

**Board of Selectmen's
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, November 15, 2017
7:30 PM - Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by First Selectman George Temple, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. 11/1/17 Regular Meeting

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the 11/1/17 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

None.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

First Selectman George Temple introduced Scott Flaherty, who will be taking Kathy Johnson's place on the Board of Selectmen.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Lake Housatonic Authority Appointment

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint James Olson, of 25 Nancy Lynn Lane, to the Lake Housatonic Authority with a term to commence immediately and expire on 12/31/19. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

2. Oxford Center Fire Company 2018 Fire Chief Appointment

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to re-appoint Scott Pelletier as Oxford Center Fire Company's 2018 Fire Chief. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. Northwest CT Public Safety Communication Center, Inc. Appointment

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to re-appoint Victor Knoll, of 17 White Gate Road, as the Oxford Representative for the Northwest CT Public Safety Communication Center, Inc. with a term to commence on 1/1/18 and expire 12/31/19. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Opiate Crisis Steering Committee's Request to Support AmeriCorp Member – Approve Funding and Forward to Board of Finance

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve the request to support an AmeriCorp member from 12/4/17 to 8/31/18 to work in the Town of Oxford to help address the opioid epidemic, for a fee not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the worker; all as presented and recommended by the Alliance for Protection & Wellness Director in her letter dated 10/30/17. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. This matter will be forwarded to the Board of Finance. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated this is another attempt to help with the Opioid epidemic; it gives us another contact and another avenue for prevention. This will be brought to the Board of Finance, and asked Jack Kiley to be sure someone from the Opiate committee be present at the Board of Finance meeting to explain what this is. This will be a person that will be here to guide people along the way. Jack Kiley asked if the \$5,000 is on our payroll. First Selectman Temple stated no it is a contract. This is on a use basis, 20 hours per week from October – July 2018. First Selectman Temple wanted to get the word out that this is available. One of the issues families had was that they did not know who to go to.

2. Hire Life Guard

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to hire Cassidy Wilson as a lifeguard at a pay rate of \$10.60 per hour effective immediately; as presented and recommended by the Parks & Recreation Director in her letter dated 11/2/17. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

3. Appoint Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to appoint Kristyn Rosa, of 6 Skyline Drive, as the new Administrative Assistant for a term to commence 11/20/17 and expire on 11/18/19. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: First Selectman George Temple stated that Joanne Pelton is leaving and moving to New Hampshire. Kristyn Rosa is her replacement. This is at the same pay rate. Benefits will kick in February 1 for medical and sick time. First Selectman George Temple has known Kristyn Rosa for a long time, but is not looking forward to Joanne leaving. We are very happy to have Kristyn. Joanne Pelton will be extended one month to train Kristyn, which will be 30 days from November 20, 2017.

4. Approval of AFSCME Council 4 Supervisor Employees Local 818-14 Contract

MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to approve/ratify the AFSCME Council 4 Supervisor Employees Local 818-14 Contract effective July 1, 2017, and as approved by the members of the Supervisor Employees Local 818-14 Union. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Discussion: The Union has agreed to go with the HSA for the duration of the contract for two years. All employees have agreed to work a 40 hour work week, and will receive a raise of 2.5% for each of the two years. There were some minor adjustments to the contract. There is a difference in the co-pay for employees which will be 14% of the insurance premium. A discussion was held regarding the Park & Recreation Director since she works all different hours depending on events going on. First Selectman Temple stated the town can do a memorandum of understanding for her file stating that we will agree to a flexible schedule with her. Have our town attorney draw it up.

