

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, January 21, 2015
7:30 PM - Town Hall

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:38 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Esq., Selectman Jeff Haney, Selectman David McKane, Joanne Pelton, Administrative Assistant.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 1/6/15 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve the 1/6/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. 1/7/15 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 1/7/15 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA -

None

APPOINTMENTS

1. Assistant Animal Control Officer Volunteer As-Needed – Appoint Adrienne Merry

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint Adrienne Merry as Assistant Animal Control Volunteer As-Needed, as presented and requested by the Animal Control Officer in her letter. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Riverside Volunteer Fire Company 2015 Fire Chief – Re-Appoint Ronald Prajer

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to re-appoint Ronald Prajer as the 2015 Riverside Volunteer Fire Company Chief, as they presented and recommended in their letter dated 1/6/15. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Kathy Johnson, Dorman Road has 3 issues: 1) The Power Plant – she is concerned about the contract and hope the Town will get the very best deal; 2) \$20,000 donation for the playground; could this money have been put to better use; 3) how are things coming along with the Dog Pound and the Senior Center? First Selectman George Temple will answer these in his Report of the First Selectman.

Brian Francione, 15 Silano Drive, discussed that the Board of Fire Commissioners would like to finalize the Fire Department Ordinance and to further discuss this ordinance with the Board of Selectmen. The meeting that was scheduled for December 3, 2014 excluded the Fire Commission, and no advance notice was provided. The notice was sitting in the box, not mailed, and then four members showed up to the meeting which was cancelled. No one else attended. He would like to have the Board of Selectmen give their guidance, and support this ordinance. The Fire Commission deals with important matters. First Selectman George Temple will address this issue in his comments under Report of First Selectman.

Nil Guillet, 2 Douglas Road, discussed the 2nd phase of Commerce Drive regarding the curbing and catch basins. It is a drainage issue, and was a headache seven years ago with the sewer line on Jacks Hill. This was the sixth time the Public Works Dept. has been trying to fix the water problem, and it is costing the tax payers a lot of money. Mr. Guillet stated the town needs someone that is knowledgeable and is capable. First Selectman will address this issue at the Report of First Selectman.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company Proclamation – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve the following Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company 75th Anniversary Celebration Proclamation and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, This year marks the 75th anniversary of Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. which was initially organized on December 17, 1940 in the Town of Oxford, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, These dedicated citizens have provided the residents of the town with extremely effective, well-trained volunteer fire fighters who selflessly donate their time to provide a service to the residents in a time of need; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that we honor and applaud all volunteers of the Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. for their services over these seventy-five years of service; and

WHEREAS, our dedicated volunteers continue to risk life and limb leaving their families and friends at all times of the day or night to provide protection for all residents and merchants.

NOW THEREFORE, I, George R. Temple, Esq., First Selectman of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut, do hereby proclaim the year 2015 to be **OXFORD CENTER VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANAY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** and deem it an honor and a privilege to extend sincere gratitude and congratulations to all its members.

This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple would like to applaud all of the Fire Departments. Congratulations to Oxford Center on their 75th anniversary, and First Selectman George Temple supports this proclamation.

2. Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company Parade Permit – Approve and Authorize First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Parade Permit for the Oxford Center Volunteer Fire Company's 75th Anniversary Celebration Parade for Saturday, May 30, 2015 and authorize First Selectman to sign. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated it will be a nice celebration for the whole town. Fire Departments from all over the State will be in the parade. First Selectman Temple supports this and is looking forward to it.

3. Fiddlehead Estates, Section II, Jem Woods Road Performance Bond Reduction – Approve

MOTION:

Dave McKane moved to approve to reduce the Performance Bond from \$160,000 to \$40,000 for Fiddlehead Estates, Section II, Jem Woods Road, as presented and

recommended by the Town Engineer in his letter dated 1/5/15 and the Planning & Zoning Commission in their Memorandum dated 1/7/15. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This was reviewed by Planning & Zoning, and everything is in order. First Selectman George Temple supports this.

4. Annual Pedal for Parent Child Resource Center Community Cycling Event – Approve Town of Oxford Routes

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the use of the following Town of Oxford routes for the Lower Naugatuck Valley's Third Annual Pedal for Parent Child Resource Center Community Cycling Event which will take place on Sunday, May 31, 2015 between approximately 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM:

Route 188 North Squantuck Road, left at rotary circle onto Route 188 and continue North on Quaker Farms Road, left onto Route 67/188, right onto Route 188 North Strongtown Road, right onto Airport Access, right onto Christian Street, right onto Hawley Road and then left onto Route 67 East into Seymour.

Also to authorize the First Selectman to sign the appropriate approval documents for this event. This was seconded by Dave McKane. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries. The Police and Fire Departments will be notified. Note: This event is fully supported by volunteers, regular rest stops and support vehicles with safety precautions being provided.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated this is an annual event and has a good history to it. First Selectman George Temple endorses it.

