### Reconvened Town Meeting September 3, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:53 PM by First Selectman George R Temple.. Those in attendance were checked in on the voter list or grand list at the door and given a paper ballot by the Registrar of Voters. Town Clerk Margaret A West read the call and return of posting. Vincent Palates 75 Rees Drive moved to nominate Wayne Watt, 1 Toppenfjell Lane, seconded as moderator, Vincent Calio, 547 Putting Green Lane nominated Margaret Polstein, 587 Putting Green lane as moderator, seconded. There being no other nominations First Selectman Temple called for a voice vote on Wayne Watt, then Margaret Polstein. Nomination carried for Margaret Polstein as Moderator.

First Selectman George Temple explained that the vote tonight is on the agreements listed in the call only, not the power plant. He further commented that the CPV will be building a \$6,000,000 paved road with sewer and water. This will keep the construction traffic off..... at which time the moderator took the microphone from First Selectman Temple and commented that she is the chair.

Town Clerk Margaret A. West gave the Moderator the eligibility to vote at a town meeting to be read, as well as written correspondence to be read into the record.

The Moderator read the eligibility to vote at a town meeting found in the town charter.

The Moderator explained the rules of the meeting and the items that would be voted on tonight. No strict time limits for speakers, but she asked that speakers try to keep it 2-3 minutes. Speakers should not repeat what has already been said and should comment only on what the last speaker has said. All speakers should write their name and address on the list that is at the microphone.

Wayne McCormack, 593 Putting Green Lane read from a prepared statement and the moved the following, seconded:

"Considering the facts that CT siting Council's conditional approval of the proposed power plant is being appealed in the Superior Court, and that the payments indicated in the Proposed Tax Stabilization Agreement do not even approximate the real tax liability, I move that a vote on the Proposed Tax Stabilization Agreement between The Town of Oxford and CPV Towantic, LLC, be postponed until after the court renders its decision?"

The Moderator explained that the person who made the motion gets to speak first, Mr. McCormack indicated he had nothing further.

Stephen Brown, 8 Bonnie Lane commented that he was against this motion; there is no reason to postpone the vote.

Kathy Johnson 68 Dorman Road commented that she was in favor of voting tonight, the original vote to sell the land to the power company only passed by 62 votes, this is a strong message. Ed Roman 92 Bowers Hill Rd, moved the question, seconded.

The moderator called for a vote on the motion to move the question, there were some yelling out to use the paper ballots, the moderator commented that paper ballots will not be used and asked for a standing count, she then declared motion carried by the majority, debate is closed.

The moderator then called for a vote on the motion to postpone.

Mr. Ed Hardy 14 Wyant Rd called a point of order as to the legally of this and asked that if the Chair did not know could she get clarification from Town Counsel. The moderator commented that she is the duly elected Chair and it is legal. She then called for a vote to postpone. Vote was to close to count in that manner. Some indicating they wanted to use the paper ballot. Discussion ensued on various ways to get an accurate count. The moderator ruled that it would be done row by row and the Town Clerk will keep the vote count. The moderator counted along with Jack Kiley, Board of Finance Chairman row by row.

During the count Linda Crowe, Registrar of Voters challenged a vote indicating that someone had voted twice. Moderator asked that everyone be honest and that she didn't think one vote would make a difference. The Moderator then explained that she would not vote unless there was a tie. The moderator continued to count. Final tally was announced: Yes-230 No 323. The motion to postpone failed.

Moderator then read Item 1: **ITEM 1** Shall the Town of Oxford approve the Proposed Tax Stabilization Agreement between the Town of Oxford and CPV Towantic, LLC as approved by the Board of Selectmen on8/19/15

#### Discussion:

Janis Hardy, 14 Wyant Rd asked if someone could clarify what the town is getting with these agreements and how a "no" vote effects the town. She asked if this question could be applied to all 3 Items.

The moderator ruled that comments would be made first and we could get back to those questions.

Paul Coward, 505 Traditions Court South commented that he would explain Item 1 and that he was against these financial arrangements. This is called "payment in lieu of taxes, over 22-1/2 years we would get 112 million. That is a lot of money but the regular

taxpayer is governered by rules and we pay 70% of our assessed value in taxes, this is how taxes are established. If CPV was taxed like everyone else it would be 17 million a year. He further commented to go back and re-negotiate, Keep CPV off our backs, and asked George to go back and re-negotiate.

Stephen Brown commented that he was neutral on the power plant until he learned of the CPV tactics, reading the literature that was sent to his home. CPV is not a good fit for our town, the nature, structure and character of our town. He further commented that he had concerns about how the funds will be distributed to the town.

Clinton Richards 128 Country Club Dr. commented that Mr. Temple said if these agreements go down there will still be a plant. Plans can change, we don't want this plant.

Point of order: this is not about the power plant but about the agreements

Gerald Carbonaro 14 Country Farm Rd: Explained that this is not a vote for or against the power plant. It's about 67 million in taxes. People don't realize that there are things that have to get done in this town, rebuilding center school for one. He further commented that this is tax money this town needs and this is not political, it's about taxes. Whether you agree with the First Selectman or not it's about taxes.

Vincent Palutis 75 Rees Dr commented that there is some bad information out there and asked that either the First Selectman or Town Counsel answer the questions that were asked earlier by Mrs. Hardy. He further commented that the questions had not been addressed as moderator had indicated they would be.

