

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on January 25, 2022 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: Deputy Mayor Dale Leach, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Richard Rice, OIC Adam Francis, Zoning Officer/Dog Warden Roger Barrows, and Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

Absent: Mayor Terry Stark, Fire Chief Ron Martin, DPW Superintendent Rick Paden, WWTP Operator Kirk Noetzel.

The Village Trustees (Audit Committee) reviewed each of the invoices in the abstract for January 2022.

Deputy Mayor Leach called the Regular meeting to order at 7:24 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: There were several present from the community: Sally Nuzzolese, Fred Lanfear, Jeanne Marshman, Deborah Fouquet, Gary Eckert, Henry Spinella

Deborah was in to discuss issues at 36 Albany Street, property owned by Thomas Toomer, II. There is an abandoned car in the yard; when owner gets out of jail, he gets an animal and she has taken three (3) animals to the SPCA that were just left in the house. She has been complaining to us daily for two years. The Mayor knows what is going on and never did anything. The property is a mess. It is a shared driveway with her father's property so they cannot put up a fence or put in another driveway. Resident is in jail and will be at least until next year. Taxes should go back to the County. Per Roger Barrows, Zoning, we cannot take the car legally so he put the tarp on it. The garbage is gone but Debbie said it is covered in snow. Personal property can't be removed but the garbage can be removed. OIC Francis attempted to talk to Deborah about the personal property but she walked out and said we can do better several times. She would not even let OIC Francis talk to her, she just stormed out. She was trying to tell us (Village) what was garbage left on the property that we needed to dispose of. Roger Barrows removed the garbage and only left personal property. In the State of New York, we cannot remove things that are personal property. We also cannot tow a car that is on personal property of another (it is illegal).

Sally Nuzzolese and Fred Lanfear complained about 7 Mechanic Street being a mess. Sally asked why personal property cannot be left inside the house why does everyone have to look at it? OIC Francis is aware and said there is only so much that we can do as the police or Village. We cannot legally remove personal property, it is a crime. Sally and Fred are worried about rodents getting in the garbage and going around the neighborhood. Sally had to have an exterminator for \$1,200 as something got in her house and then she had a skunk in her yard and never has had a problem in all the years she has lived there. Roger Barrows will pay a visit to see what is going on at this residence. Sally also said they have not shoveled the sidewalk all winter let alone in 24 hours.

Henry Spinella said there are still issues on Fayette Street and there are still problems in that area. There should be a higher level of standards in the Village. The Village must start somewhere and make improvements little by little. He does not want to see these issues drag the village down. He feels the village must put more emphasis on these issues in the village.

Jeannie Marshman is concerned on the traffic lights in the center of the Village. She had the right to go and a tractor trailer saw the second (middle) light and almost hit her. She said it could have been a school bus instead of her. OIC Francis and Mayor Stark have talked to DOT 25 times and they said that the second light controls the traffic under the light and they will not remove it.

Jeannie asked if Greene Street is on schedule this year as the street has been bad for a long time. Trustee Hendricks said it is on schedule to be taken care of in the spring.

Gary Eckert said that he sees water mains that we let run to keep from freezing but he never has seen hydrants get flushed-it would make the hydrants work when we expect them to. This will cross contaminate the water and if it goes to the school, public will be at us. He said that it is not up to Paden as we are the owners of the hydrants and we must tell Paden what he needs to do. Trustee Leach said he hopes with the new water project, it will help with some of these issues. Gary said he is not trying to be nasty but wants to help us with the hydrant issues so we know that it is working. Maybe put a gauge on the hydrants that records what the pressure is. Do this for every few hydrants for the consideration of the fire department.

ABSTRACT:

Trustee Marks seconded by Trustee Hendricks made a motion to approve Abstract #008 as presented. All voted aye and motion was carried.

General Fund	\$47,796.25
Water Fund	\$ 4,294.06
Sewer Fund	\$ 5,697.87
Water Project	<u>\$ 2,791.25</u>
	\$60,579.43

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Rice moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded a motion to approve the December 28, 2021, Meeting Minutes. All voted aye and motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Trustee Hendricks moved and Trustee Marks seconded the motion to approve the December Treasurer's Report.

JUSTICE REPORT:

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

OFD REPORT:

Chief Martin was not at the meeting.

EMS REPORT:

Mark Forrest was not at the meeting. EMS is going well according to Mark.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Roger Barrows talked to Steve Fox regarding the house that burnt at 16 Merchant Street. He is working on getting someone to clean up this property. The property owner is being taken to court for the house on Merchant Street and the one next door on Greene Street. Steve Fox will be writing him a letter. Trustee Leach thanked Roger for coming tonight and he appreciates it.

WWTP:

WWTP Operator Brenton Rideout was not present but did send his monthly report. He reported that no sludge was hauled to the landfill in January. WWTP Operator Kirk Noetzel will be back next week. On Friday, January 14th at about 6:00 p.m., there was a power outage through the Village and at the WWTP. This kicked about half of the equipment off at the plant. When Brent came in the following morning to work the weekend, he discovered that half the plant was not working and it was extremely cold that night. He called Bill Kelsey and they got everything back up and going but it took about five (5) hours to thaw everything out and get it going again.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

OIC Francis sent his monthly report. Contact was made to the ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms) and they said it is not uncommon for Police Departments to allow officers to

purchase surplus weapons. He contacted Mayhood's Sporting Goods for prices. Officer Sherman is interested in the 12 ga. and 9 mm and OIC Francis is interested in the Norinco. This will be submitted in writing so the Board can review and make a decision. (Officer Francis will send an E-Mail to the Board).

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Rick Paden was not present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Leach talked to Mayor Stark about the WWTP Restrooms. They have been closed due to Covid issues and Trustee Leach does not feel we should rush to open them back up. We can table this for a couple of meetings until spring. There is no control over what is flushed at the WWTP.

NEW BUSINESS:

DOT – shared services agreement. Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Marks seconded the motion to approve the shared services agreement and to allow Mayor Stark to move forward if he feels it is beneficial to do so. All in favor, aye.

Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Rice seconded a motion to authorize Mayor Stark, if he so desires to submit the Justice Court Records.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Trustee Rice asked about the rat issues. Norwich had to close some stores due to rats not due to COVID.

ADJOURNMENT:

Deputy Mayor Leach made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Next Regular meeting will be February 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks
Clerk-Treasurer