

OXFORD TOWNSHIP MEETING

May 19, 2021

The meeting of the Township Committee of Oxford Township was held on May 19, 2021 in the Oxford Township Municipal Building, 11 Green Street, Oxford, NJ and by calling the toll-free number: **(877) 853-5247** and entering the Webinar ID: 893 7416 7557

Notice of time, date, location and agenda of this meeting, to the extent then known was provided at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of this meeting in the following manner pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231 of the law of 1975 “the Open Public Meetings Act”:

- Emailing to the Express Times / Warren County NJ Zoned Edition
- Posting on the Township web-site and Facebook page

In attendance was Gerald Norton, Georgette Miller, and Robert Nyland, Township Committee, Rich Wenner, Township Attorney, Joe Vuich, Township Engineering Firm, (via Zoom), and Susan Turner, Deputy Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Norton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes:

Bob Nyland moved to accept the May 5, 2021 Executive Session minutes. Seconded by Georgette Miller. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0. Absent: 0. Motion passed.

Mayor Norton stated Resolution 2021-32 and the budget amendment and adoption under New Business have been pulled due to changes needed on them.

Public Comment on Agenda items: - No comments

New Business:

Resident’s request to purchase alley property – Rich Wenner stated he has prepared the paperwork but is waiting for information from the Engineer.

Turnout Gear – FD and EMS – Oxford EMS received a \$5,000.00 donation from Tilcon to purchase turnout gear and has requested additional funds from the Township. Earlier this year the Fire Department requested financial assistance with purchasing several sets of turnout gear over the next 5 years. After discussion, the Committee stated the Township could provide funding of \$5,000.00 to each entity each year for the next five years to purchase turnout gear or other safety equipment if they agree to raise an equal amount through fundraising. Mayor Norton will discuss this with the CFO.

Generator for Municipal Building – DPW Supervisor Lou Accetturo has been researching generators for the Municipal Building. After discussion Bob Nyland moved to authorize Lou Accetturo to purchase and install an 80 KW generator for the Municipal Building. Seconded by Georgette Miller and passed unanimously on roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0.

Commercial Vehicle parking in Municipal lot – The Warren County HazMat team was called out to the municipal lot because of a commercial vehicle leaking fluid. The Committee wants to amend the existing parking ordinance to prohibit overnight parking by commercial vehicles in municipal lots between 6:00 PM and 6:00 AM and impose fines on violators. Rich Wenner will review the parking ordinance for the next meeting.

Zoom Meetings – Mayor Norton would like to return to all in person audience Committee and Workshop meetings. Rich Wenner recommended no action be taken until the Governor’s State of Emergency is ended and to start with “hybrid” meetings with Zoom call in and in person audience available.

Roadside Cleanup – Georgette Miller spoke with Matt Hall and Lou Accetturo about using Clean Communities funds for Roadside Cleanup programs by the Streakd Wrestling Club. Georgette Miller moved to allow the Streakd Wrestling Club to conduct a Roadside Cleanup program on Pequest Road

from the baseball field to Pequest Furnace Road and to be paid \$500 from Clean Communities funds. Seconded by Bob Nyland and passed unanimously on roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0.

Old Business:

Fence Height Discussion – Rich Wenner will send requested ordinance changes to Finelli Engineering to get input before they are finalized.

-Bob Nyland stated the Boy Scouts have a plan to provide benches and possibly bird houses and information posts for the bird area at the lake.

- Bob Nyland reminded residents to be careful now that bears are out. Bird feeders should be taken down and trash can lids secured.

- Georgette Miller has 4 volunteers for the Dog Park Committee. They will meet to discuss finances, grant opportunities and locations.

Township Committee Reports and Correspondence

Civic Live – Mayor Norton stated that Civic Live is running. He went through a training session for posting information. The training session will be available to Committee members and administrative staff. He will discuss broadcasting a notice through the school’s account and sending a letter to students’ families with Superintendent Bob Magnuson.

Oxford Lake – Mayor Norton thanked the DPW for all of their work at Oxford Lake. He reminded residents Kaufman Road will be closed Sunday, May 23rd from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for the Girls on the Run 5K race.

Township Administrator: No report

Township Engineer Report:

Joe Vuich (via Zoom) stated the 2022 DOT paving grant application is due July 1, 2021. They will submit applications for Kent Street and Port Colden Street. A supporting resolution will be needed.

The Spring Meadows project is being prepared for public bid with a base bid for drainage repairs and infrastructure and an alternate bid for mill and overlay. They expect the alternate bid will be done under the co-op. The drainage work could start by late July.

Mine Hill 2021 DOT grant - The survey was completed and the design is being worked on. The project is mostly mill and pave with basic road construction improvements. This will be done through the co-op and should start mid-summer into early fall.

Finelli Engineering attended an NJDOT Route 31 Overlay Pre-Con meeting last week. The project will span from Hawk Point Golf Course to Route 46. A start date has not been indicated yet. The project does not include any widening of Route 31 nor does it involve the Furnace Brook bridge project but will tie into it.

Township Attorney’s Report:

Rich Wenner stated he has two items for Executive Session.

Motion to Pay Bills:

Bob Nyland moved to pay all bills presented to and approved by the Committee. Seconded by Georgette Miller and passed unanimously on roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0.

Reports: No additional reports.

Public Comment: Bob Flynn, 30 Elm Street, Morristown, NJ employed by JCP&L. He is working on projects that Stan Shrader handled and called to introduce himself. Stan is out on medical leave. Bob will send his contact information to the Committee members. The program removing ash trees was suspended because the budget was maxed out. Bob Nyland and Mayor Norton stated there were many ash trees along Route 31 and Kaufman Drive in danger of falling across the roads. Bob Flynn stated he would send a forester out to survey the areas.

Meeting Recap:

Executive Session-

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist. The public shall be excluded from the discussion of any action upon the hereinafter-specific subject matter.

The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are contractual matters concerning Cambridge West and the cell tower lease.

Mayor Norton moved to enter Executive Session at 7:48 PM, seconded by Georgette Miller and passed unanimously on roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0.

Bob Nyland moved to close Executive Session and reconvene public session at 7:59 PM. Seconded by Georgette Miller. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.
No action was taken during Executive Session

Bob Nyland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Seconded by Georgette Miller. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.

Susan Turner, Deputy Clerk