

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

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

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 2/15/17 Special Meeting

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to approve the 2/15/17 Special Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

1. Hire Library Special Inspections Company

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to amend the agenda to add Hire Library Special Inspections Company as Item # 7 and move Report of First Selectman to Item #8. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

APPOINTMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Capital Improvement Plan – Approve and Forward to Town Meeting

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to approve the Capital Improvement Plan, as presented, and to forward this matter to a Town Meeting on Monday, March 13, 2017 per Town Charter. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: Jim Hliva announced that all of the capital requests totaled \$33,315,949. This is for a five-year timeframe, and include new school, improvements to the schools, an ambulance, police car, Public Works truck, 5 more fire trucks, road improvement, renovations to Town Hall and underground storage tanks for Public Works, and other items. First Selectman Temple stated this is a wish list. This does not mean we are going to do all of these. This will depend highly on what happens up in Hartford. The State cut aide to Oxford by 71%. If we don't get it on the list we can't do it. The Board of Education will be coming in with their capital improvement plan also. Some of these items will be addressed, but certainly not necessarily the full amount.

2. Oxford School Building Committee Funding Request

See Item #5

3. Girl Scout Week Proclamation – Approve and Authorize the First Selectman to Sign

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to approve the following Girl Scout Day Proclamation and authorize the First Selectman to sign:

WHEREAS, March 12, 2017 marks the 105th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, which began in 1912 when Savannah, GA native Juliette Gordon Low gathered 18 girls to provide them the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually;

WHEREAS, 1912 was also the year in which Girl Scouting started in the state of Connecticut;

WHEREAS, for more than 100 years, Girl Scouting has helped build millions of girls and women of courage, confidence, and character who act to make the world a better place; and,

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Leadership Experience helps girls discover themselves and their values, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place; and,

WHEREAS, through the dedication, time, and talent of volunteers of different backgrounds, abilities, and areas of expertise, Girl Scouts of Connecticut offers the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to more than 32,000 girls in grades K-12 across the state of Connecticut; and,

WHEREAS, core programs around environmental stewardship, anti-bullying techniques, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), and healthy living, help girls develop a solid foundation in leadership; and,

WHEREAS, today, more than 59 million American women are Girl Scout alumnae and 2.7 million girls and adult volunteers are active members;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George R. Temple, by virtue of the authority vested in me as First Selectman of the Town of Oxford do hereby applaud the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for more than 100 years of leadership and expertise as the voice for and of girls, proudly proclaim March 12, 2017, as **GIRL SCOUT DAY**.

This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

4. Oxford Ambulance Association 2016 Volunteer Tax Abatements

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to approve the 2016 Volunteer Tax Abatements for the Oxford Ambulance Association as they presented in their undated letter 2/27/17. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman Temple read the names from the letter. We received this letter on 2/27/17.

5. Oxford School Building Committee Engineering Funding Request

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to approve B&B Engineering of Seymour to perform Phase 1 ESA Services for an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00 as part of the grant application process for the New Middle School Project as presented and recommended by the Chairman in his letter dated 2/27/17. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes. Motion carries.

6. Oxford Ambulance Association Ordinance – Discuss

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated the Board had some questions concerning their finance and performance. The Town has no control over it because they are run by the Oxford Ambulance Association Board of Trustees. First Selectman Temple stated that we envision putting together a Board just for Emergency Medical Services with five members, 3 appointed by the town, and 2 people from the Oxford Ambulance Association. If they want new equipment or want to hire someone, they have to go to the Board. The Board would be responsible to set hiring policies and get control of the finances. Right now if the finances are off, the Town picks up the check. Kathy Johnson agrees with First Selectman Temple and it is a level of transparency. Everyone is working for the town and we all have accountability and this would give them much more credibility. If people within the organization, i.e. a volunteer has a problem with someone in the organization they can go to this new Board and the Board can straighten out any personnel problem that they may or may not have. It is a win/win situation. The Board of Finance is on board with this. This being an ordinance, it will have to be brought to a Town Meeting. There will be a lot of questions then.

7. Hire Library Special Inspections Company

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to hire STL Incorporated, of 21 Henry Street in Bethel, Connecticut, as the Library Special Inspection and Testing Contractor for an estimated \$18,000.00, for the new Library Construction Project; as presented and recommended by the Library Building Committee Chairman in his email dated 2/28/17. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple. All 2 Ayes.

Discussion: Mr. Mitchell stated this is a special inspection and is in the budget for this project. This company was the lowest bid, and it is part of the town requirements. We are making good progress. The Library should be finished by December.

8. Report of First Selectman

1. The new Oxford Library progress was discussed. Mr. Mitchell stated that Earthworks was doing the excavation, the access road is roughed in, and storm drains are in the ground. They did hit some ledge when digging for the basement on Monday but did not have to blast. The committee is happy with the progress and the project is on schedule and on budget.

2. First Selectman Temple received a thank you letter from the Seymour/Oxford Food Bank and thanked everyone for contributing to the boxes through the Town Hall.
3. Congratulations to Eric Berthel our new State Senator. His focus will be on cutting spending. There was a pretty good turnout at the voting polls.
4. First Selectman Temple discussed an item that was brought up that there is a need for a dedicated area for brush removal and he would like to have a wood chipper there. If there is a hurricane and a lot of trees come down this is where people can bring branches or trees. First Selectman Temple would like to get this done. Jim Hliva will talk to Public Works.

AMENDMENTS

None.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Jim Spear, 31 Macintosh Drive, Oxford, stated his concerns regarding the Ambulance Ordinance. He had first heard this item was going to be removed from the agenda but came and it was discussed. He gave his personal experience with the association. Mr. Spear stated for the record, he was asked to be nominated for the director's position, and was told when the election would be in December, and he went there, so if he was nominated, he could let people know his qualifications. Fifteen minutes before the meeting began the Executive Director explained to him that he had to leave. Mr. Spear discussed several issues. He also begged that this new Board be an independent Board with the five members, and have an executive director report to this Board. First Selectman Temple stated that we did not have the full discussion tonight at the request of the Town Attorney.

John Downs, 666 Roosevelt Drive, Oxford stated he hopes you have better luck with this ordinance than with the Fire Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Kathy Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. This was seconded by First Selectman George Temple.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

17 MAR -6 PM 5:39
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
Margaret H. Clark
TOWN CLERK



Board of Selectmen
Town of Oxford
486 Oxford Rd
Oxford, Ct 06478

Board of Selectmen:

The following is a list of Oxford Ambulance members who qualify for the volunteer tax abatement for 2016.

Respectfully,

Madalene Taggart
Madalene Taggart
Director
Oxford Ambulance

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|---------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Kevin Shevlin | 56 Tram Dr | \$1000 |
| Lee Ives | 29 Chestnut Tree Ext | \$500 |
| Gary McEwen | 2 Aurora Dr | \$500 |
| Michele McEwen | 2 Aurora Dr | \$500 |
| Timothy Crouch | 140 Chestnut Tree hill Rd | \$500 |
| Travis Taggart | 106 Prokop Rd | \$500 |
| Adam Duke | 7 Wyant Rd | \$500 |
| Cassandra Ragozzine | 57 Towantic Hill | \$500 |
| Pratik Mehta | 14 Krystalle | \$500 |