

OXFORD TOWNSHIP MEETING
December 7, 2022

The meeting of the Township Committee of Oxford Township was held on December 7, 2022 in the Oxford Township Municipal Building, 11 Green Street, Oxford, NJ.

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 Linda Koufodontes, Township Committee, Matthew Hall, Township Administrator, Rich Wenner, Township Attorney, and Susan Turner, Deputy Clerk.

Mayor Norton opened the meeting at 7:02 PM. In honor of Pearl Harbor Day and the passing of long-time Oxford resident Fred Melberger, Mayor Norton held a moment of silence.

Meeting Minutes: Georgette Miller moved to accept the November 30, 2022 Regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent:0. Motion Passed

Public Comment on Agenda items: - No comments

Ordinances: 1st Reading/ Public Hearing – No ordinances for 1st reading

Ordinances: 2nd Reading/ Public Hearing – No Ordinances for 2nd reading.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 2022-82

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Oxford County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of __Warren;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Oxford, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Oxford Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$1,508.00
Cash Match	\$377.00
In-Kind	\$1,131.00

2. The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Georgette Miller moved to accept Resolution 2022-82. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes and passed by unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent:0.

New Business:

- Set Dates for January 2023 Re-organization meeting and 2023 Committee Meetings – The January 2023 Re-organization meeting was set for January 4, 2023 at 7:00. Committee Meeting dates for 2023 were set and will be approved via resolution at the Re-Organization meeting.
- Emergency Squad Boat Race – Georgette Miller moved to approve the Oxford Emergency Squad Cardboard Boat Regatta on June 10, 2023 subject to submittal of Certificate of Insurance. Seconded by Mayor Norton. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.
- Hire Joseph Bayer as a Part Time DPW employee – Georgette Miller moved to hire Joseph Bayer as a Part-time DPW employee at \$14.00 per hour. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes and passed by unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent:0.
- Space Farm Contract – Mayor Norton received a request to continue the Space Farm and Zoo contract for removal of deer carcasses on Oxford roads. Georgette Miller moved to approve the Space Farm and Zoo Contract for 2023. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed
- Trailer Park – Mayor Norton stated the Valley View Estates Trailer Park has been sold. The new owner has asked for a waiver of sewer fees on vacant units. Rich Wenner stated that if visible improvements are made in the next 6 months a contract can be considered.

Old Business:

- Oxford Lake – Georgette Miller asked if funds are available to purchase another inflatable attraction for the lake. Matt Hall stated that there are funds in the 2023 budget so the purchase must be made in 2023.
- Day Camp at Oxford Lake – Matt Hall stated he has basic information to begin developing policy/protocols. He will be discussing the camp with another New Jersey town’s manager that has a similar program in place.
- Sewer Rate – Matt spoke with the CFO regarding the rate for sewer in the ordinance. They will go over it further tomorrow. Mayor Norton requested they see if the Township can absorb some of the increase so it will not all be passed on to the residents.

Township Committee Reports and Correspondence.

- Linda Koufodontes attended the School Board meeting. The next meeting is December 15th.
- There will not be a bonfire.
- Georgette Miller stated Warren County changed the parameters of their Christmas Tree contest to allow for outdoor trees in municipalities to be decorated. She will reach out to Bob Magnuson, School Superintendent.

Township Administrator: Items in his report have been covered already.

Township Engineer Report: No report.

Township Attorney's Report: Rich Wenner stated he sent a proposed purchase/sale contract for the Pequest field property. There will be a \$25,000 earnest payment pending contract agreement. The total sale price is \$1,000,000. The contract includes a 90 day inspection period and a 180 day permit period which may be extended an additional 90 days.

Motion To Pay Bills:

Georgette Miller moved to pay all bills presented to and approved by the Committee. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent:0. Motion passed.

Public Comment: No comments.

Meeting Recap:

Matt Hall – Sewer rates.
Day Camp

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 Township Owned Property and Attorney/Client Privilege.

Georgette Miller moved to enter Executive Session at 7:35 PM. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.

Georgette Miller moved to return to Public Session at 7:45 PM. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjourn:

Mayor Norton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Seconded by Linda Koufodontes. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Motion passed.

Susan Turner, Deputy Clerk