva stated that these are for the years 1998 through 2006, and the committee has been identifying accounts that were paid and were not adjusted.

**10. Establish Tax Collection Town Policy – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following Tax Collection Town Policy:

**Town of Oxford  
Tax Collection Policy**

It is the policy of the Town of Oxford that after five years from the due date of non-payment of Real Estate taxes to the Town of Oxford, the Town has the right and ability to take action against said property by foreclosure, tax sale, auction or other such actions, in order to recoup the monies owed for taxes including interest and all fees associated with such action.

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

Discussion: This policy will have any issues with taxes resolved in a five year time frame.

**11. Parks & Recreation Vehicle – Approve Funding and Purchase**

**MOTION:**

David McKane moved to approve the funding in the amount of \$20,000 to be taken from Capital Expenditure Budget, as previously approved in the Town of Oxford's Operating Budget for FY 2014 – 2015, for the purchase of a 2015 F-250 Ford 4X4 pick-up truck from Crowley Ford, as part of a trade-in of the two existing Parks & Recreation vehicle's; all as presented by the Parks & Recreation Director and approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission at their meeting of 11/4/14. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple spoke with Debbie Gatto, and it will cost more than \$20,000, but Parks and Recreation are getting \$1479 from special activities, and are getting a trade in for the other two trucks.

**12. Report of First Selectman**

First Selectman Temple met with Jane Fertig, a member of the Arts and Craft Show Subcommittee. She is moving out of Oxford and will be leaving this committee after 43 years. The committee wants to be phased out and First Selectman George Temple would like to see a new committee established or to combine this event with the Cultural Arts Committee. First Selectman Temple would like to see if anyone can come up with some people in Town who might be interested in running this show. If anyone has any interest, please contact Joanne Pelton. First Selectman Temple thanked all of the members for all of the work they have done.

Oxford Towne Center project – First Selectman George Temple met with Tom Haynes and George Mitchell regarding plans for the Library being at the Towne Center. First Selectman Temple stated it looks very interesting, and the Library will overlook the Oxford Green. The plans have a 1.5 mile sidewalk for people to walk or run. We would be leasing the building, so we wouldn't have to pay for utilities. First Selectman Temple asked people in Town to review this plan and give their feedback if the Town should have a stand-alone building or go this way. There is also talk with Price Chopper having a partnership to hold cooking classes or other events in this new Library.

First Selectman Temple went to a meeting in Monroe with their First Selectman regarding the bridge over the Housatonic River. It is anticipated the new bridge will be completed by 2020. Currently the bridge is in poor condition. Plans are tentative now. First Selectman Temple would like to have the Town Engineer look at the plans, and has many concerns regarding the natural habitat of the eagles and other animals. There are also concerns with trucks utilizing Rt. 34.

Elections were held yesterday, and there was a good turnout. First Selectman Temple thanked the registrars for a fantastic job they did, and they handled it very well.

Tomorrow, there will be a presentation of a Bronze Star to Mr. Vahan Hovey, a World War II veteran, at 11 a.m. at the Senior Center. Mr. Hovey lives at the Oxford Greens.

**AMENDMENTS** NONE

**AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

Kathy Johnson, 68 Dorman Road, stated she was interested in seeing the plans for the Library at the Towne Center, and thought it would be a good idea if it is cost effective, and it would allow more people to utilize the Library. She also stated she hopes that a new bridge over the Housatonic River doesn't come, and would like to see the current bridge repaired.

The structure of the bridge is over 100 years old, and we are not able to repair it.

Mike Macchio, 25 Silano Drive, asked about the Grant for the garden wondered what would happen if it did not get approved. The grant money would be given back if it was not approved.

John Downs, 666 Roosevelt Drive, asked if there was a map that was given for the bridge project. First Selectman George Temple stated he did have one, and needs to have the Town Engineer take a look at it, but welcomed Mr. Downs to come to his office to take a look at the map. First Selectman George Temple would also like to take a walk through the area of the bridge and welcomed Mr. Downs to come along since he lives near the area.

First Selectman George Temple talked to the Town of Monroe regarding possibly sharing some public works vehicle for in-line paving. This is still pending.

John Downs, 666 Roosevelt Drive, observed some drainage problems in the Riverside area and had notified the Town Public Works Department. They had taken care of these items and did a great job.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

Jeff Haney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski  
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

14 NOV 12 PM 4:26  
TOWN CLERK  
Lynda Romanowski