

OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

The Monthly Meeting of the Oxford Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Lawrence Wilcox at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall for the transaction of such business that may lawfully come before the Board. The meeting opened with the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Present were:

Supervisor: Lawrence Wilcox
Council: Jerry Locke
Alan Davis

Town Clerk: James W. Hemstrought Jr.
Highway Superintendent: Timothy Tefft

Absent: John Hofmann, Ron Charles

Others Present: Vicky House, Town Historian; Patrick Moore, Pool Director and 5 residents.

Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:

Alan Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of April 8, 2015. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 3 Ayes.

Supervisor's Monthly Report:

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets, Investment and Certificate of Deposit Reports, as of April 31, 2015. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

April 2015

Revenues	\$58,216.08
Appropriations	69,653.04

Check Book Balances:

General	\$111,621.94
Highway	327,547.44
T&A	3,723.11
Water District #1	3,429.32
Cemetery Restoration	3,144.80

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Vicky House, Town Historian, announced the sale of 8 So. Washington Street. The house was on the market for sometime and even featured on Oldhousedreams.com and in This Old House magazine's April 2015 issue. The house was sold to a couple from the Philippines. The man met his wife in the Philippines, lived there for years and now wants to come back to the US. I was told he is in the area now starting to work on the house. Their plan is to fix it up so they can live there while they work on restoring it.

The A. D. Harrington house on the corner of Bradley Hill Road and Greene Street is in the process of being sold - the closing date is set for May 22, 2015. This house belonged to Leon and Marka Welch for years. The house was built by Francis Balcom before 1831 and later owned by A. D. Harrington. After additions and remodeling, this was the most prestigious house in Oxford for years. The future owners are Peyton and Lucinda Robinson who plan to restore the Harrington house to its former glory. Peyton and Lucinda visited with me and we went over the history and images of the Harrington house. They have two requests. One is to keep the money from the restorations local so they would like the names and contact information for any contractors who might like to work on the house. Carpenters, electricians, plumbers, masons, landscape contractors, etc. will be needed. This work will take time and the Robinsons do plan to stay in Oxford during most of the work. The second request would be for a caretaker to look after the property. This person could live on the property and, if necessary, they can build a residence for such a person. It is their hope that the property will be looked after when they are away and protect it from vandalism and damage from weather, storms, etc. Lucinda Race Robinson was born on the Willcox Homestead just north of Greene on Route 12 and her parents still live there. That historic house was a tavern during the days of the canal and used, reportedly, by the Loomis Gang to store their stolen horses and other goods. In addition to the Harrington house, Peyton and Lucinda will be helping her parents to restore the Willcox Homestead. - (contributed by Vicky House)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Patrick Moore, Pool Director gave a report concerning the Pool and the upcoming swimming season. The water has been turned on and a new filter will be installed to replace the one that was damaged during the winter. There is a need for three new doors and they will be installed before the season opens. The Lifeguards are doing some painting and equipment repair. Sign-up sheets have gone out and are on the Town website also. Two new guards have been hired and the pool will open, weather permitting, on Monday, June 22 from 12 noon to 6:00 pm. (See the Town website for more information.)

COMMUNICATIONS:

The April 2015 collateralized deposit account information report was received from BNY Mellon and the Spring 2015 brochure received from New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR).

A letter and the most recent update of the Village/Town Hall Restoration Project was received for information, review and discussion. The Village is requesting the release of approximately \$20,000 in Oxford Town Court Justice Assistance Program funds to them. The request is being made at this time because the funds from a previously awarded State and Municipal Grant to the Village via the offices of Senator Thomas Libous have been delayed.

Supervisor Wilcox met with a representative from USDA for inspection of Water District #1. This inspection process occurs every five years.

Supervisor Wilcox attended the NYMIR annual meeting in Albany, NY recently. They continue to shown an A+ security rating, but unfortunately there will not be a rate decrease next year. NYMIR made several suggestions concerning the Highway Department and equipment. There should be a New York State inspection every year and a check list for truck inspection performed once a week by the driver and signed off by him.

The Oxford Assessor and Clerk have been on the job for the six months probationary period and need to be hired permanently to fill the unexpired term of the Assessor. Motion was made by Jerry Locke to hire Steven Graham, Assessor and Erin Graham, Assessor Clerk to fill the unexpired term of the Assessor to 9/30/2019. The motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried with 3 Ayes.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Highway Superintendent Timothy Tefft reported that sweeping sand off all town roads has been done once and some roads twice. He stated that five hundred tons of shim material and 1,500 tons of stone have been hauled to the stockpile at the Town barn. The cemetery on Hoben Road has been cleaned up and road repairs done to New Virginia road, plus several others. New lights around the perimeter of the town barn have been installed. Tim said that Oxford is on the list for use of the boom mower and the shared services with Greene, Guilford and Coventry are going very well.

BILLS & CLAIMS: May 2015

Claims #70 thru #86, General Fund:	Total: \$ 7,570.72
Claims #56 thru #72, Highway Fund:	Total: \$68,452.47

Motion was made by Alan Davis and seconded by Jerry Locke to pay the bills and claims. Motion carried with 3 Ayes.

The next monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held on June 10, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Alan Davis to go into Executive Session at 8:17 pm to discuss a disciplinary problem brought to our attention. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 3 Ayes. No official action was taken. Motion was made by Jerry Locke to come out of Executive session at 8:37. Motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried by 3 Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 8:40 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.
Town Clerk