5. FY 2014 – 2015 Transfer Requests

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the following FY 2014 – 2015 transfer requests as presented by the Finance Director:

TO:	Elderly Commission	Vehicle Repairs	5295-812	\$818.79
TO:	Elderly Commission	Vehicle Maintenance	5295-811	\$766.79
FROM:	Elderly Commission	Dues	5295-858	\$ 52.00
TO:	Elderly Commission	Books & Publications	5295-525	\$2300.00
FROM:	Finance	Finance Contingency	5230-560-5230	\$2300.00
TO:	Bd of Assess Appeals	Legal Notice	5212-670	\$ 35.00
FROM:	Bd of Assess Appeals	Education	5212-590	\$ 35.00

TO: Civil Preparedness	Supplies	5250-769	\$7500.00
FROM: Finance	Finance Contingency	5230-560-5320	\$7500.00

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

Discussion: J. Hliva stated what each of the above items is for. The Civil Preparedness supplies were for EBOLA emergency preparedness so the first responders would have equipment for this type of emergency. First Selectman George Temple stated Oxford has had Anthrax in the past, and this makes the Town prepared. First Selectman George Temple supports these transfers.

6. Report of First Selectman

Fire Commission Ordinance – First Selectman George Temple did meet with Scott Pelletier on this and the Fire Departments are opposed to it. First Selectman Temple would like to see something that is workable for both sides and he will continue working on this. First Selectman George Temple would like to have a Fire Commission Ordinance, and would like to see everyone on the same page. There will be a special meeting on January 28th at 7:30 p.m. with the Fire Commission and the Fire Departments. Selectman Dave McKane asked if more than 1 Selectman could be at this meeting. First Selectman George Temple stated it should be a Joint Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Fire Chiefs, and the Fire Commission on this topic only. Since it will be a Special Meeting, there will be no Audience of Citizens, and only participants in the meeting can speak.

Power Plant – First Selectman George Temple stated there is a contract between CPV and the Town of Oxford, and negotiations have begun. While construction is being done, the Town is unable to tax them during that time. It will be \$5 million per year on average. The first 7 years, the tax will be \$1 million, and then at the end of 7 years, it will be \$5 million each year. This will be the biggest tax payer in Oxford so far. Kathy Johnson asked if it is enough money, and what would they be assessed for? First Selectman George Temple stated that not everything is taxable, there will be depreciation. The assessment will be up to the Tax Assessor who has been very much involved with this project and she is happy with what we are doing. Kathy Johnson asked what happens when its life has been exhausted. First Selectman George Temple stated there is a demolition Bond on it and has been approved. This will increase based on the megawatts it puts out. The building is actually smaller than what was approved, so it will be less to demolish. Kathy Johnson asked about the oil back-up and environmental issues. First Selectman Temple stated that when he invited Ms. Johnson to see a similar plant in Albany that was 7 years old, they did ask that question of the Plant Manager. Their answer was that they have never used oil in the 7 years. There is a built-in auto shutdown if it reaches 2PPM, and will shut down automatically if it gets to that point. The reading in Albany was 1.2 PPM at full power at the time of their visit.

First Selectman George Temple stated that the Citing Council is there for important things like public utilities. They will do what is right for the State of Connecticut.

\$20,000 for Lily Park – First Selectman George Temple stated yes, the money could have been spent in other places, but thanks to donations we wanted to do it for Lily Park and for the children of the town. First Selectman George Temple stated the town would like to put cameras in the park since it is an important concern today. We also have Tetlak Park that we are asking for grant money from the State because our children need fields.

Dog Pound – Selectman Jeff Haney gave an update on the Animal Shelter, and we are tiling the floors, and putting up the walls now. It is just about finished, and work is being done by volunteers. It is approximately \$10,000 under budget. There was originally a proposal with several towns getting together and they were ultimately looking at a \$500,000 cost for each town compared to \$80,000 for our own dog pound in town, and it is beautiful!

Senior Center Update – The floor was stripped and a core testing was done. The 3/8" covering will need to be removed. Once this is done, then conventional tile will be installed.

Response to the Curbing off of Jacks Hill – The Army Corps of Engineers insisted on doing it with Cape Cod Curbing so the animals that migrate in that area can get across the road.

Nil Guillet asked about the drainage problem off of Jacks Hill Road. It was suggested again to bring it to the Road Commission. Dave McKane stated the Public Works Dept. did go back up to Jacks Hill and this issue has been resolved.

Quaker Farms Roof Repair – Dave McKane suggested that the Quaker Farms School roof repair be coordinated with the Fireman's Carnival. There will be a special meeting regarding the Quaker Farms Roof on Thursday, January 22, 2015. First Selectman George Temple will keep everyone updated.

AMENDMENTS - None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

First Selectman George Temple moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

15 JAN 29 AM 10:33
TOWN CLERK
Lynda Romanowski