

TOWN OF OXFORD

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

SELECTMEN'S MEETING AGENDA starting at 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER and FLAG SALUTE – Chairman Dana Dillingham will preside. Vice-Chair Scott Hunter, Sharon Jackson, Caldwell Jackson, Floyd Thayer, Adam Garland, Town Manager, Wendy Friberg, Town clerk, Ricky Jack, Police Chief.
2. ACTION ON MINUTES
 - 2.1. Action on minutes dated August 3, 2023
Caldwell Jackson motion to accept the minutes dated August 3rd, 2023. Floyd Thayer seconded. Pass unanimously.
3. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA
 - 3.1. Rock House Teen Center – “Toll Road” Fundraiser Request, Pottle Road, August 26, 2023
-Adam Garland, Town Manager presented an adjustment to the Agenda for a Toll Road Fundraiser Request from ‘The Rock House Teen Center’ on Pottle Road. The concerns would be it is the same date as Oxford 250 and the Yard Sale event at Oxford Agricultural Fairgrounds. Police and Fire Department feel comfortable with the Toll Road with the understanding that if it got backed up in traffic the toll road event would move location or end the event. If agreeable, the BOS is asked to consider approval of the fundraising request. The Board of Selectmen had a discussion and proceeded to make a motion.
Scott Hunter motioned to approve the Pottle Road toll with the understanding that Ricky Jack, the police chief, will be monitoring the traffic. Caldwell Jackson seconded. Passed 3/2
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS- Please *state your name and the Town that you are from for the record.*
 - Walter Colby was concerned with the high values of the properties and questioned where the town was regarding the Mil rate.
 - Dana Dillingham, Chairman explained that the Mil rate could be lower which would help balance the cost of taxes to the residents. However, at this time KRT is still valuation to be completed and then the Town will be able to commit to a Mil rate.
 - Adam Garland, Town Manager briefly explained to the public how municipalities come up with the Mil rate.
 - Ed Adams asked if the Town could tighten up the rules around the Property Maintenance Ordinance to go after the property owner and whoever is renting the property.
 - Adam Garland, Town Manager stated that it would be a change that would need to be held up in court. The Town Manager will need to investigate the property in question before responding to Mr. Adams’ concerns.
5. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - 5.1. Warrant Review for the sale of the Kay House (Referendum Vote November 7, 2023)
-Adam Garland, Town Manager reviewed the sale of the Kay House and the language of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. If agreeable with the Board of Selectmen, they will sign the Warrant to be posted for the November 7th election as a referendum.
 - 5.2. Oxford Plains Speedway On-Premises Liquor License Application – Correction
-Adam Garland, Town Manager explained that the Oxford Plains Speedway Liquor License application that was previously signed by the Board of Selectmen back on 6/15/2023 was an incorrect application that the owners originally submitted. Given that this was a simple error on behalf of

Oxford Plains Speedway that does not include any changes to the overall application, the Board of Selectmen is asked to approve and sign the corrected application.

Floyd Thayer motioned to accept the corrected application. Sharon Jackson seconded. Pass unanimously.

5.3. Annual Policy Review/Approval

- Treasurer Disbursement Payroll: 2
- Treasurer Disbursement Maine State Fees: 2B

-Adam Garland, Town Manager asked the Board of Selectmen to review and if agreeable to approve the Treasurer Disbursement Payroll: 2 and Treasurer Disbursement Maine State Fees: 2B.

Floyd Thayer motioned to approve both Disbursement policies, and Sharon Jackson seconded. Passed unanimously.

5.4. Mass Gathering application, Oxford County Agricultural Society for “Yard Sale” on August 26th with the expected attendees from 1,000-4,999

Caldwell Jackson approved the application for the Oxford County Agricultural Society Yard Sale. Sharon Jackson seconded. Passed unanimously.

5.5. Town Meeting 2024 Discussion – Continued

Adam Garland, Town Manager reviewed the discussion held on the 7/6/2023 Board of Selectmen meeting which discussed the idea of holding a ‘Referendum Town Meeting’ rather than continuing to have the traditional ‘Open Town Meeting’ due to low voter turnout. After a discussion with the Town Manager, the Town Attorney does not feel the Town can change to a Referendum Town Vote without first adopting a Town Charter. On a different opinion, the Town Manager stated that the MMA Legal states the Selectmen do have the authority to hold a referendum Town Meeting. The Town manager is asking the Board of Selectmen if they wish for the Town Manager to take this any further. Discussion was held by the Board of Selectmen.

Scott Hunter motioned to place it on the Warrant Article at the June 2024 Town Meeting for the Townspeople to vote to put on the 2024 November ballot as a referendum. Caldwell Jackson seconded. Passed unanimously.

5.6. Municipal Revaluation Discussion/Update

Adam Garland, Town Manager explained that KRT asked for some extra time. The end date for the valuation will be on September 28, 2023, with September 29, 2023, being the scheduled commitment date, and the Board of Selectmen review at the next meeting. Also, the Town Manager expressed the concerns of the public and the Board of Selectmen with one of the owners of KRT on some inconsistency values assessed on separate properties. KTR asked the Town Manager to draft a letter on these concerns and assure the Town Manager they will take a serious review.

6. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

None

7. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

7.1. Town Manager Updates

-Town Manager, Adam Garland reminded the Board of Selectmen that the first walk-through will be on 9/7/2023 with the Recreation Department. The Town Manager also presented a plaque representing the year of entry to the Town Office. The Plaque will be mounted on the new Town Office Building.

8. SELECTMEN ITEM

-Sharon Jackson encouraged the property owners to contact KRT appraisal and direct the public to the website for value information to make sure the information is correct and have obtained letters from KRT on all properties owned. Also, Sharon Jackson mentioned that she was getting calls about the water levels

on Thompson Lake and asked the Town Manager to investigate this matter. Sharon Jackson's other concern was that the school year will be starting soon and the wait time when in construction, how is that going to affect the children in getting to school on time?

-Adam Garland, Town Manager stated that he has already sent a letter with other concerns and will be obliged to send another concerning the school schedule.

-Dana Dillingham informed the public that the construction will not be held on the days of the 250-race event and the Fair event.

-Caldwell Jackson offered to contact the Public Relations person for DOT as a State Representative to see if he is able to speed up answers to the letters previously sent by the Town Manager.

9. SIGN WARRANTS - 12, 13, 14, 15

Scott Hunter motioned to sign warrants 12, 13, 14, and 15. Caldwell Jackson seconded. Pass unanimously.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.1. To enter executive session to discuss disposition of property (real estate) pursuant to M.R.S.A Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405 (6)(C).

Motion made by Scott Hunter to enter into an executive session to discuss the disposition of property (real estate) pursuant to M.R.S.A Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405 (6)(C). Seconded by Caldwell Jackson. Pass unanimously.

Out of Executive Session at 6:55 PM

Floyd Thayer motioned to accept offers for lot 4 and lot 5 on Park Road as presented and to authorize the Town Manager to sign all related documents. Sharon Jackson seconded. Pass unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn meeting at 6:57 PM