

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, February 1, 2017
7:30 PM - Town Hall

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

Present: First Selectman George Temple, Selectman Jeff Haney, Selectman Kathy Johnson, Joanne Pelton, Administrative Assistant

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 1/18/17 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 1/18/17 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

1. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Tax Refunds as Item #7. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Approve and Award Hawley Road Reconstruction Engineering Bid

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add Approve and Award Hawley Road Reconstruction Engineering Bid as Item #8. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. House Bill No. 5277, Public Act No. 16-99 An Act Extending Municipal Property Tax Relief for Retired Volunteer Firefighters, Fire Police Officers and Emergency Medical Technicians - Discuss

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the agenda to add House Bill No. 5277, Public Act No. 16-99 An Act Extending Municipal Property Tax Relief for Retired Volunteer Firefighters, Fire Police Officers and Emergency Medical Technicians - Discuss as Item #9 and move Report of First Selectman to Item #10. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Quaker Farms Fire Company 2017 Fire Police Appointments

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint Edward Roman, Louis Mazzucco, Jay Hawthorne and Ronald Stebar as the Quaker Farms Fire Company 2017 Fire Police as presented in their letter dated 1/12/17. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Library Building Committee Un-Appointment

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to un-appoint Lori Abbot, of 13 Coventry Lane, from the Library Building Committee due to she is not a registered voter. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Since she is not a registered voter, she is unable to serve on the committee. She will still help out, but this is a requirement that we have.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Pack 14 Den 2 Introduction

Pack 14 Den 2 are learning about government and what is going on in the Town of Oxford. Each scout got to ask the First Selectman a question about the town.

What is the biggest problem facing the town? First Selectman Temple stated money and coming to grips with the economy when things are tight. There are other problems that are addressed everyday like the safety of everyone and that our schools are safe.

When will the new Library be finished? First Selectman Temple stated that by December, it should be finished.

What is your favorite part about being First Selectman? First Selectman Temple responded seeing children like yourselves and doing something for the kids in the town.

Were you ever a Boy Scout or Cub Scout? First Selectman Temple stated he is from New Jersey and they did not have that there. He was a Sea Scout and spent a night in New London at the submarine base when he was young. He served our country and got to be on a submarine for 7 years. First Selectman Temple is very impressed with the quality of kids that go through scouting.

What is one thing that you are planning to do in the future for the community? First Selectman Temple responded that we are trying to get more businesses and industry in the community and the major thing is that we are going to build a new Middle School. All three schools will together and trying to get more fields for the kids, and a recreational area for Oxford.

Why did you become the First Selectman? First Selectman Temple was dissatisfied with the facilities we had for the high school so he ran for First Selectman to get this done and he was voted in.

How can citizens help you become more effective? First Selectman responded by what you are here doing tonight, coming to meetings, and showing up to vote. Participation is important. The public makes the decisions and these have to be sent to a Town Meeting and voters have to make the final decision by voting.

First Selectman George Temple called a five minute recess at 7:55 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 8:00 p.m.

2. 6th Annual Ride for Hope Charity Motorcycle Ride – Approve Town of Oxford Routes

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the use of Route 67 and Route 42 through the Town of Oxford, on Sunday, June 4, 2017, approximately between 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM, for the 6th Annual Ride for Hope Charity Motorcycle Ride and authorize the First Selectman to sign the Letter of Approval for the Connecticut Department of Transportation as well as the Application for Special Use Permit. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This ride is done every year and is for a good cause. There have been no problems in the past.

3. Oxford Ambulance Association List of Officers – Approve

MOTION:

Jeff moved to approve the List of Officers for the Oxford Ambulance Association as they presented in their letter received 1/19/17. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple commented that there was no indication that Robert DeBisschop is an EMT. This is a requirement in the bylaws. That any officers must possess a valid and current EMT certificate, Article 4 Section 2 under Officers. First Selectman Temple did not have any problem with the rest of the people on the list. First Selectman Temple would like to table this and send it back to the Oxford Ambulance Association.

Atty. Fran Teodosio representing the Oxford Ambulance Association stated that the agreement entered into a contract in 2001 with regards to the operation and the finances. This agreement changed and became a 501C organization and it changed the internal structure of Oxford Ambulance. Since 2006, anyone who was Chairman/Director under their bylaws, did not have any EMT license. First Selectman Temple stated under the terms of the current ordinance, there is absolutely no way you can get away with not following their own bylaws.

This is apparently a legal decision and should be brought to Town Council.

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to *table* this item. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple and be referred to the Town Attorney. All 3 Ayes. Motion *tabled*.

4. Engine 41 – Approve and Amend Capital Plan

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the purchase of a new Engine 41 for a total amount of \$772,227.44, to be made in three (3) separate payments as in accordance with the contract revised 9/10/10 and as per the Board of Finance's recommendation, and to authorize First Selectman to sign said Purchase Agreement. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson.

