

**OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 2016**  
**Town & Village Hall**

The Monthly Meeting of the Oxford Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Lawrence Wilcox at 7:30 pm at 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  
Ron Charles  
Carl Koenig

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

Absent: John Hofmann

Others Present: Six residents per sign-in sheet and two Government Class students from Oxford Academy & Central School who were here to observe the Town Board meeting. Those who addressed the Town Board – Paul Romahn, Fred Lanfear, Bryant LaTourette.

**Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:**

Jerry Locke made a motion to approve the minutes of January 13, 2016. Motion was seconded by Ron Charles and carried with 4 Ayes.

**Supervisor's Monthly Report:**

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets, as of January 31, 2016. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

**January 2016**

Revenues	\$312,882.16
Appropriations	\$143,833.90

Check Book Balances:

General	\$129,889.20
Highway	\$276,722.03
T&A	\$ 5,040.22
Water District #1	\$ 1,659.70

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Paul Romahn spoke about the proposed Public Comment Policy and his opinion that those who want to address the Board should state their name, address and phone number. He also gave the Town Board a copy of information from the Division of Local Government Services, State of New York, entitled "Conducting Public Meeting and Public Hearings".

In addressing the Board, Fred Lanfear disagreed with Paul and stated that the law says that a person doesn't have to give their name, address, etc. before speaking to the Board. He then asked permission to read a letter that Trellan Smith wrote to Governor Cuomo concerning the destruction left behind in New Milford, PA as a result of gas drilling, etc. While she was visiting in Milford, she observed first hand the destruction and said in her letter, and I quote, "I heard over and over and over again how lucky I was to live in a state that had banned this toxic extractive industry".

Bryant LaTourette stated that the residents of Oxford have the privilege to speak at Town Board meetings and should be thankful that the Town Board allows residents to do this.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

An estimate was received from Rick Crowell for surveillance cameras, monitors to be installed at the Town Highway Garage. The Board suggested that we ask Rick for a demonstration or visit one of his customer's installations.

A request was made by Kris Kaschak, Oxford High School Counselor and school safety committee chair, to use the Town Pool locker room area as a safe gathering place if outside during a school lock down situation. He said that right now they gather at the gazebo, which is not really protected in case of a real situation. The Board stated that during the summer months this might be a solution, but after the pool season the locker room is used to store all the outside equipment.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Highway Superintendent Tim Tefft reported that there have been a few repairs made on equipment, but going pretty well otherwise. He said that he received the results from the auction of the 1999 Truck w/plow and that the asking price of \$10,000 was accepted.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The Public Comment Policy was revisited. Board member Carl Koenig reported that he contacted the Association of Towns for their comments and suggestions concerning our policy and shared what he found out. After much discussion it was decided to have the Town Clerk put together a revised document to include several of the suggestions made by the Association of Towns and Board Members. This will be brought up again at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for review and possible adoption.

**BILLS & CLAIMS: February 2016**

Claims #16 thru #32 General Fund: Total: \$25,675.10

Claims #22 thru #41 Highway Fund: Total: \$49,693.86

Motion was made by Jerry Locke and seconded by Ron Charles to pay the bills and claims. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by Ron Charles to go into Executive Session at 8:30 pm to discuss an employee situation brought to our attention. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 4 Ayes. No official action was taken. Motion was made by Ron Charles to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 4 Ayes.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on March 9, 2016 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Wilcox at 8:48 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.

Town Clerk