

**OXFORD TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

The Monthly Meeting of the Oxford Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Lawrence Wilcox at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall for the transaction of such business that may lawfully come before the Board. The meeting opened with the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Present were:

Supervisor: Lawrence Wilcox  
Council: Alan Davis  
John Hofmann  
Carl Koenig  
Ron Charles  
Town Clerk: James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Highway Superintendent: William Pinney

Others Present: Patrick Moore, Pool Director; Paul Romahn, Planning Board; and 12 residents of the Town and Village of Oxford.

**Minutes Previous Monthly Meeting:**

Ron Charles made a motion to approve the October 13, 2021 minutes. Motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried with 5 Ayes.

**Supervisor's Monthly Report:**

Supervisor Wilcox handed out the Financial Accounting Information Sheets, Investment and Certificate of Deposit Reports, as of October 30, 2021. He also gave the following Revenues, Appropriations and Checkbook Balances:

**October 2021**

Revenues	\$ 87,167.01
Appropriations	295,095.52
Check Book Balances:	
General	\$ 19,527.65
Highway	19,058.74
T&A	10,214.66
Water District #1	966.94
Pool Restoration	471,170.39
Cares Account	117,063.45

**POOL REPORT:**

Patrick Moore, Pool Director, stated that there is a damage clause in the swimming pool contract should the Pool not be finished by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Material that we had been waiting for has arrived and on site. Some concrete has already been poured and according to the contractor one part of the pool has to be done in the Spring.

**Public Hearing on 2022 Town of Oxford Budget**

Supervisor Wilcox opened the Public Hearing at 7:40 pm. The affidavit of published legal notice dated 10-18-2021 and published on 10/27/2021 was read by Supervisor Wilcox. The Board members found a few items in the budget that needed to be updated. These updates were made by Supervisor Wilcox. Since there were no further questions or concerns presented by the public, a motion was made by Carl Koenig and seconded by Ron Charles to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried with 5 Ayes.

**Town of Oxford 2022 Budget**

Ron Charles made a motion to adopt the 2022 Budget as adjusted. The motion was seconded by Alan Davis and carried by Roll Call vote as follows:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Alan Davis	Aye	
John Hofmann	Aye	
Carl Koenig	Aye	
Ron Charles	Aye	
Lawrence Wilcox	Aye	

Supervisor Wilcox declared that the foregoing 2022 Town of Oxford Budget was duly passed and adopted. The 2022 Town of Oxford Budget will be filed with Chenango County and placed on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available during regular business hours.

**Town of Oxford Water District #1 - 2022 Budget**

The Town of Oxford Water District #1 Budget for 2022 was presented by Supervisor Wilcox and reviewed by the Town Board. No changes were made. Motion was made by Carl Koenig and seconded by Alan Davis to adopt the 2022 Water District #1 Budget as presented. Motion carried by Roll Call vote as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Alan Davis	Aye	
John Hofmann	Aye	
Carl Koenig	Aye	
Ron Charles	Aye	
Lawrence Wilcox	Aye	

Supervisor Wilcox declared that the foregoing 2022 Town of Oxford Water District #1 Budget was duly passed and adopted. The Water District #1 – 2022 Budget will be filed with Chenango County and placed on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available during regular business hours.

**Public Hearing on Local Law #1-2021 – Opting Out of Cannabis**

Supervisor Wilcox opened the Public Hearing on Local Law #1-2021. The affidavit of published legal notice dated 10-20-2021 and published on 10/27/2021 was read by Supervisor Wilcox.

**Local Law #1-2021 – Opting out of Cannabis**

A local law to opt out of allowing Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites in the Town of Oxford was discussed by the Town Board. The Board was of the opinion that the government hasn't set up any rules and regulations to govern the Cannabis law and that we should opt out for now. This way the Town Board can opt in at a future date when there is more information from the government.

The meeting was open to the public and several of the residents voiced their opinions. One resident wrote a letter in favor of opting out. Those who attended the meeting gave reasons why the Town Board should opt in at this time. Some of their reasons were:

Revenues would help the Town of Oxford financially.

There are medical advantages for those who need the product to get it locally.

That Oxford should get in on the ground floor and be first to take advantage of the opportunity before other towns.

That farmers would benefit from growing and selling Cannabis locally.

Ron Charles, Town Board member, researched the government Marijuana regulations and Taxation Act (MRTA) and found that the State is in the early stages of establishing offices of Cannabis Management, Cannabis Advisory Board and a Cannabis Control Board. Each office has its own primary responsibilities. There is much work to be done in each of these offices to draft the rules and regulations to oversee the Cannabis operations across the State of New York. Until we know more about these rules and regulations we should be cautious about opting in at this time. If we opt out, there is still time to opt in at a later date. If we opt in now we will not be able to opt out and will be under the rules and regulations that are still being drafted, whatever they are.

Lawrence Wilcox, Town Supervisor, suggested that the Local Law #1-2021 – Opting out of Cannabis be tabled until the December 8, 2021 Town Board meeting. Motion was made by John Hofmann and seconded by Carl Koenig to table the law until the December 8th meeting. Motion carried with 5 Ayes.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Monthly report was received from BNY Mellon concerning the collateral Deposit information as of September 30, 2021.

The Chenango County SPCA contract for the year 2022 was received with no changes being made. Motion was made by John Hofmann and seconded by Ron Charles to accept the SPCA 2022 Contract.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Town Clerk, Jim Hemstrought, suggested that the Town Clerk's Office computer be replaced. He received a quote of \$625.00 for a new HP desktop computer from Empire Computer, Sidney, NY. An additional quote of \$175.00 was received to recover, backup and restore user files and configure and setup system settings and files on the new computer. The current computer has had down time for repairs recently and could cause major problems if it went down during tax time. Motion was made by Carl Koenig and seconded by Alan Davis to purchase the new computer and include the cost of transfer and setup for a total price of \$800.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Highway Superintendent Penney reported that new tires have been purchased and installed on trucks and hauling of sand has been completed.

**BILLS & CLAIMS: November 2021**

Claims #180 thru #197 General Fund: Total: \$77,895.02

Claims #179 thru #185 Highway Fund: Total: \$ 5,493.73

Motion was made by Alan Davis and seconded by John Hofmann to pay the bills and claims. Motion carried with 5 Ayes.

The next monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held on December 8, 2021 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting was adjourned by Supervisor at 9:15 pm.

James W. Hemstrought Jr.  
Town Clerk