

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on April 27, 2021 at the Village Hall - 20 LaFayette Park, Oxford, NY 13830. Audit Committee met at 7:00 P.M. and Regular Board meeting started at 7:30 P.M.

Present were: Mayor Terry Stark (via Zoom), Trustee Dale Leach, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Richard Rice, Zoning Officer/Dog Warden Roger Barrows, Fire Chief Ron Martin, Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

Absent: OIC Adam Francis, DPW Superintendent Rick Paden, WWTP Operator Kirk Noetzel, EMS Captain Mark Forrest

The Village Trustees (Audit Committee) reviewed each of the invoices in the abstract for April 2021.

Deputy Mayor Dale Leach called the Regular meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Harold and Audrey Johnson addressed the Board regarding property maintenance concerns at 6 Fayette Street. They presented a petition signed by residents in the neighborhood concerning several alleged violations. Mayor Stark asked Roger Barrows, (Zoning Officer) to address and issue citations to the property owner/tenants for any documented violations. However, first the village is required to send violation notice to the owner/tenant and give adequate time to resolve issues. Roger will include pictures of the violation in the notice. Should this not resolve the problem, then the citations will be issued for Court appearance and Village Justice will adjudicate the complaint and determine any fines.

There is also a dog at 15 State Street that barks throughout the day at times more than an hour or periods of more than 30 minutes. Police department will be contacted as they are responsible for citations for barking dogs. Mayor Stark and Roger Barrows will discuss with OIC Francis.

Sue Kelsey also addressed the Board regarding 15 State Street (property next to her). In addition to the barking dog, there are numerous cats at the property and they wander onto Kelsey's property. As well, there is much use of Vulgar language at the property. The Kelsey's have erected a \$6,000 fence and utilize ADT for security but still cannot quietly enjoy their property due to the neighbor's behavior.

Mayor Stark asked that she document complaints in writing so the Village may address each item of concern. Code Officer Roger Barrows has contacted the owner/tenant several times to resolve the issue but it now appears citations for Court appearances will be necessary.

ABSTRACT:

Trustee Marks seconded by Trustee Hendricks made a motion to approve Abstract #011 as presented. All voted aye and motion was carried.

General Fund	\$29,171.56
Water Fund	\$ 3,526.93
Sewer Fund	\$ 7,734.69
Water Project	<u>\$ 5,872.55</u>
	\$46,305.73

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Rice moved and Trustee Leach seconded a motion to approve the March 30, 2021 Meeting Minutes. All voted aye and motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the January Treasurer's Report. All voted aye and motion was carried.

JUSTICE REPORT:

Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Rice seconded the motion to approve the March Justice Report from Judge Frye. All approved.

Matthew Voce took the Bench Certification Training online after being appointed by Mayor Stark. He passed the course and has his certification. He is running in the June election and, if he wins, he will take office on July 1st. He will run again next year for the 4-year justice position. \$1,000 has been budgeted for the Acting Justice position and Mayor Stark wants 1/12 of that to be paid to Matt Voce. Trustee Leach has no problem with this. The Town of Oxford pays Jim Matott what he is paid by the Town of North Norwich. Mayor Stark will meet with Jim Matott next week.

OFD REPORT:

Chief Martin has nothing but bad news to report he said. He has been elected as Chief for another year. He formally needs the village to approve the 2021-2022 Slate of Officers for the Fire Department. Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the elected officers for the 2021-2022 year.

There were three applicants that Chief Martin has presented to the Board for approval into the department. They are Patrick Darling, Ashley Ristau (she is certified for CDL classes) and Danielle Ostrander.

The Covid-19 Vaccination clinic has had over 10,000 people come through the OFD doors with Bartle's Pharmacy. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine was put on hold but it is picking up now. There have been 920 hours volunteered through this program.

Truck 261 was out of service for 6 days-the fuel calanoid was replaced, then sensors were needing to be replaced. Most of the work was done onsite by an employee of the Churchville Fire Equipment Corp. Truck 261 is back up running again.

The OFD Rescue/hydraulic tools and spreaders that are used at accidents are close to 40 years old and have served the department very well. These pieces of equipment cannot be certified any longer and our current equipment cannot do the job any longer. These tools are not cheap-\$36,810 was first quote. Our handles and housing could be used for a trade-in for \$3,000 to bring the quote down to \$33,990. Trustee Leach made a motion seconded by Trustee Marks not to exceed \$34,000 and to authorize Mayor Stark to sign off on the replacement/purchase of new equipment. Trustee Marks made a motion seconded by Trustee Hendricks to accept the three new members to the station. All approved.