At this point a couple moved forward and wanted to put their ballots in the ballot box. The moderator told them there was no proxy vote and this was premature. They elected to put the ballots in the box. Discussion ensued around the room with no real order many people called out to use the paper ballots.

Kathy Johnson moved the question, seconded. The moderator explained this would end discussion. Moderator called for a vote by standing up and holding up the ballot, the Moderator declared that the motion passed by the majority.

Moderator then read the item again for voting; there was confusion on what was being voted on, there were many talking at the same time and yelling. First Selectman Temple motioned to have the vote done with paper ballots. The moderator commented that there would no paper ballot vote and that the ballots were no good. Some of those present were asking for Town Counsel explanation, discussion ensued moderator directed Town Counsel Kevin Condon to explain the tax agreement impact. He explained that this is a contract, and the new plant is 46% more megawatts than the original with a tax revenue increase of 112%. He further explained that he did not know if this could be renegotiated at this time.

Motion for item 1 was then counted: The moderator and the Chairman of the Board of Finance Jack Kiley counted votes row by row as the Town Clerk tallied the votes.

Yes 192 No 337 motion failed.

Moderator then opened the floor for discussion on Item 2:

Andrew Bucci of 521 Heatherwood Court commented that he wanted to cast his vote.

Fran Teodosio came to the podium and explained to the moderator that she could ask for assistance from the police department to gain control.

Dave McKane made a motion to vote on both items at once, seconded.

Discussion: Brett Olbrys 17 Apple Drive introduced himself as former Chairman of the Charter Revision and explain that this could not be done under charter.

Joe Dempsey moved the question, seconded: Motion carried, majority.

The moderator then called for a vote on Item 2: **ITEM 2** Shall the Town of Oxford approve the Proposed Amended and Restated Development Agreement between the Town of Oxford and CPV Towantic, LLC as approved by the Board of Selectmen on 8/19/15?

Motion failed, majority.

The moderator introduced Item 3:

ITEM 3 Shall the Town of Oxford approve the Proposed Amended and Restated Community Support Agreement between the Town of Oxford and CPV Towantic, LLC as approved by the Board of Selectmen on 8/19/15?

Ed Spruck, 5 Willow Street, moved to amend Section 2 so the funds go to the General fund and are spent according to charter, seconded:

Discussion ensued regarding whether this was possible. Point of order was called by Mr. Mckane saying this is not possible to do and what is the point.

Mr. Glismine 517 Traditions Court agreed with this change, it is part of the agreement.

Dave McKane moved the question, seconded, question moved, by a majority vote.

The moderator then called for a vote on Item 3: Item 3 failed majority.

Motion to adjourn by Joe Dempsey, seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49PM

Margaret A West Oxford Town Clerk

TOWN OF OXFORD, CT



## TOWN OF OXFORD

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298

#### RETURN OF POSTING

I, George R. Temple, First Selectman of the Town of Oxford, hereby certify that I caused a copy of the foregoing Notice of the Reconvened Town Meeting to be posted on the public signpost in the Town on Friday, August 28, 2015 and that I caused a copy of said Notice to be published in the Waterbury Republican-American, a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of Oxford, in its issue of August 29, 2015.

Dated: September 1, 2015

George R. Temple, Esq. First Selectman

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# Please read into the minutes of the Oxford Town meeting of 9/3/2015

I am for the building of the new power plant in the industrial section of Oxford.

Before we moved here we researched Oxford and knew it was a growing town that we wanted to live in.

Towantic Power Plant had 15 years to improve upon the original approved plans and have the benefit of new technologies that will make it safer and more environmentally friendly. They have decided that now is the time to build it.

The economic boon to Oxford and the surrounding communities will be a welcome development. I am happy that this plant will finally be built. As a bonus to Oxford they will build a road that will open up access to lots owned by Oxford so other businesses will give Oxford a serious look.

Not only will it bring Oxford much needed tax revenue but will hopefully be the jump start for economic development in our industrial zone that we so badly need. Bringing with it jobs, tax dollars, and good sense growth.

I have no doubt that Poulty Homes will build the remaining 600 homes they have approval for and the existing tax revenue will still be generated from all the homes. They will build what the market will bear and expand as needed. People will still buy those homes. Does the OxfordGreens HOA pontificate to them what they can and cannot build? I think not. You can't use the excuse that you did not know the plant was coming as it has always been on the back burner all you had to do was ask. Just as the shopping center is now being built on 67 everyone knew it was not going to remain a quarry forever and had plans at the zoning board for years till they were ready to build. Empty lots in the industrial section will someday be built to house a business it's called economic growth.

We in Oxford will need the tax revenue and economic expansion that the power plant project will bring. If you have been paying attention you would know Oxford is expanding its infrastructure and also maintaining what we already have in place. There are plans for a new library, full day kindergarten has been introduced in our schools, a new ambulance is on the way, Telak park's fields on Bower's Hill are being surveyed for ball park development, and center school will be replaced in the near future. Those are just a few of what is to come. These projects will not be free and will cost every taxpayer in town money to get them done.

If Oxford does not expand it's tax the town will have nowhere to turn but to Oxford citizens for money for these things and Connecticut is not exactly know as being business friendly thanks to our Governor and his huge tax increases.

Come May next year I would bet that you will not be chanting Power plant go away! Your tune will change to we can't pay! As the taxes in this town will surely need to be increased just to maintain and move the town forward with what the town has planned.

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I am an Oxford resident and Chairman of the Oxford Republican Town Committee.

Thank you,

David Stocker

144 Punkup Rd.

Oxford Ct.