

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, September 17, 2014
7:30 PM - Town Hall

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Temple at 7:33 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 8/20/14 Public Hearing

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 8/20/14 Public Hearing minutes as presented. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. 9/3/14 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 9/3/14 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

None

APPOINTMENTS

1. Economic Development Commission Appointment & Clarification

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint Jay Borkowski, of 22 Newgate Road, to the Economic Development Commission with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/14. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectmen Temple stated that J. Borkowski is the owner of the new Oxford House, and is 100% for Oxford. He has children in the Oxford school system, and is an upstanding individual.

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint James Winger, of 38 West Street, to the Economic Development Commission as an Alternate with a term to commence immediately and

expire on 12/31/14. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Clarification: No appointments can be made until a letter of resignation is received in the Town Clerk's office. According to the Town Clerk, the last resignation received was in April for an Alternate member. Therefore, the previous appointments of Mr. Borkowski and Mr. Winger were not valid. However, the Town Clerk received one resignation from a member on 9/12/14. Therefore, Mr. Borkowski can now be appointed. And due to the Alternate vacancies, Mr. Winger can be appointed as an Alternate.

Discussion: This was brought to the attention of First Selectman Temple after the last meeting and that the appointments were not valid until we had received a resignation, since one has been received, they are both effective now.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Kathy Johnson, 68 Dorman Road, stated she went to the Planning & Zoning meeting, and asked about the Golf Course Community release of the bond for the 3rd part. This issue was tabled until they speak with the Town attorney. She asked First Selectman Temple if the Town has any plans of repairing roads at that community. First Selectmen Temple stated we have none whatsoever, and we will never do it. Ms. Johnson stated that she understands there are two pending questions on the Planning & Zoning Board on making provisions to repair roads. Jeff Haney asked if the Bond release is for the roads already there like the entrance way. It was stated it is for Phase 3 roads for the Bond release.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Re-Appoint Building Official

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to re-appoint Gordon Gramolini as the Town of Oxford's Building Official with a term to commence on 11/1/14 and expire on 11/3/18. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Question was raised as to why the reappointment is done every four years. There is a State Statute Sect 29.260 that states it is for a term of four years.

2. Hire Temporary Part-Time Planning & Zoning Clerk

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to hire Robbi Costigan, of 300 Chestnut Tree Hill Road, as the Temporary Part-Time Planning & Zoning Clerk, effective 7/22/14 at a pay rate of \$15.05 per hour, for a six-month period to be re-visited on 12/17/14. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. Appropriation for Open Burning Official

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve an appropriation, in the amount of \$1,442.00 for the Open Burning Official position, as requested by the Fire Marshal in his letter dated 8/19/14. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

(Note: this position was paid \$700.00 for FY 12-13. In FY 13-14 this position was not paid. In that same fiscal year, non-union positions were given an increase. If this position was paid, it would have received \$721.00. In FY 14-15 no increases were given, so this position would have still been paid \$721.00. The last two fiscal years total \$1,442.00). This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

Discussion: This is something that had been on the books for a long time. First Selectman Temple disagrees with it, but he does support the motion.

4. FY 2013 – 2014 Transfer Request

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following FY 13-14 transfer request as presented by the Finance Director in his letter dated 9/15/14:

TO:	Town Attorney	Legal Additional Counsel	5535-672-203	\$18,547.33
TO:	Inland Wetland	Legal Land Use	5535-672-205	\$4,154.00
FROM:	Employee Benefits	Worker's Compensation	5305-780	\$16,099.60
FROM:	Finance	Finance Contingency	5320-560-5320	\$6,601.73

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

Discussion: One item is for the one case in the Police Department, and another for contract negotiations.

5. Performance Bond Release for Fiddlehead Subdivision

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve the release of the Performance Bond, in the amount of \$85,000.00, for Fiddlehead Subdivision and to replace this bond with a Sediment & Erosion Control Bond, in the amount of \$5,000.00, for Lot #14; as presented and recommended by the Town Engineer in his letter dated 7/29/14 and the Planning & Zoning Commission in their Memorandum dated 9/2/14. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries. (Note: the Soil & Erosion Control Bond was submitted to the Planning & Zoning Department on 9/4/14).

6. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$5,528.57, as presented by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 9/17/14 and to authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries

7. Report of First Selectman

First Selectmen Temple discussed the ribbon cutting ceremony in Ansonia for the Red Cross new response vehicle. This is something that adds to our response for emergencies.

A meeting was held with Masonicare to discuss the PILOT program. We are trying to work out an agreement; it also needs to get through Planning & Zoning. It will be a significant addition to Oxford, an approximately \$85 million project, which will hopefully release the burden on taxes for people in the town. First Selectmen Temple stated that we will have a presentation to the Town, once everything is worked out.

The Oxford football team lost to Ansonia last Thursday. First Selectman Temple still has a bet with Seymour that if we lose the game to Seymour, First Selectman Temple has to wear a Seymour jersey. He really does not want to do that. He was impressed that people in town go to cheer on the team even if they don't have children in the system.

First Selectman Temple had a flyer for the Dog Pound in Shelton that stated they spent \$1.4 million. Oxford Dog Pound cost \$90,000, and looks more like home for the animals.

The CL&P project for the line rebuild will be using helicopters for this phase.

AMENDMENTS

None

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Kathy Johnson, 68 Dorman Road, asked when the Dog Pound will be completed. It was stated that it should be completed before Christmas. She also asked where does the Board of Selectmen stand with the Power Plant and how sure is the Board that the Power Plant is coming, and when will they be breaking ground? First Selectman Temple stated he is positive they are coming, and they will start breaking ground in June, 2015. Once they put the shovel in the ground, the Town will get the tax money. Ms. Johnson asked if they have to go for another permit going to a bigger megawatt than what was originally approved. First Selectman Temple stated that the Citing Counsel ruled that if the cite fits, it is not an expansion. Ms. Johnson stated

she opposes the power plant, but does like the fact that it will help with taxes in the town, but would like to be sure that they do not run the town. First Selectman Temple stated that we do have campaign laws that won't allow that. She will be having homemade signs for her campaign and may the better man or woman win!

Dave McKane asked about the sewer and water line relative to the Power Plant. He shares some of the same concerns as Kathy Johnson, he doesn't mind taking the \$6.5 million in taxes, but when it goes back to the Citing Counsel, it is very different than what was originally approved. First Selectman Temple stated the State said they could go to the more efficient system than was originally approved.

Dave McKane stated that when the town is discussing the PILOT program with Masonicare, he would like to see Towantic Pond become the town's property. First Selectman Temple stated we can say and do what we want, but Planning & Zoning would have to make it a condition of approval. Dave McKane stated he has spent his life in Oxford and has seen private entities scoff up these ponds and would like to see Oxford own that pond.

John Downs, 666 Roosevelt Drive, asked about the appropriation for the Open Burning Official and asked if it is a new line item. It was explained that it is a re-instatement of appropriation which was cut out 7/1/13. Mr. Downs also stated he is in favor of the Power Plant, but wants everyone involved to make sure that everything is looked at very carefully and that everything is in writing. When the Town sat down with Nextel on the cell tower, the Town agreed to all kinds of things, but if it is not in writing, you are not getting it. Mr. Downs also commented that when one stands in Aggie Park, the tower glistens because of the galvanized steel used. They are nice, and he appreciates the Board of Selectmen writing a letter to put this type in.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

14 SEP 23 AM 11:21
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
Margaret A. West
TOWN CLERK