Discussion: Jeff Haney asked if the date was correct or was it a typo. The company had the date of 9/10/10 at the bottom of the contract so it was an error on their part.

MOTION:

Jeff Haney withdrew the motion from the table. Kathy Johnson withdrew her second.

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to amend the FY 2016 – 2017 Capital Plan to include the purchase of a new Engine 41 for a total amount of \$772,227.44, to be made in three (3) separate payments as in accordance with the contract revised 9/10/16 and as per the Board of Finance's recommendation. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson, and will be forwarded to the Board of Finance for a Special Meeting, and then to a Town meeting. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

5. Agricultural Advisory Committee Farmer's Market Peddler's Permit Application – Approve

They did not put the dates in appropriately. No discussion.

6. Hire Water Pollution Control Authority Coverage Person

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to hire Nicholas Ellis, of 49 Oak Crest Road, as the Coverage Person for the Water Pollution Control Authority for when current staff is not available, with a pay rate of \$18.50 to be taken from the current's budget line item 5580-517-0074 – Wage Coverage, effective Monday, February 6, 2016. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This is a line item we have in place so the coverage person is familiar with the pump station. This is the Water Pollution Control Authority's recommendation for coverage for vacations so the town will not have to hire an outside company to be sure the pump station is working properly. Mr. Ellis will go over the stations prior to the planned vacations. First Selectman Temple stated that as long as it does not exceed the line item. Scott Pelletier is the other coverage person that does it on a will-call basis. First Selectman Temple stated that there are certain things that need to be done when hiring someone. This is a will-call basis with no set amount of hours.

7. Tax Refunds

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the Tax Refunds, totaling \$2,186.17, as presented and recommended by the Tax Collector in her letter dated 1/31/17 and authorize two signatures. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: This person paid the taxes in person and they were already being paid through his mortgage company. A check will be made out next Thursday. If this person needs the money sooner, the Town can cut a special check. Joanne Pelton will keep on top of this item.

8. Approve and Award Hawley Road Reconstruction Engineering Bid

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the Department of Transportation's LOTCIP Grant for the Hawley Road Reconstruction project, in the amount of \$1,500,000.00, and award the Engineering Bid to B&B Engineering, which is to be funded by the town in an the amount of \$48,750.00; all as presented and recommended by the Grant Writer in her letter dated 1/31/17. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Kathleen O'Neil stated that the town received the award through the Council of Governments to reconstruct Hawley Road. The Town was responsible for the engineering only, and two bids did come in. This bid was lower. This item will need to go through the Board of Finance and a Town Meeting and plans have to go through the Department of Transportation. This amount is only for pre-construction and specifications.

9. House Bill No. 5277, Public Act No. 16-99 An Act Extending Municipal Property Tax Relief for Retired Volunteer Firefighters, Fire Police Officers and Emergency Medical Technicians - Discuss

Discussion: Scott Pelletier stated that the Fire Department was given the information and they discussed it and it is in the works. They will come back to the Board of Selectmen with their recommendations. The bill is if you are an active member, you are entitled to a \$1000 tax exemption deduction. The question was raised by the Fire Department how far back do they go and how long do you have to be a volunteer fireman for. It usually goes in \$200 increments. This is a Legislative change and will also have to go to a Town Meeting.

10. Report of First Selectman

1. Dan Semosky and First Selectmen George Temple attended a seminar in New York concerning liability and police issues. They learned that there are things that will need to be implemented.
2. The Town of Oxford will issue a Prescription Discount Card and will be mailed to everyone in Oxford. There is no enrollment fee and Oxford Pharmacy is a participating pharmacy. There are other things that people can get discounts on using this card, i.e. eye glasses, Lasik surgery, hearing aids, etc. These discounts are up to 70% off and people will get insurance company rates.
3. First Selectman George Temple made a case to State Lawmakers and testified that part of Rt. 67 will be named after Lt. Col. Belinsky. First Selectman Temple stated that there is a bill in the Senate stating that there is a moratorium on naming streets or bridges after someone due to the cost of signage. The Town of Oxford will pay for the signage to change the name of the street.
4. Tomorrow, First Selectman Temple will be attending the Senior Center luncheon to discuss the pharmaceutical discount card.

AMENDMENTS

None

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

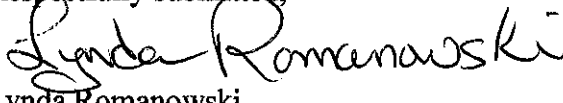
Jack Kiley suggested having a procedure in place to let the Board of Finance know when projects are closed. There are a lot of capital projects that they are not aware if they are closed or not. Joanne Pelton and Jim Hliva will work together to keep track of the committees. Kathleen O'Neil stated that she will send a list of which grants are completed.

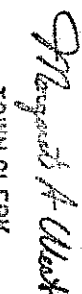
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. This was seconded by Jeff Haney. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

17 FEB -6 PM 5:07
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT

TOWN CLERK