

**Board of Selectmen's**

**Special Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

**4:00 PM - Town Hall**

First Selectman George R. Temple opened the meeting at 4:06 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Selectman Arnold Jensen, Selectman Dave McKane, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman Kristyn Rosa.

**New Business**

**1. Hire Part-Time Animal Control Officer**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire Adrienne Croce as a Part-Time Animal Control Officer with a pay rate of \$20.00 and a start date of Monday, July 10, 2023. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Adrienne Croce was in attendance and provided some information about herself. Ms. Croce stated that she is a resident in Town, her children went through the Oxford School System, she has experience in Animal Control, and she was an Officer in the Town of Seymour many years ago. It was stated that she will train with Jason McLain and attend the Animal Control Certification class in August. The Selectmen welcomed Ms. Croce and are confident she will do a good job.

**2. Hire Summer Camp Counselor - Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to hire David Jutcawitz as a Summer Camp Counselor with a pay rate of \$15.00 and a start date of Thursday, July 6, 2023. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Parks and Recreation Director Kyra Nesteriak stated that Mr. Jutcawitz has previously worked for the Parks and Recreation Department, and one of the other hired counselors changed their mind and didn't take the job. Ms. Nesteriak stated that they have a lot of kids in Summer Camp this year, and another counselor is much needed.

**3. Change the purchase price of the Vaill Property - Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign and Forward to Town Meeting**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to change the purchase price of the Vaill property from \$695,000.00 to \$645,000.00 and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the revised Real Estate Purchase Contract and any documents necessary to consummate the deal and to forward it to Town Meeting. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion: The Town met again with Ms. Vaill because after the property was surveyed, it was determined that there were 16 fewer acres than expected. This Vaill property is being purchased with grant money, and the State reduced the grant by \$39,000.00 due to the difference in the acreage. Therefore the Town renegotiated the price with Ms. Vaill and agreed to pay \$645,000.00. The Board of Selectmen and the Town already voted to purchase the property. This vote will just be to purchase the property for less money.

The Town is buying 62 acres of land. First Selectman Temple hopes to create more hiking trails and possibly camping sites one day. He would like to name it "The Vaill Bunny Trail."

**4. Update Selectmen's Salaries - Approve**

**MOTION:**

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

**5. Update Treasurer's Salary- Approve**

**MOTION:**

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

**6. Update Administrative Assistant's salary - Approve**

**MOTION:**

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

**7. Non-Union Employee Raises - Approve**

**MOTION:**

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

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to table this matter. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

**8. Funding for Receptionist and Tax Collector's Summer Intern- Approve**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the funding for the Receptionists, in the amount of \$16,755.00 each, to be taken from Finance Contingency. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

First Selectman Temple stated that the receptionists have been eliminated from the budget. Mr. Temple explained that he had a copy of the Charter on his desk. He cannot find where it says that the Board of Finance has the authority to determine who we hire and don't hire. It's strictly up to the Board of Selectmen. It's up to me regarding salaries, but we always go through the Board of Selectmen. We do have a voicemail system that can answer phone calls, but he thinks it's more personal and more professional that we have a person answering the phone. The receptionist also greets and directs our patrons. They also assist other offices as needed. He feels this adds a nice touch to the Town Hall. The \$16,755.00 is what the salary was. This vote would reaffirm our position as a board. As the Administrator, First Selectman Temple stated that he had no intention of getting rid of the receptionist. Selectman David McKane stated that he agrees 1,000%. Mr. McKane said we have two very nice people doing the job and that it doesn't change the mil rate. It's a no-brainer. He also stated that we should do a Charter revision and clearly stated that the Board of Finance does not have a right to eliminate a job. They do not have the right or authority.

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to approve the funding for the Tax Collector's Summer Intern, in the amount of \$2,000.00, to be taken from Finance Contingency. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Discussion: No discussion, as the discussion is the same as above. This position was also eliminated from the budget by the Board of Finance.

9. **Transfer Board of Education Capital Projects - Approve**

**MOTION:**

First Selectman George Temple moved to table this item. This was seconded by Selectman Arnold Jensen All 3 Ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:**

Selectman Arnold Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 PM. This was seconded by Selectman David McKane. All 3 Ayes Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
K Rosa  
Kristyn L. Rosa

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TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
TOWN CLERK