

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on October 15, 2024, at the Village Hall - 20 LaFayette Park, Oxford, NY 13830. The Special meeting started at 6:00 P.M.

**Present were:** Mayor Terry Stark, Trustee Dale Leach, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Mary Branham, Fire Chief Ron Martin, Engineer Kim Nichols, Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

Mayor Terry Stark called the Special meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

None

Two bids were received for the fire station roof replacement. Weathermaster Roofing, Co. Inc. from Binghamton, NY submitted a bid for \$652,375.00 and AB Construction and Roofing, Inc. from Whitney Point, NY submitted a bid for \$242,000.00. John Benedict from AB Construction was at the bid opening.

We do not have to do a complete tear off of the roof, we can just go over what is there and Dan Baker, President said he can reduce the price by \$80,000 so the total would be \$162,000. Engineer Kim Nichols said it is within code to go over the existing roof and can be done. Change orders can legally be permitted once the bid is accepted. The main issue is whether the Board is comfortable with the two layers on the roof. It is late in the season and a complete tear off will take a lot longer. The weather can change quickly, and we can be exposed if we have a storm as we are not watertight, and it will cause problems. There is 3 ½" of insulation on the roof now according to Kim. The Board recommends that we go with the lowest bid for the OFD roof. Trustee Branham moved and Trustee Marks seconded the motion to accept the bid as submitted by AB Construction for \$242,000. All in favor, carried. Mayor Stark will notify of the award being offered to AB Construction and Roofing, Inc.

Roc Doc Holdings invoice for the riverbank revetment project was received October 3, 2024. The Board will approve the invoice and pay it at the October Regular Board Meeting. This invoice is minus the steel that was previously paid for. Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the Roc Doc invoice for \$617,776.55. All approved, carried.

Westcott Electric submitted a quote for the upgrades at the fire station. Labor and materials are \$6,100 for electric for exhaust system hook-up and (2) air purifiers. The outlet installation and wiring on the exterior of the building is \$2,175. Trustee Branham moved and Trustee Leach seconded the motion to accept the proposal from Westcott Electric. All approved, carried.

The invoice was received from LaBella for \$7,250 for the redesign of the fire station roof replacement dated 9/30/24. They had initially wanted half of the money down but it didn't happen. Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the Labella invoice for \$7,250. All in favor, carried.

Budget modifications – Operating budget needs to be reviewed so we can make budget modifications if necessary.

Capital Project – Fire Department needs to make a recommendation for a fire truck. Once a resolution has been made, it will need to be in the minutes.

Code Enforcement – A bill will be mailed to Kale Webb for approximately \$36,000 for the demolition of his property at 62 Albany Street. When this is not paid (we do not know where he is living presently), we can go through an abandonment process. The village would own the property after this. The property has to be on taxes for two more years before it goes to tax sale in 2026. We might want to consider the property as it will be worth something since the demolition. Kale Webb could sell the property, but the back taxes would have to be paid.

Through the abandonment process (60-90 days), the village is entitled to the property, but we would have to pay back taxes.

If we double the \$36,000 for \$72,000 to demo both (6 Greene Street also) properties, it will come out of unallocated fund balance. If we have no response after billing for demo, we put the amount on taxes and we will get reimbursed after property is sold on tax sale. Send Kale Webb the invoices and, if not paid, add to taxes in June then back on in November and hopefully in March of 2026 the County will give us back our money. We will seek a judgment on the property for the abandonment procedures and take it to court to seek a judgment. Green Street is now Greene Street. Kim Nichols will send his comments to Mayor Stark to get in the paper in the next few days.

Budget review – page 3 is where most expenditures were made. Increase \$10,000 for the rehab house and parks \$11,000. Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded the motion to modify the budget by \$110,000 for FYE 25 per attached budget modification sheets. All approved, carried.

Vacancy of planning board – Allison Yacano is interested but she is not sure if she would be able to be the town and village and she may be stretching herself too thin. Dan Matos will fill the void by Holly Finch.

Grant Discussion – we have several people that have written grants in and for the village. Different people are doing this for us. Safer Grants, NY Forward, Playground, Fire Department grants also. Who will we get to write grants for the village in the future? What are the future needs of the village and what are our processes? Allison works for the County, and she can work on grants for the village. Will this be able to continue? Local grants are a big deal-RC Smith is on-going, Meade, Mirabito and Higley (possibly) need to be invited to those ones. Schumer is \$3.8 million, and Gillibrand is \$3.8 million also but under different government heads. NYS V Fire is \$1,000,000 for constructing buildings and went out in April of 2024. We should hear shortly on that one. Mayor Stark needs to know the grants that are applied for under the village's EIN and would like quarterly updates on the processes of these grants. We need the documentation of all the grants that have been applied for. Budget of \$2.8 million down by \$650,000 for restoration of the riverbank. BRIC Grant is dead in the water now for \$2.8 million.

Trustee Leach says he is okay with spending \$6,000 to Julie Burline for the fire department grant support work but not for the rest of the village until further clarification of the cost/benefit for her grant support for other village projects.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks  
Clerk-Treasurer