

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on August 29, 2023 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, Trustee Dale Leach, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Richard Rice, OIC Adam Francis, DPW Superintendent Bill Kelsey, WWTP Operator Brenton Rideout, Fire Chief Ron Martin, Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

**Absent:** EMS Captain Mark Forrest, Zoning Officer/Dog Warden Roger Barrows

The Village Trustees (Audit Committee) reviewed each of the invoices in the abstract for August 2023.

Mayor Terry Stark called the Regular meeting to order at 7:26 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

None

**ABSTRACT:**

Trustee Leach seconded by Trustee Marks made a motion to approve Abstract #003 as presented. All voted aye and motion was carried.

General Fund	\$ 37,953.32
Water Fund	\$ 7,785.07
Sewer Fund	\$103,397.88
Water Project	<u>\$ 3,305.00</u>
	\$152,441.27

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Trustee Hendricks moved and Trustee Rice seconded a motion to approve the July 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 Meeting Minutes. All voted aye and motion was carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

May year end closing is in progress.

**JUSTICE REPORT:**

Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Marks seconded the motion to approve the July Justice Report from Judge Ross. All approved.

**OFD REPORT:**

Chief Martin said that the department has received another grant of \$95,238.09 for the Diesel Exhaust Capture Removal Program and this should allow them to hold BINGO again. Official approval needs to be done by September 25<sup>th</sup>. The AFG grant is applied for every single year. Money is given up front to the department. Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Leach made a motion to accept the grant award of federal share for the 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grants.

A \$78,300 quote was received from Westcott Electric for electrical work for the generator, etc. This was not for any lines or to remove the old generator.

The Fire Department took first place at the Chenango County Fair. 340 kids attended the fire prevention trailer. Physicals will take place tomorrow in Greene. All inspections have been completed and fire extinguishers have been tested. Pump service and chassis services will be done in September and the ladder certification and life insurance inspections will be done. There will be a peer review this year. Chief Martin will try to get the ISO rating review postponed for a little while.

During June, July, and August, 670 training hours were recorded between all members-they took some time off this year. Eleven roadways (sections of roads) will be added on to roadways covering with Brisben for total protection.

The Brisben Fire District passed a resolution to officially dissolve on December 31, 2023. Oxford needs to have a contract in place by that time. There will be public hearings (at least one) at the Brisben Fire Department.

Mayor Stark thanked Chief Martin for all his help and with all the activities that he has dealt with. (200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the department, annual clam bake, funeral, Chenango County Fair).

Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Leach made a motion to extend the contract with Julie Burline for another 12 months and to apply for the SAFER and AFG Grants for a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00.

**EMS REPORT:**

Mark Forrest was not present.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

OIC Francis presented his monthly report to the Board.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Roger Barrows was not present.

**WASTEWATER PLANT:**

WWTP Operator Brent Rideout presented his monthly report. They hauled more loads of sludge to the landfill. He received a quote on hauling sludge for \$500 for a 20-cu foot dumpster. It would take approximately 6-8 dumpsters a year to haul all of the sludge (plus the cost of the sludge hauled) which would be \$3,000 - \$4,000 a year. The dump trailer is getting in bad shape so they are reviewing other options for sludge. They would dump every two months or so.

They would go with a regular truck like they have now and when the dump trailer goes bad, they can either get a new one or haul with one of the dump trucks.

Brent assisted in multiple water digs that were done this month. Today they drained the digester down all the way and had Barrows come in and suck all the grit and rags out of the bottom. It had not been done in 3-4 years and was bad. This will be done every year and should only take 2 hours instead of 4-5 like it did today.

He had to pull a pump over at GP5 and it is now back up and running. They flushed out both the wet well and GP5 of all the grease, rags and grit that gets caught up in both.

The beavers up at the reservoir have shall we say, "moved on to greener pastures."

They did the monthly scheduled maintenance at the beginning of each month.

They had W2O come in and rebuild one of the backflow preventors that failed when we had them recertified back in July.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

SPW Kelsey reported on the DPW issues. The ditches on State Street were trimmed and cut. A resident said too much was cut at her property on State Street and it took away some of her privacy. The DPW was in their rights to trim whatever they needed to. She wants her driveway to be widened and wants to know if the Village will do this, Bill got a quote. The Village policy should be whatever all other villages do. We can follow suit.

Yacano will be here at the beginning of October to do the Greene Street project. There are several patch jobs we need to have them do for us also.

Richard Damico, Owner of Dollar General, patched the parking lot and he is working on the Taylor Street side and wants to dig up the sidewalk but not replace it. Mayor Stark said that he cannot do this but the village has a sidewalk reimbursement program which relates to about 40% of the total bill. The board agrees, as does SPW Kelsey, that they can put the asphalt in the area at Boname Park for disposal.

The change order for the water project will include additional control work to allow tank levels and well pump controls from the WWTP that were not included in the original plan. Change orders done after discussion.

Resolution by Trustee Leach seconded by Trustee Hendricks to authorize the mayor to sign change order 1 and 2 pending any changes deemed necessary by Mayor Stark. All approved.

Cook's needs to give us an estimate as to what trees they are cutting and what they are trimming and the price. We need this itemized list per Mayor Stark.

There were leaks on Scott Street, at the DPW on Water Street, and Mechanic Street. The daily average water usage for July (and since last summer) is 280,000 gallons a day and 235,000 gallons a day now. They are making progress on the leaks at least.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

15 State Street has some issues with the backyard and the property owner has been contacted and he will contact the tenant to take care of the issues in the back yard.

Mayor Stark has been contacted by three people about using kayaks at the boat launch. They are interested in getting this upgraded and to see what would work down there. We need to find spots that are not muddy and would work to launch a boat. Bill Kelsey and Mayor Stark will discuss this and get some options. SPW Kelsey will get in touch with Julie Gates about this and they will try to work something out.

Sharon Wildman gave Mayor Stark an estimate for the village sign. The sign can be refurbished for \$4,400. Whoever watered the flowers used a hose and the water got on the gold leaf lettering and ruined it. The sign at Boname Park is in decent shape but whoever installed it created a situation where the sign was too tight. New sign at WWTP is fine. \$7,000 total for all the village signs. Lopke would possibly donate rocks for us to use at the WWTP for landscaping. We want the signs to look similar to the one at the north end of the village.

**TRUSTEE COMMENTS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Terry Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks  
Clerk-Treasurer