

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on January 28, 2025, at the Village Hall - 20 LaFayette Park, Oxford, NY 13830. Audit Committee met at 7:00 P.M. and the Regular Board meeting started at 7:30 P.M.

Present were: Mayor Terry Stark (via Zoom), Trustee Dale Leach, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Mary Branham, OIC Adam Francis, DPW Superintendent Bill Kelsey, WWTP Operator Brenton Rideout, Chief Ron Martin, Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

Absent: Captain Mark Forrest, Zoning Officer/Dog Warden Roger Barrows, Kim Nichols

The Village Trustees (Audit Committee) reviewed each of the invoices in the abstract for January 2025.

Mayor Terry Stark called the Regular meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

ABSTRACT:

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

General Fund	\$ 95,702.10
Water Fund	\$ 17,166.26
Sewer Fund	\$ 7,980.50
Water Project	\$ 2,830.50
EMS	\$ 0.00
Capital Projects	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	\$123,679.36

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Branham moved and Trustee Marks seconded a motion to approve the December 17th, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All voted aye and motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

December treasurer's report is still being worked on.

JUSTICE REPORT:

Trustee Hendricks moved and Trustee Branham seconded the motion to approve the December Justice Report from Judge Ross. All approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Martin reported to the board. There are a couple new members of the department – Matthew Whitaker and Bryan Bernardi. They both come with experience from the Ithaca area. The department lost two members but gained two back. The department is in the process of updating their pagers, but they are short several for the new members coming in. The current pagers are from 2007 and are not working now. They received two quotes and went with the least expensive, which were \$75 less for each pager. Tri-county is where they ended up getting them. The stations new website is coming along very well, and it has been about a year in the works (Oxfordfd.com will be the site). Trustee Marks moved and Trustee Leach seconded the motion to approve the new applicants. All approved, carried.

The annual 8-hour refresher course from OSHA is at the high school on Saturday.

The generator is up and running. NYSEG is all set, and everything is working the way it is supposed to be.

A couple of heaters froze up that were away from the main heater. The building is significantly warmer from the new roof and insulation. They are still looking for a replacement for 262. Maybe things will change in the spring.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

OIC Francis presented his report to the board. There is a course offered on March 17th through April 2nd for eight (8) hours a day in Utica, NY. The course is free, but OIC Francis had to sign up for it.

WASTEWATER PLANT:

WWTP Operator Rideout reported to the board. They pulled the pump at GP5. W2O replaced the rails at GP5 and the posts with rails on them have nothing to hold them on anymore. They looked at the boxes at pump stations, and, he is waiting for a quote. Three others need replacement. The prices went up, but he would honor the quote from months ago. The cost is a \$6,000 to \$30,000 increase and we will need to increase the budget to replace what needs to be replaced. Mayor Stark will get the budget out to everyone for the 25-26 fiscal year.

There were some issues with their boiler that John Tracy had to fix due to the cold weather. The Guilford water department wants to use our WWTP Operator if necessary. The Town of Guilford filters water from the lake. They have one operator with a filter plant license. DOH says they need two operators. Guilford contacted Brenton to see if he could be the backup for the one they have in Guilford. Their current employee will retire in about a year and a half and Brent can do their work off the village's clock. They want to have a shared service with Oxford. However, in the event Guilford has an emergency while Brent is working in Oxford, Oxford is the priority. Guilford's daily work would be done before or after work at the village. They will meet on February 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the village hall to discuss what their plan is.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

SPW Kelsey reported to the board. An updated quote for the truck was received from VanBortel Ford. A new truck went up a little over \$2,000 compared to the last quote we received. Owego, NY has a whole fleet of the trucks we are looking at. SPW Kelsey suggests that we purchase the chassis from VanBortel with some lights and have Palmer's do the rest of the items. Bill would like to have the truck by next winter if possible. Mayor Stark recommends a bond for over 10 years.

The NYS Veteran's Home meeting did not start out that well in the beginning. Things got better once the meeting continued regarding the sewer usage. Their meter needs to be calibrated as it has not been done in many years.

The Oxford postmaster (Erin) called SPW Kelsey. She wants the DPW to change the handicapped parking spot at the post office. The postmaster was verbally assaulted from someone about the parking space. There is some thought that goes with this request with the break in the curb. SPW Kelsey will speak to the postmaster and ask her to put in writing with pictures exactly where they want this done. We can then tell them that this cannot be done.

Lamont Engineering – there are grants that we qualify for, and job has not been completed. If we decide on another engineer, we will have to get them up to speed and that will take time and money. Old project 2.5 million not used. Need to understand how much in grant money and how much in a new loan. How much do we owe on the first project and close out. What is the next project? We have the tank painting, going up State Street and Butler where there are multiple leaks. Up to \$500,000 for leak detection to pay for new meters. Older meters are losing 3-5 gallons out of ten gallons. Trustee Branham moved and Trustee Hendricks seconded a motion to continue with Lamont and to seek out grant funding. All voted aye and motion was carried. Mayor Stark will talk to Jodi.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Roger Barrows was not present. The demolition at 6 Greene Street is going to be started this Thursday and Friday. Trustee Branham moved and Trustee Marks seconded the motion to raise

the village permit fees from \$10 to \$25 for the building, fence and demolition permits. All approved, carried. Mayor Stark will let us know when we can implement this increase. We must notify people of the increase. We will add this to our reorganizational meeting agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cash in lieu of insurance-\$1,600/yearly is the thought. Trustee Leach moved and Trustee Marks seconded a motion to set the cash in lieu of health insurance at \$1,600.

Cable Franchise – Trustee Marks and Trustee Branham will work together on this new franchise agreement.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks
Clerk-Treasurer