

## OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 11, 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  
              John Hofmann  
Town Clerk: James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Highway Superintendent: Timothy Tefft

Absent: Larry Beckwith

Others present: Seven residents of Oxford.

### Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:

Alan Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of August 14, 2013. Motion was seconded by John Hofmann and carried with 4 Ayes.

### Supervisor's Monthly Report:

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets, Investment and Certificate of Deposit Reports, as of August 31, 2013 and the tentative budget for 2014. He asked the Town Council to be prepared to go over the 2014 budget at the October meeting. The following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances were presented:

#### August 2013

Revenues	\$ 63,891.10
Appropriations	119,913.83

Check Book Balances:

General	\$ 14,263.75
Highway	277,616.44
T&A	14,814.87
Payroll	16,531.55
Water District #1	1,320.18

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Linda Wiley spoke about the all the junk on the property next to her and asked the Town Board for help in getting her neighbor to clean up the property. She also said that they had a large building built about eight years ago without a permit from the County and is very close to the road. Several large trucks off-load materials right from the road which causes a very hazardous condition for drivers using the road. She also stated that the junk all over the property takes away from the value of her residence. Linda showed the Board many pictures of the property and the mess she has to put up with. She also stated that several of her neighbors are also upset with this.

Supervisor Wilcox stated that the Town Board understands her frustration. This matter has been turned over to the County and they are proceeding with the proper procedure in order to get the property cleaned up, including a court hearing if needed.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

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

A letter was received from the State of New York Dept. of Public Service asking for help in raising awareness of the "Lifeline Discount Telephone Service". This is a program designed to make basic telephone service more affordable for income-eligible consumers.

A letter was received from the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation reporting on the recent routine visual inspection of the Chenango 7 Wildlife Pond DEC Dam in the Town

of Oxford. Based on the visual observations made of the area downstream of the dam, the hazard classification will be raised from its current low hazard classification (A) to a moderate hazard classification (B). Several recommendations were given to help improve the hazard classification.

E-mail communication was received from the NYS Office of the State Comptroller concerning the property tax cap. The property tax levy will be capped at two (2) percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

Information was received concerning the NYS "Star" school property tax relief. All New York homeowners receiving a basic "Star" property tax exemption must register with the New York State Tax Department in order to receive the "Star" exemption in 2014 and subsequent years. Registration deadline is December 31, 2013, either by computer at ([www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov)) or phone 518-457-2036.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

The County Mitigation Plan was discussed. Supervisor Wilcox said that each community is required to setup a Mitigation Plan and that Chenango County already has a Mitigation Plan in place that would cover all the communities in Chenango County. The Town Board made the following resolution:

#### **– RESOLUTION –**

That a letter of intent be written and sent to the Chenango County Planning Department that the Town of Oxford participate in the Chenango County Mitigation Plan update.

Motion was made by Jerry Locke and seconded by John Hofmann that the Town of Oxford participates in the Chenango County "Mitigation Plan".

Supervisor Wilcox received a verbal resignation from Robert Donholt Jr., recent appointee to the Town Planning Board. Supervisor Wilcox proposed the name of Donald R. Anthony Jr. to fill the Planning Board term to December 31, 2017, left vacant by resignation. Motion was made by John Hofmann to appoint Donald R. Anthony Jr. to fill the Planning Board term to December 31, 2017. Motion was seconded by Jerry Locke and carried with 4 Ayes.

Jerry Locke gave an updated report on Little Merrit's Tomb in the Miller/Beardsley Cemetery on Joe Hoben Road, Oxford, NY. A thank you letter was received from Stefan Foster who is restoring the tomb and cemetery. Mr. Foster said he was glad to see that the Town Board appreciates his efforts and sees the value in what he is doing. He requested permission to have the site listed on the NYS National Historic Registry and will make a power-point presentation at the October 9<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting.

#### **POOL REPORT:**

The following Oxford Pool report was sent in by Director Patrick Moore:

This year was a very good year. We accommodated a little over 9,000 patrons in 8 weeks (avg. 160 per day) and had 125 students participate in our 6 week free swimming lessons. Barb McNitt, our new supervisor, did an excellent job running the day to day operations of the pool, swimming lessons and had guards practicing safety rescues each Friday. Matthew Moore and Jeff Lawton also did an excellent job supervising the pool on the weekends. The pool was open the last week of school and both the Primary and Middle School took advantage of that. Roughly 350 students enjoyed the cold water. I would like to thank the school for again allowing us to use a school AED. I also would like to recommend that we continue to use the YWCA to certify our lifeguards in the future. On behalf of the community, I would like to thank the Town Board for continuing to shoulder the burden of keeping the pool open for our youth and community. Many times this year people commented on how pleased they were with the pool and were glad their children had somewhere to go and to learn how to swim.

Pat submitted the following list of items needed for next year: wireless security cameras, umbrellas for guard chairs, life vests for swimming lessons and new doors for guard house.

#### **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Tim Tefft stated that the following roads have been resurfaced with stone and oil: Midland road (1 coat), Town Barn road (1 coat), Mertz road, (1 coat), Bracket road, (2 coats), Dunn road (2 coats), Loomis road (2 coats), Williams road (2 coats). Buckley Hollow, Millbrook and Painter Hill roads are to be resurfaced next week. All repairs to equipment have been made.

He asked the Board for approval to purchase a 2014 International 4x4 Truck with cab and chassis that he and Board member John Hofmann checked out and found to be available at an excellent purchase price below \$86,000. The 2001 Ford F-550 town truck is to be sold to help bring the purchase price down.

Motion was made by Jerry Locke and seconded by Alan Davis to purchase the 2014 International 4x4 Truck for a price not to exceed \$86,000, depending on the sale of the older truck at a reasonable price. The motion was approved with 4 Aye votes.

**BILLS & CLAIMS:** September 2013

Claims #141 thru #156, General Fund \$22,067.42, including Payroll General  
Claims #143 thru #152, Highway Fund \$41,663.68, including Payroll Highway

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

The next Town Board meeting will be held on October 9, 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 8:48 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Town Clerk