

Minutes

Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
7:30 PM - Town Hall

First Selectman George Temple opened the meeting at 7:34 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George R. Temple, Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman David McKane, Secretary to the First Selectman Kelly Weymer.

First Selectman George Temple asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence for Ron Prajer, a former Fireman and Fire Chief for the Town of Oxford.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 3/15/23 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 3/15/23 regular meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

2. 4/5/23 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the 4/5/23 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

None.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Lake Zoar Appointments

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to re-appoint Richard Speer to the Lake Zoar Authority with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/25. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple supports this re-appointment. Mr. Speer has been on the Lake Zoar authority for a long time.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to re-appoint John Downs, Jr. to the Lake Zoar Authority with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple agrees with the re-appointment of John Downs, Jr. He also has been a member for a very long time and grew up on the river.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to appoint Timothy Glover to the Lake Zoar Authority with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/24. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple approves the appointment of Timothy Glover to the Lake Zoar authority. Mr. Glover came highly recommended for this position.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hawley Road Project Asphalt Invoice Clarification

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to **withdraw** the following motion made at the 3/15/23 meeting for Hawley Road Project Asphalt Invoice:

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to compensate Guerrera Construction for the asphalt used for the installation of bituminous curbing in lieu of scheduled overlay

asphalt on the Hawley Road Project. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to compensate Guerrera Construction the following with regards to the Hawley Road Project:

\$2,010.00 for the installation of rip rap above grade on the slope adjacent to 110 Hawley Road property

\$8,538.00 for the asphalt used for the installation of bituminous curbing in lieu of scheduled overlay asphalt

For a total of \$10,548.00. Funding will be taken from the Public Works Asphalt Account. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated this will be the last claim. This is a very fair figure. Selectman David McKane stated that installing curbing makes a better finished product. Selectman Arnold Jensen looked over the figures and stated the numbers are correct.

2. APRA Funding Application Request for Youth Services Bureau

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to remove this matter from the table. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the ARPA Funding Request, in the amount of \$28,000 (a two-year commitment of \$14,000 per year), for the establishment of an Oxford Youth Services Bureau to develop and oversee programs and services to serve the specific needs of Oxford; as presented in their Proposal and as approved by the Oxford Space & ARPA Funds Committee at their meeting held on 4/11/23. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Selectman Arnold Jensen stated that he still does not understand what the funds are for. We already have programs for the youth in Oxford.

Ms. Marsha Franko spoke to the board in regards to the Youth Services Board. At the last Board of Selectmen meeting, it was asked if the funds can be used to cover administrative costs. She stated that the funds may be used to pay for administrative costs, including payment to consultants and or payroll to assist with the implementation of the project. This includes the cost of consultants to ensure effective project management, as well as legal and regulatory compliance.

Ms. Franko went on to say that each town has different needs. The Youth Services Boards are seen as a community hub for resources and referrals, not necessarily providing help to someone directly. There are certain types of programs that are fairly common, such as a Juvenile Review Board and prevention programs for alcohol, drugs, and vaping, to name a few.

First Selectman George Temple asked what the town's responsibility exactly involved. Mrs. Mary Beth Nelson stated it was hard to point out exactly the services needed for the town. The town should have a clearer understanding of required services after the two-year commitment.

The Board of Selectmen explained that the town is in the process of preparing a budget for the upcoming fiscal year and there is concern this will become a budget item. It was pointed out that this is a bad time to propose anything new to the budget at this time.

Ms. Franko stated there are many grants available. The Director of the program would be the one responsible to apply for any and all grants. She went on to say at the end of two years, if the town feels the program isn't working it can end the funding for the program. Ms. Franko point out that other towns are adding funds to the program. The town of Shelton gives \$200,000 a year to this program.

First Selectman George Temple asked if they work with the Boys and Girls Club. Mrs. Nelson stated they do.

Selectman Arnold Jensen stated that Shelton is a much bigger town than Oxford; our contribution, if we decide to go forward, would be much less.

First Selectman George Temple reiterated his concern of having to add more and more funds every year.

