

Annual Budget Meeting  
May 2, 2016

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman George Temple (FSGT). Town Clerk Margaret A. West read the call and return of posting. Joanne Pelton moved to nominate August Palmer as Moderator, seconded. There being no other nominations FSGT congratulated Mr. Palmer. Moderator Palmer then read the eligibility to vote at a town meeting found in the Oxford Charter. The moderator then appointed Town Counsel Kevin Condon as parliamentarian.

**Amy Cote moved, seconded**

**ITEM:** Shall the Town of Oxford approve the Town's Municipal Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017?

Adoption of Item 1, after consideration and/or amendment, shall be by a vote at a Town Meeting by Referendum on Thursday, May 12, 2016 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM at Quaker Farms School located at 30 Great Oak Road. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

Board of Finance Chairman made the following comments;

The Grand list is up .002 %

Board of Education 2.5 % increase

Municipal Budget increase 6%

The Capital Projects are included in the Municipal Budget.

The Entire increase is 3.8% over last year

Police Department is up 11% because the State is charging the full scale fee this year and we added more police.

Ambulance is up 11 %

Highway is up 7.6%

Insurance Liability & Workmen's Comp up 25%

Town Employees up 6% insurance

The mill rate with this budget will decrease a little to 24.22 compared to 24.96 last year

He further explained that 75% of this budget is fixed between contracts and insurance etc.

Dave McLane 11 Tram Dr questioned the need for the \$16,000 for Board of Finance Legal line item. He further explained this is not needed and has never happened before.

Dave McKane made a motion to reduce that legal line item to zero, seconded:

There being no questions or comments the moderator called for a vote.

Motion Carried: A Few nays

FSGT thanked Jack Kiley and the Board of Finance; he further commented that this is not popular job. He expects the CPV issue to be resolved this year and we will be in good Finance shape next year. Next year he is expecting a significant decrease in taxes and doesn't see that happening any where in the State of Connecticut.

Kathy Johnson commented that she was happy we are moving forward with CPV.

Herman Schuler commented about the reduction of the EDC director Salary. He questioned where in the town charter it says that they can reduce salaries. He further commented this is the BOS's job and could be a potential law suit.

FSGT commented that there is no where in the charter or State Statue that allows this action and he will address this issue when the time comes.

There being no other comments or questions the moderator called for a vote to send this to referendum:

Motion Carried: Unanimous

Amy Cote, moved seconded:

**ITEM 2:** Shall the Town of Oxford approve the Town's Board of Education Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017?

Adoption of Item 2, after consideration and/or amendment, shall be by a vote at a Town Meeting by Referendum on Thursday, May 12, 2016 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM at Quaker Farms School located at 30 Great Oak Road. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

Discussion: Jack Kiley BOF Chairman explained that after the Public Hearing the Board of Finance put back the following projects. Temp controls at QFS, walkways at QFS, Repair of Media Center Air Conditions, and the roofs at Center School.

FSGT explained that this Board of Education Budget is subject of compromise and he supports the BOE.

Amy Cote commented that the Capital Projects are not in the BOE budget, but are in the Municipal Budget.

There being no other comments or questions the moderator called for a vote to move Item 2 to Referendum.

Motion Carried: Unanimous

Amy Cote moved, Seconded:

**ITEM 3:** Shall the Town of Oxford approve a levy for road projects for the benefit of the Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017?

Adoption of Item 3, after consideration and/or amendment, shall be by a vote at a Town Meeting by Referendum on Thursday, May 12, 2016 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM at Quaker Farms School located at 30 Great Oak Road. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

FSGT explained that this was a BOF initiative from the start and this is a good program that keeps our roads in good shape. This is good from an EDC point of view because the companies moving into town are please with how up keep our roads.

Andy McGeever, EDC director restated FSGT comment and said he hears from people about how good our roads are kept. He has gotten a lot of comments on Christian Street and right now we are applying for a grant to fix Hawley Road and Willenbrock.

There being no other comments or questions the moderator called for a vote to move Item 3 to referendum.

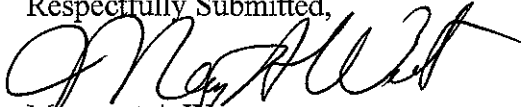
Motion Carried: Unanimous

The town clerk announced that the Referendum will be May 12, 2016 at Quaker Farms School from 6:00AM to 8:00PM.

Dave McKane moved to recess to Referendum, seconded:

Meeting Recessed at 7:23PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Margaret A West  
Oxford Town Clerk

16 MAY -3 PM 4:44  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
Margaret A West  
TOWN CLERK