

# **Minutes**

## **Board of Selectmen's**

### **Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 7:30 PM**

**Virtual Meeting/Hangout Meets/In Person**

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 David McKane, Kristyn Rosa, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman

Absent: None

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

##### **1. 8/17/22 Regular Meeting**

###### **MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 8/17/22 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1. Tax Refunds**

###### **MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$7,192.50, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 9/1/22 and to authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**2. ARPA Funding for Environmental Cleanup of Center School Pods – Award Bid**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to award the bid for the Environmental Cleanup of Center School Pods to CPM Environmental, in an amount of \$92,500.00 to be taken from ARPA Funds, as presented and requested by the Oxford Space & ARPA Funds Advisory Committee in their letter dated 8/24/22. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. 2 ayes. Selectman David McKane opposed. Motion carries.

**DISCUSSION:**

Jeffrey Luff, Economic Development Director, presented that this is necessary by the State of Connecticut regulations, to be able to take down the “pods” in back of the Annex Building (Old Center School). The buildings need to be environmentally cleaned before they can be removed. The original quotes for this job were \$450,000.00 and were ultimately worked down to \$92,500.00. The ARPA committee decided that they wanted to allot the funds for this and send this to the Board of Selectman immediately to get this going since it is holding up the whole process of bringing down the hill. Selectman Arnold Jensen agreed, that we cannot proceed without this, and if this is not done now, with the cost so low, when they do try to have it done, if at a later date, it may indeed be up in the exceeds of \$400,000.00 as originally quoted. First Selectman George Temple also agrees and stated he supports this, the buildings sit contaminated there, useless, and this needs to be done sooner or later regardless. Selectman David McKane expressed is oppositions and how in the beginning this whole process was to cost the town nothing and this was not mentioned at that time.

**3. Re-Appoint Building Official**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to re-appoint Gordon Gramolini as the Town of Oxford Building Official with a term to commence 11/7/22 and expire on 11/7/26. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion was had that Gordon Gramolini has been doing a terrific job for a long time and this is supported by all. Selectman David McKane added that he has worked with Gordon on town and personal projects and that he is a great guy and great for the town. Gordon Gramolini was present and expressed his thanks to the board of selectman.

**4. Oxford Police Department's Trade-In/Purchase of Firearms – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve to replace and purchase new firearms for the police department for \$23,399.10 (of which \$6,600 pays for 20,000 rounds of ammunition) and with the funding to come from the ARPA Funds per the Finance Director. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane

**DISCUSSION:**

Officer Cipriano presented that the current firearms the police department have, have been the same for about the past ten years, despite traditional upgrades used to happen every time the government received new ones. He went on to present the new calibers would be .9mm versus the previous .45 mm, yet be able to hold 22 rounds rather than 8, and that the new firearms would also be equipped with red dot sights, which allow for a must faster and accurate aim than having to line up rear and front standard sights on the previous firearms. The former firearms would be traded in and moneys would be credited for each firearm, toward the price of the new ones, so the presented total in the motion would actually end up being less. There was some debate upon not passing this through the ARPA committee before approving this to be purchased with those funds, and this was not approved by the Finance Director as stated. This matter is to be tabled at this time.

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to table this matter at this time. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**5. Ratify Teamsters Local 677 Contract and Authorize First Selectman to Sign**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to table this matter at this time. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**6. Democratic Registrar of Voters New Office Hours – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the change in office hours for the Democratic Registrar of Voters from Thursday's 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM to Tuesday's 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM effective 9/6/22. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion was had that this is for the new democratic registrar, whom is very conscientious and will do a good job, and is eager to learn. These changes were her request and work better with her schedule.

**7. Proposed Assistant Finance Clerk Job Description – Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the proposed Assistant Finance Clerk job description as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion was had that this position is needed due to a previous aggressive cut of staff and now with much more work in the department with the town growing, and things not being able to be double checked and done in a timely manner it is necessary. This motion is not making the decision to approve the position yet, more so just to allow the Board of Selectman to look into the need of it. Discussion was further had that when the full time Fire Department new hire was done; part of the job description was to have that person come help the Finance Department which has not happened. So, in the meantime, that is being considered to see how that will affect, and works out, and if it changes the need for the requested Assistant Finance Clerk job.

**8. FY 2021 – 2022 Transfer Requests**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the FY 2021 – 2022 transfer requests as presented by the Finance Director in his letter dated 8/29/22. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries. This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion was had that this is all from the Police Department

**9. FY 2022 – 2023 Transfer Requests**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the FY 2022 – 2023 transfer requests as presented by the Finance Director in his letter dated 9/1/22. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries. This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance.

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion was had that this was mainly small stuff, one fee was under budgeted by \$10.00, the other was for the Town Clerk having two primary elections when there was only one budgeted in so more ballots were needed.

**10. FY 2021 – 2022 Annual Town Report**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the FY 2021 – 2022 Annual Report, as presented. This report will be made available on the Town's municipal website and in the office of the Town Clerk by January 15, 2023 per Town Charter. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

## **Report of First Selectman**

- The town will be staying with the Housatonic Valley Health Department, we are happy with the direction it is going, and we shall see how it pans out.
- Interviews were had with two new sergeants, both were very impressive, one specifically seems to be a good fit for Oxford. There will be an official announcement on that shortly.
- Cheer for Oxford was very successful and kicked off the school year for the kids as well as adults. The fireworks were terrific, a good time was had by all! Gazy Farm was selling produce, the fried dough sold out, there was a great turnout! It is rare for the entire town to be able to get together and celebrate, for something new that we tried, its obvious it worked out.

## **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS**

Eirik Roberstad – of 559 Roosevelt Drive – stated he would like to shake First Selectman George Temple's hand after the meeting.

Christine Lester – of 5 Nanatook Drive – Stated her opposition for the police to receive new firearms. She stated there are very few murders in Oxford and didn't think the money should be spent on firearms, maybe training but not firearms.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shannon-Lee Scott Hicks  
Clerk, Board of Selectman

22 SEP 19 PM 1:37  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
George A. West  
TOWN CLERK