EMS Staffing Plan Status-bottom line, The Chenango County Board has not approved anything at this time. Planning to try to have county participation at various levels.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Roger Barrows and Mayor Stark will address the issues relating to Code Enforcement. There is a building permit from Allan Kenyon to build a garage closer than 10' to the property line. Roger will have to deny that permit as code does not allow building closer than 10 feet from property line. Allan will have to appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Mary Smith -Chair).

The Health Department has visited 2 Franklin Street several times to investigate complaints of rodents infesting the property. They did not document any infestation and the Village will have to follow up with refuse removal Village. The property is still in the name of Norma Cowan who passed away several years ago. There are broken windows, trash all over, rats running in and out of the house, etc.

WWTP:

WWTP Operator Noetzel reported that he took 27.34 ton of Sludge to the landfill with at least another 9 ton to go yet this week. He received 46,000 gallons of septage this month with three days left in the month for more.

WWTP Operator Noetzel said that they are now all vaccinated for Covid and that it would be nice to have Bill Kelsey at the WW Plant one day a week again to get back on track to do those jobs that require two people. He realizes that DPW is shorthanded with Matt Spencer out but there may be a Ross that would work temporarily to replace him.

OPD:

OIC Francis sent his monthly report. Police chased a motorcycle and it stopped short and it hit the motorcycle. Mayor Stark will talk to OIC Francis when he returns.

DPW:

The Board has asked Mayor and Clerk to address end of year time off requests that may impede the smooth operations of departments.

Altec completed the training on the 2014 utility vehicle and the balance of the purchase price can now be issued.

Park Street extension paving has been requested by Hans and Carol Niederer. Mayor Stark asked DPW Paden to obtain quotes. This project was delayed due to heavy truck use during the construction of the School District Bus garage in 2020.

Certified Equipment Operator Training-by DPW employees needs to be completed this spring.

Village would like to replace a water line from Mechanic Street to the Police Garage/ DPW facility. Mr. Max Moyer lives on the Mechanic Street Extension and one option is to connect to Mr. Moyer's water line and extend to garage facility. Other options include installing a line from the main DPW building or digging a well. Mayor and DPW Committee will investigate all options and report back to the full Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lafayette Park Lighting electrical work needs repair and Barnes Electric has been contacted to do the repairs.

Project Shine Blue requested to place blue lights around the park for child abuse public information program. However, there was not enough time to make this decision in 24 hours as needed.

Downtown hanging basket flower program historically operated and paid for by "Promote Oxford Now" (PON) is being transitioned to a different organization yet to be determined. Mayor has recommended that the village pay the cost of \$990 for flowers until a new plan is in place. The PON group indicated that the full cost of the program is about \$1,600 for flowers and to pay for the watering of the plants 2-3 times a week. Trustee Hendricks believes we should continue the program as it is good for the village. The DPW used to do the watering for a couple years. It took 1 to 1 ½ hours to water in the past. Trustee Leach and Trustee Marks agreed it was in the public's interest to pay for the flowers and watering. Mayor Stark believes he can obtain some funding from Rotary, Lions, and other local organizations to contribute and he will report results at the next regular Board Meeting.

Mayor also reported that Rotary Club is seeking permission to install a sound system on Lafayette Park for about \$5,000 to be funded by Rotary. Mayor Stark will submit full plans to Board by mid-June.

Doggie waste buckets in the Village were made and installed by Shelby Myers as a girl scout program. We can remove the buckets if the Board approves of this. There are exceptions of the bags being banned. The post office does have one on their property so we need to check

with them regarding removal. There is one on the bridge and one on Lafayette Park that do belong to the Village. These stations are not being used or filled with garbage bags as people save the garbage bags now. Motion by Trustee Leach to remove these two stations & contact the post office about removing the one at their property. This was seconded by Trustee Rice. Trustee Hendricks suggests a newer alternative with compostable bags as an alternative suggestion. Trustee Marks says the current tubes are outdated. It would be nice for a corrective action to put these in 1-2 locations to try to take care of the situation. Trustee Leach would like to see if anyone complains before going with another option. All in favor, approved. We will have to involve SPW Paden regarding the backhoe to dig up the concrete on those posts.

NEW BUSINESS:

We received a quote to clean the 1st floor office windows both inside and outside around the building for \$400. Motion by Trustee Leach to have windows cleaned for \$400 seconded by Trustee Marks. All approved, carried.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Trustee Rice asked about the FEMA project for \$18,000 at Greene Street. He wondered if we have heard from FEMA regarding the drainage project. We are trying to work on this as we need to submit a request for reimbursement. Village Clerk will check on this.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm

Next Regular meeting will be May 25th at 7:00 for the audit committee and 7:30 for the regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks
Clerk-Treasurer