



TOWN OF OXFORD

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall
486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2020
7:30 PM – Virtual Meeting/Hangout Meets

The Town of Oxford Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:33 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Esq., Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman Heather Haney, Kristyn Rosa, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman

Absent: None.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 4/15/20 Regular Meeting

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 4/15/20 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

None.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Cultural Arts Commission Appointments

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint Lisa Ladsky, of 225 Freeman Road, to the Cultural Arts Commission as an alternate with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Lisa Ladsky is dedicated to cultural arts and will be a good addition to the Commission.

2. Planning and Zoning Commission Appointments

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint Jesse Schremmer, of 19 Laura Lane, to the Planning & Zoning Commission with a term to commence immediately and expire on 11/16/21. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: This appointment will be contingent upon Jeff Luff's resignation from the Oxford Planning and Zoning Commission and the hiring of Jeff Luff as Economic Developer.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to amend the Motion of the appointment of Jesse Schremmer with a term to commence immediately and expire on 11/16/21 to be contingent upon the hiring of Jeff Luff as the Town Economic Development Coordinator. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Great Oak Middle School Capital Plan Funding Request for Asbestos Abatement Work, Conducting Air Testing, followed by Flooring Replacement

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the funding request, in the amount of \$140,000 to be taken from the General Fund Balance, for the Great Oak Middle School 2019 – 2020 Capital Plan Projects and award the bids and bid amounts as indicated below:

\$69,993.68 to Bestech Environmental (\$64,593.68 base quote plus \$5,400 for potential additional work) for the Asbestos Work

\$19,355 to Mystic Air Quality for the Air Testing

\$35,841.11 to Bartholomew Contract Interiors for the Flooring Replacement

\$14,810 potentially may be used if the air testing requires additional days or if floor needs patching

All as presented and recommended by the Facilities Manager in his letter dated 4/29/20. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: George Renzoni, Oxford Public Schools Facilities Manager, explained the funding request and that he does not want to hold up the project by coming back for further approvals. James Hliva, Oxford Finance Director, indicated that appropriation is not necessary.

2. Hire Parks & Recreation Counselors and Lifeguards

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire the Parks & Recreation Summer Counselors and Lifeguards as presented and recommended by the Parks & Recreation Director. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: Kyra Nesteriak, Oxford Parks & Recreation Director, explained that the governor has deemed summer camp as essential as of June 29, 2020. Discussion among the Board of Selectmen regarding the opening of Jackson Cove in light of Covid-19 and the need for more information.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to table the Motion to hire the Parks & Recreation Summer Counselors and Lifeguards as presented and recommended by the Parks & Recreation Director until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: The Selectmen want to be certain that the park and programs will go on as scheduled prior to hiring.

3. Hire Economic Development Coordinator

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Jeff Luff, of 253 Oxford Road, as the Economic Development Coordinator with a start date of Monday, May 11, 2020 and a pay rate of \$62,000 a year. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. 2 Ayes. 1 Abstain. Motion carries.

Discussion: The Board of Selectmen discussed the candidates for the position, what the position will entail and benefits. Benefits will be decided by the Board of Finance.

4. Award Re-Paving Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project – Discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the Re-Paving Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project to S&S Asphalt Paving, of Southbury, in the amount of

\$306,700 and to be taken from Account 5235-XXX Capital Plan Projects. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: James Hliva, Oxford Finance Director, explained that this has been approved and budgeted. Atty. Kevin Condon, Oxford Town Counsel, discussed the bid process. S&S Asphalt Paving was the lowest bid. Wayne Watt, Oxford Public Works Director, explained his support for S&S Asphalt Paving in being chosen for this project.

5. Award General Construction Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project – Discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the General Construction Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project to Catalyst Construction Services, LLC, of Westport, in the amount of \$91,905.00 and to be taken from Account 5235-XXX Capital Plan Projects. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney.

Discussion: James Hliva, Oxford Finance Director, explained that this contract will have no impact of the Oxford taxpayer. Herman Schuler, School Construction Committee, discussed the work that needs to be done, how the company received the bid award, and additional monies that may be required. George Renzoni, Oxford Public Schools Facilities Manager, discussed additional work. Atty. Kevin Condon, Oxford Town Counsel, expressed several concerns. Discussion among the Board of Selectmen regarding concern of additional fees not included in the total budgeted amount.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to table the Motion to award the General Construction Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project to Catalyst Construction Services, LLC, of Westport, in the amount of \$91,905.00 and to be taken from Account 5232-XXX Capital Plan Projects until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Herman Schuler will obtain the additional bids for the next Board of Selectmen Meeting to be included in the total project amount.

6. Award the Cabinet Replacement Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project – discuss with Possible Action

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the Cabinet Replacement Contract for the Great Oak School Renovation Project to Legacy Woodworking, located in Meriden, in the amount of \$372,613.00 and to be taken from Account 5235-XXX Capital Plan Projects. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Herman Schuler, School Construction Committee, explained that this is in the contract. Atty. Kevin Condon, Oxford Town Counsel, gave his support of the contract.

7. Report of First Selectman

- 1. Car robberies.** The Town of Oxford is experiencing people breaking into cars parked in residential driveways. First Selectman George Temple urged all residents to lock their cars.
- 2. Teacher Appreciation Week.** Tomorrow, starting at 10:00 AM, cars will drive by the Oxford High School to wave at the teachers in support and appreciation of their work and dedication to the educational process.
- 3. Park parking.** People are encouraged to use the Town hiking trails and Oxford High School track for outdoor activity and exercise. However, people have been parking in neighborhoods and trespassing on private property. There are designated parking areas for use of Town amenities. People are asked to show respect for private property.
- 4. Town Hall re-opening.** First Selectman George Temple outlined how the Oxford Town Hall will re-open to employees and to the public. He also thanked the employees of Town Hall for their hard work and diligence, and gave recognition to Kristyn Rosa, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman, for running tonight's Board of Selectmen Meeting and for all of her hard work.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Brett Olbrys, of 17 Apple Drive, congratulated Jeff Luff on being hired as Town of Oxford Economic Development Coordinator. He also asked if something can be done to improve the pavement condition of the Great Oak School parking lot. First Selectman George Temple responded that all of the schools' parking lots and the road will be paved at the same time. Brett Olbrys also discussed that the Town of Seymour is conducting a virtual Town Meeting for the Town Budget, and asked if it would be possible for Oxford to do the same thing. First Selectman George Temple indicated that Oxford is going to do the same thing.

ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. This was seconded by Selectman Heather Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary LoPresti
Clerk, Board of Selectmen