

**OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 14, 2013**

**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  
Alan Davis  
Larry Beckwith  
John Hofmann

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

Absent:

Others Present: David Craine, Mang Insurance Agency Representative (NYMIR)  
Paul Romahn, Planning Board Representative  
Ten Oxford Residents per sign-up sheet

**Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:**

Jerry Locke made a motion to approve the minutes of July 10, 2013. Motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried with 5 Ayes.

**Supervisor's Monthly Report:**

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets, Investment and Certificate of Deposit Reports, as of July 30, 2013. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

**July 2013**

Revenues	\$ 13,762.50
Appropriations	107,313.48

Check Book Balances:

General	53,532.49
Highway	277,886.40
T&A	16,823.73
Payroll	16,531.55
Water District #1	3,155.80

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Bryant LaTourette stated that it was a good choice to go with NYMIR for our insurance policies. He also commented on the great job the Supervisor and Town Board have done and are doing in keeping the Town debt free and the tax rate well below the average. He also stated that it was great to have a board with such high integrity and that the Town Board has taken a neutral position on gas drilling and willing to listen to both sides of the issue.

Mr. LaTourette and several other residents commented on the newspaper article that appeared recently in The Norwich Sun. They felt that the article was in very poor taste and that many of the statements were incorrect. Irving Hall, who had a part in writing the article, asked Mr. LaTourette to answer the parts he found in error.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

The collateralized deposit account information report for July 2013 was received from BNY Mellon.

Letter was received from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance announcing the 2013 final State equalization rate of 68.00 for the Town of Oxford. The State budget cap for 2014 has been set at 1.66 percent.

Letter was received from James E. Downey, Professional Corporation Attorney and Counselor at Law, announcing his planned retirement effective at the end of the year 2013. He stated that he appreciated the opportunity to have worked with many fine and dedicated Town of Oxford officials over the years.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

David Craine, Mang Insurance Representative, presented the annual NYMIR General Insurance Policy Renewal Proposals for the Town of Oxford. He provided each Board member with a copy of the various policies and went through each one for our consideration. The renewal premium (\$22,542.70) was actually \$397.61 lower than last year. The Town Board accepted the Proposals as presented.

Paul Romahn, Planning Board Representative, stated that the Planning Board will be working on the "Noise Ordinance" at their September meeting on August 20. He also talk about the Planning Board's concern that subdivision applications are by-passing the Town Planning Board and going directly to the County for approval. Supervisor Wilcox stated that other towns in the County are having the same trouble and he will be looking into why this is happening.

Jerry Locke, speaking for Pool Director Patrick Moore, stated that he suggested waiting until next year to install camera equipment at the pool. Pat will obtain prices and options and make a presentation to the Board before next year's pool season.

Jerry Locke received a phone call from Stephan Foster concerning little Merret's grave on Hoben Road. The grave window has been broken again and the Town Board was asked if they would pay for having it replaced with stronger glass. Mr. Foster also asked permission to restore the site area. The Board agreed to pay for the glass replacement and to let Mr. Foster restore the site area.

Supervisor Wilcox stated that Town Justice John Weidman has asked for the Town Board's approval to apply for another Justice Court Fund Plan Grant.

Motion was made by Jerry Locke and seconded by Larry Beckwith to have Town Justice John Weidman apply for a grant from the Justice Court Plan Fund. Motion carried with 5 Ayes by Roll Call vote as follows:

	Aye	Nay
John Hofmann	X	___
Jerry Locke	X	___
Larry Beckwith	X	___
Alan Davis	X	___
Lawrence Wilcox	X	___

Supervisor Wilcox proposed the name of Robert Donholt Jr. to fill the Planning Board term to December 31, 2017 which was left vacant by resignation. Motion was made by Alan Davis to appoint Robert Donholt Jr. to fill the Planning Board term to December 31, 2017. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 5 Ayes.

Supervisor Wilcox met with M&J Consultant, Jaclyn Hakes, concerning the updating of the Town and Village Comprehensive / Vision Plan. She felt that the present Plan doesn't need much improving but should be in line with our Zoning Ordinance and include natural gas and controlled agriculture.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Supervisor Wilcox gave the following report for Tim Tefft, Highway Superintendent. Three CHIPS projects have been turned in for approval. All stone and oiling projects will be completed this week or next. The City of Norwich is working on road grinding and milling and said we can use the material if needed. The Burrell Company will soon be taking down the building behind the Village and Town Hall. They asked if the Town Highway Department would be willing to haul the fill material. Supervisor Wilcox will speak with Mayor Stark about this.

**BILLS & CLAIMS: August 2013**

Claims #122 thru #140, General Fund \$30,256.02, including Payroll General  
Claims #122 thru #141, Highway Fund \$33,068.38, including Payroll Highway  
Claim #3, Water District Fund \$1,835.62

Motion was made by Larry Beckwith and seconded by Jerry Locke to pay the bills and claims. Motion carried with 5 Ayes.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on September 11, 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 8:30 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Town Clerk