5. Report of First Selectman

1. There will be a swearing-in ceremony on Monday, November 20, 2017, at S.B. Church Town Hall. All recently elected officials are urged to attend. A reception will be held at the Old Dog Tavern after the ceremony. Everyone is invited.
2. Congratulations to Riverside Fire Department for their 75th Birthday! A great time was had by everyone.
3. Tomorrow morning there will be a meeting in the Waterbury Exchange Club to acknowledge two of our first responders, a fireman and a police officer will be honored and will be held at Belle Vista.
4. First Selectman Temple has gotten a lot of inquiries on the building lots by the Power Plant. There is a lot of interest in our industrial area. We have a warehouse that will be going in on Pheasant Run which will be almost 140,000 square feet.
5. An appraiser will be out today to appraise the Colonial Tavern property.
6. The School Building Committee will be coming to us to request a project manager and an architect, and the general contractor to be hired for this project. The committee will narrow it down to three, and the Board of Selectmen will make the final decision. The Board of Selectmen will be looking at various schools that have been built recently, and will be asking the mayors or First Selectmen in each town questions on the different architects and the kind of job they did, and will be looking for any defects. We want to know what kind of service they gave and what kind of interface they had with their committee.
7. We received a resignation from Lou Denaro from our Police Department, and will accept this reluctantly and thank him for his service. We did hire Sgt. Robert Desmarais, a retired State cop, and he does like the job, and will be a good addition.
8. "Christmas in Oxford" will be held on December 1, 2017 at Town Hall, 6:00 p.m. This is a nice event and the children love it.
9. In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Town Hall offices will be closed at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, and will remain closed until Monday, November 27.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

Jack Kiley 88 Bee Mountain Road, questioned First Selectman Temple regarding the Parks & Recreation Director, and asked about making her a salary exempt employee. First Selectman Temple stated that we have the flexibility to do that. Mr. Kiley asked about the lots around the airport if they were still under duty-free and if the State is supposed to reimburse us. The Board stated that it starts out at 20% for the first five years on a sliding scale and then it is supposed to get to 80% reimbursement. Mr. Kiley asked if the town can opt out of this. First Selectman Temple stated we will be selling them. Mr. Kiley asked if the old ambulance was still behind the Public Works area. First Selectman Temple stated yes it is and we will transfer that to the fire department, and asked Joanne Pelton to remind him about this. Mr. Kiley also inquired about the inland/wetlands at Colonial Tavern and was told it was a flood plain. First Selectman Temple knows there are wetlands all over this property. When the appraisal comes in we can see then, if it comes in too high, we can walk away from it. This property does have a field, a pool, tennis court, basketball court, parking, a little pond, all of which the town can use. Jack Kiley stated we have to know what we are buying. He also asked about the property near the Cornerstone Church. First Selectman knows about this.

David McKane, 11 Tram Drive, asked about the Colonial Tavern property and if the town was going to keep it or sell it off as lots. First Selectman Temple has no delusion as to what we are going to buy there. We are not buying a subdivision.

Mr. McKane stated that Glenbrook Farms will be going up for sale and hopes it would merit some consideration. Mr. McKane also asked about the Parks & Recreation position, and stated Debbie Gatto had worked under those circumstances for 17 years, and why are we talking about this now. Mr. McKane asked about the Union contract and asked if the employees are going to be compensated for working 40 hours. First Selectman Temple stated they will be paid for 40 hours, but if the work is not there, First Selectman Temple has the authority to reduce the hours. He would like Town Hall to be more professional in terms of being open normal business hours. Mr. McKane thanked Kathy Johnson for her service as Selectmen, and stated she did a great job.

Kathy Johnson thanked Dave McKane, and also wanted to take this opportunity to thank First Selectman Temple and Jeff Haney and it was a pleasure to work on this board. The town is prosperous now and needs good leadership and knows they will do a good job. Kathy stated that if there is any position she can help the town with, let her know.

First Selectman Temple thanked Kathy Johnson for her service, and was always impressed with her dedication to the town. Your heart was in the right place. She has influenced him a lot, and it was a pleasure to come to the meetings, and will always consider Kathy as a friend.

First Selectman Temple thanked Joanne Pelton for the great job she has done for the town and will miss her.

ADJOURNMENT
MOTION:

Jeff Haney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM. This was seconded by Kathy Johnson. All 3 Ayes. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Romanowski
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

17 NOV 20 PM 5:58
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
Theresa H. Clark
TOWN CLERK