

**OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014**

**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  
Ron Charles  
John Hofmann

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

Absent:

Others Present: Fifteen residents of the Oxford area.

**Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:**

Alan Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2014. Motion was seconded by Ron Charles 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 March 30, 2014. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

**March 2014**

Revenues	548.73
Appropriations	211,345.77

Check Book Balances:

General	180,330.65
Highway	321,117.90
T&A	22,138.83
Water District #1	3,134.56

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The Town Clerk received several letters and e-mails in response to the Oxford Planning Boards recommendation to not go forward with the proposed changes to the 2007 Zoning Ordinance Regulations and keep the 2007 as is until New York State makes its decision on Gas Drilling, etc. The following read or had their letters read to the Board: Anne Altshuler, Mina Takahashi, Irving Hall, and Bryant LaTourette. These letters are on file in the Town Clerk's office and may be seen during regular office hours.

Fred Lanfair voiced his approval of the resolution made at the last meeting to prohibit the use of brine spreading on town roads but opposed the Planning Board's recommendation. Bryant LaTourette's letter expressed his concerned over property value decreases that will occur with the prohibiting of gas drilling. All other letters read were opposed to the Planning Board's recommendation.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

The March 2014 collateralized deposit account information report was received from BNY Mellon.

A letter and certificate was received from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance containing the final special franchise full values for the Town assessment roll for 2014. Municipalities will need to equalize these full values using their current 2014 roll level of assessment and assessments shall in no case exceed full value.

A letter was received from New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) containing their proposed rate adjustments for 2014. The rates represented the sixth straight year

of rate reductions. Supervisor Wilcox stated that this rate adjustment showed a 5% reduction in the rates for the Town of Oxford.

An e-mail letter was received announcing Governor Cuomo's \$40 million in State funding to help local governments make necessary repairs to highways and bridges following this year's exceptionally harsh winter. This is a special one-time allocation to compliment the \$438 million in existing State support for local transportation infrastructure. All counties, cities, towns and villages will receive capital assistance through the program.

Announcement of a planning and zoning training session for local officials was received from the Chenango County Board of Supervisors. The training session will take place at the Board of Supervisors Chambers and Training Center, County Office Building, Norwich, NY on Monday, April 28, 2014 from 5:00 to 8:30 pm. The training will cover enforcement of zoning and case law updates.

A letter from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance stated that because of the cost of living the tax cap will be limited to 1.25 percent.

New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) sent a letter to the Town Superintendent of Highways and Town Clerk, along with a form to be filled out, as a follow up to their safety inspection last fall.

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

Superintendent of Highway Tim Tefft has a bid of \$7,980.00 at auction for the 2001 Ford F550 and asked the Board for their approval of this bid. Motion was made by Jerry Locke and seconded by John Hofmann to approve the bid of \$7,980.00 at auction for the 2001 Ford F550. The motion carried with 5 Ayes.

The highway crew is busy sweeping roads and have completed about one-third of the roads for a first time. They are also cutting and picking up brush, filling potholes with patching material and servicing trucks following the long winter use. Superintendent Tefft feels that the roads have survived the long winter and are in very good shape. A main goal for this year will be surface treatment on various road projects.

John Hofmann recommended that the salt and sand piles be located further from the road. Superintendent Tefft agreed and it will be done.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Motion was made by Alan Davis and seconded by John Hofmann to declare the old 2001 Ford F550 as surplus and put it up to bid at auction. Motion carried with 5 Ayes.

Paul Romahn, Planning Board Chairman, presented a recommendation to the Town Board to hold off or table the new zoning ordinance changes until we see what the State of New York is going to do concerning gas drilling.

Board member Jerry Locke stated, in due respect, that we should go ahead with the Noise and Cell Tower portions and look into the issue of staging areas.

Following much discussion Supervisor Wilcox directed the Planning Board to revise their recommendation to leave the Noise Ordinance and Cell Tower portions in the proposed changes to the 2007 Zoning Ordinance and bring their revised recommendation back to the May meeting of the Town Board.

### **BILLS & CLAIMS: April 2014**

Claims #51 thru #66, General Fund:	Total: \$10,620.01
Claims #49 thru #65, Highway Fund:	Total: \$54,629.22

Motion was made by Alan Davis and seconded by John Hofmann to pay the bills and claims. Motion carried with 5 Ayes.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on May 14, 2014 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 8:56 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Town Clerk