Selectman Arnold Jensen went on to say that town positions are being eliminated in the proposed budget right now. Taking on a project like this now might not be going in the right direction at this time.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to *table* the ARPA Funding Request, in the amount of \$28,000 (a two-year commitment of \$14,000 per year), for the establishment of an

Oxford Youth Services Bureau. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

3. Funding for Great Oak Middle School HVAC System RFP

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve funding, in the amount of \$31,000.00 to be taken from the balance of the Phase 1 Great Oak Middle School Improvement Project, for the RFP for the HVAC system at Great Oak Middle School. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Mr. Herman Schuler, Great Oak Elementary School Evaluation & Improvement Committee Chairman, told the board that an extension could be applied for. The committee just learned about the grant two weeks ago.

First Selectman George Temple stated that hypothetically this is a one-year long project. Three companies gave presentations. Air Temp was chosen by the Great Oak Elementary School Evaluation & Improvement Committee.

There were discussions regarding different ways to possibly fund the project. First Selectman George Temple stated more discussion is needed and a conversation with Eversource is necessary. It being mid-April right now, he had a concern of completing the project within the deadline of December.

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to *table* the funding request for the RFP for the HVAC system at Great Oak Middle School. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

4. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the tax refunds, totaling \$2,500.91, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector Clerk in her letter dated 4/19/23 and to authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. motion carried.

5. Arcadis Professional Services Agreement Change Order for Quaker Farms School Oil Spill & Remediation Project – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve a change order increase of the Arcadis Professional Services Agreement for the Quaker Farms School Oil Spill & Remediation Project, in the amount of \$925.00, for the removal and replacement of one drum of purge water. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

6. Pulte Homes Phase 4 East Bond Reduction Request

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to reduce Pulte Homes Performance Bond for Phase 4E, Tillinghast Drive from \$800,000.00 to \$205,712.42; as presented and recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission in their letter dated 3/22/23 and Land Use Engineer in his letter dated 3/3/22. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. Motion carried.

7. Town-Wide Tag Sale – Approve

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve a Town-Wide Tag Sale scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, with a rain date of Saturday, June 17, 2023. All residents, organizations and businesses can participate. All proceeds will benefit the Seymour Oxford Food Bank. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried. (Note: for further information one can visit the town's website).

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated this has been a successful event in years past. Proceeds go to the Seymour Oxford Food Bank.

8. Selectmen Salaries

MOTION:

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to the *table* Selectmen Salaries. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

9. Report of First Selectman

May 1st at 7:00 PM is the Annual Budget Town Meeting at Quaker Farms School.

On April 20th at 10:00 AM the power plant will be conducting an alarm testing. A Code Red message was issued regarding this matter.

The boys Little League Opening Day will be on Saturday at 12:00 PM at Posypanko Park. The girls Softball Opening Day is on Sunday at 3:00 PM at Tetlak Park. First Selectman George Temple will be throwing out the first pitch.

Over the last three weeks, the town has been involved in a town-wide clean up. Town employees will be helping the cause by picking up trash around the area of Donovan Road on April 25th.

There will be a school play at the high school, called High School Musical. It is a middle school production being held at the high school this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Linda Czaplinski wanted to bring to the board's attention that vehicles are driving through stop signs, speeding on the roadways, and driving on the wrong side of the road. She went on to say that the progression has been happening the last few years.

Mrs. Czaplinski also stated that there have been more and more issues with ATV vehicles on the roads. All these ATV vehicles are going down to the quarry. These vehicles were not made to be on our roads. A young man had an accident four years ago and is now a quadriplegic. Mrs. Czaplinski went on to say that these children that are riding these ATV vehicles have the blessing of their parents, even when they are riding on private property. The children have been told not to ride on private property and the police have been notified. There is a reported case, case number 230-012-8751, and Officer Gugliotti is aware of that situation.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

Kathleen Sundstrom

Kathleen Sundstrom
Clerk

2023 MAY -2 AM 11:35
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
George Temple
David McKane
Kathleen Sundstrom