

OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 6, 2019

The regular 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. The meeting date was changed due to a law that states that the annual town budget must be approved at a public hearing held by the Thursday following the November elections.

Present were:

Supervisor: Lawrence Wilcox
Council: Ron Charles
 Alan Davis
 John Hofmann
 Carl Koenig - Absent
Town Clerk: James W. Hemstrought Jr.
Highway Superintendent: Bill Pinney

Others Present: Paul Romahn, Richard Rice, Pauline Speziali, Eric Kennedy.

Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:

Alan Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of October 9, 2019. Motion was seconded by Ron Charles and carried with 4 Ayes.

Supervisor's Monthly Report:

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets and a list of the Fund Balances as of October 31, 2019. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

October 2019

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Revenues | \$322,223.86 |
| Appropriation | 48,564.74 |

Check Book Balances:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| General | \$ 53,452.50 |
| Highway | 149,646.48 |
| T&A | 9,261.51 |
| Water District #1 | 884.86 |

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Eric Kennedy wanted to know what has been done about lowering the speed limit on the road around Lake Gerry? Supervisor Wilcox explained that speed limits are under the control of the New York State Department of Transportation. He stated that the Town Board could initiate the process to have the speed limit lowered.

Motion was made by Ron Charles and seconded by Alan Davis that the Town Board receive the Lake Gerry resident's petition to lower the speed limit to 15 miles per hour around Lake Gerry and forward this petition and request that the State Department of Transportation investigate the lowering of the speed limit around Lake Gerry, Town of Oxford. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

Paul Romahn wanted the Town Board to know that a new project is being started on his property to make electric energy using water from his well. Quidnet Energy Inc. has developed a new approach to grid-scale energy storage, called geomechanical pumped storage, which will provide an extremely low-cost grid-scale energy storage solution. Mr. Romahn went over the various steps involved in completing this project.

Public Hearing on 2020 Town of Oxford Budget

Supervisor Wilcox opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 pm. The affidavit of published legal notice dated 10-16-2019 was published on 10/23/19 and 10/30/19.

Supervisor Wilcox suggested that the Tax of \$5,505.00 be moved out of the "DB" budget and placed in the "A" Tax budget. Following discussion, motion was made by Alan Davis and seconded by Ron Charles that the adjustments proposed by Supervisor Wilcox be made. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

There were no questions or concerns presented by the public. Since no concerns were brought before the Town Board, a motion was made by John Hofmann and seconded by Ron Charles to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried by Roll Call vote as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Ron Charles | Aye |
| Alan Davis | Aye |
| John Hofmann | Aye |
| Lawrence Wilcox | Aye |

Town of Oxford 2020 Budget

Ron Charles made a motion to adopt the 2020 Budget as adjusted. The motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried with 4 Ayes by Roll Call vote as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Ron Charles | Aye |
| Alan Davis | Aye |
| John Hofmann | Aye |
| Lawrence Wilcox | Aye |

Supervisor Wilcox declared that the foregoing 2020 Town of Oxford Budget was duly passed and adopted. The 2020 Town of Oxford Budget will be filed with Chenango County and placed on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available during regular business hours.

Town of Oxford Water District #1 - 2020 Budget

The Town of Oxford Water District #1 Budget for 2020 was presented by Supervisor Wilcox and reviewed by the Town Board. No changes were made. Motion was made by Alan Davis to adopt the 2020 Water District #1 Budget as presented. Motion was seconded by Ron Charles and carried with 4 Ayes by Roll Call vote as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Ron Charles | Aye |
| Alan Davis | Aye |
| John Hofmann | Aye |
| Lawrence Wilcox | Aye |

Supervisor Wilcox declared that the foregoing 2020 Town of Oxford Water District #1 Budget was duly passed and adopted. The Water District #1 – 2020 Budget will be filed with Chenango County and placed on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available during regular business hours.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from Karen Pentoney, representing Solar Farms New York, to meet the town guidelines for working within the town and village of Oxford. In the letter she states that she will be going door to door offering admission to the solar community to NYSEG customers. She went on to say that this will NOT offer a change of electric supply for residents, but merely offers reduction in electric cost through credits to NYSEG.

The annual report for the year 2018 was received from New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (MYMIR) which has been providing comprehensive insurance and risk management programs to local governments of New York State since 1993.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council member, Ron Charles, reported that he has been working on possible funding sources for a new Town of Oxford swimming pool. In doing this he would like to set-up a meeting night to meet with various foundations, community groups and individuals who would be interested in helping make this new swimming pool possible. Another source, grant money, should also be investigated. Supervisor Wilcox suggested the meeting be held on Wednesday, November 13, which the board members agreed to.

The fire department contract was again discussed and the consensus of the board members was that Oxford, Smithville and Preston should sign the 2% - five-year contract with the Village of Oxford Fire Department. The next meeting of the Village Fire Department will be held on Tuesday, November 19th and representatives of the towns of Smithville, Preston and Oxford are encouraged to attendance.

The 2020 SPCA contract was presented to the town board for approval. There were no changes made in the 2020 contract. Motion was made by John Hofmann and seconded by Alan Davis to accept the SPCA 2020 contract. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Superintendent of Highway, William Pinney, stated that all the trucks and sanders are ready to go for the winter season and that the salt supply is good. He said that the 2005 truck was in very bad shape and hoped it will last. He asked about selling the old 3-point power broom and has a buyer interested. Motion was made by Ron Charles and seconded by John Hofman to declared the 3-point power broom as surplus. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

Highway Superintendent Pinney said he has bids on a new Pickup truck with plow. The low bid was for a GMC Sierra truck \$28,138.00, plow \$5,400.00 - \$33,538.00 total. Motion was made by John Hofmann and seconded by Alan Davis to purchase the GMC Sierra truck, with plow installed, for \$33,538.00. Motion carried with 4 Ayes.

BILLS & CLAIMS: November 2019

Claims #206 thru #222 General Fund: Total: \$ 5,113.66

Claims #169 thru #181 Highway Fund: Total: \$20,611.18

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

The next monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held on December 11, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 8:42 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.
Town Clerk