

COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2021

The Commissioners Meeting was held in person in the Commissioners Meeting room in the Oxford Community Services Building located at 101 Market Street on July 27, 2021. The opportunity for citizens to participate in the meeting within a Zoom Meeting Room was also available. This information was posted on the town bulletin board and the town website. President Gordon Fronk called the meeting to order at 6 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Attending the meeting were Commission President Gordon Fronk, Commissioner James Jaramillo, Commissioner Brian Wells, and Town Manager Cheryl Lewis. Public Works WW Superintendent Matt Ozman, Police Chief Patrick Maxwell, Town Attorney Lyndsey Ryan, and Town Planner Maria Brophy participated virtually. Two residents attended in person and one caller participated virtually.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jaramillo motioned to approve the July 13, 2021 meeting minutes, Commissioner Wells seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

President Fronk made the following announcements: On Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 8 am the Commissioners of Oxford held a special meeting for the purpose of holding a Closed Session to discuss property acquisition and receive legal advice regarding the same. On Wednesday, July 19, 2021 at 4 pm the Commissioners of Oxford held a special meeting for the purpose of holding a Closed Session to discuss R. Gordon Graves Scholarship applications.

Resolution 2115 Honoring Philip Tilghman Paca Logan which was presented to the family on July 17, 2021 was read aloud.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Matt Ozman provided the following report: Wastewater plant update - everything is running as it should at this time. Public Works has performed routine maintenance on, trucks, lawn mowers and backhoes this month. Ditch cleaning on Bonfield Avenue and Tilghman Street is continuing. Employees have attended training this month for water and wastewater continued education for licenses. Public works has scraped and graded off stone parking lots as part of routine maintenance, which will continue once a month for the summer and will be backed off during winter months. Doing this will save on stone and removing potholes that form over time. Had a meeting with Suez about water towers and findings from the last inspection and each tower is in good working order, and we are looking into a plan for the future of what routine maintenance will be needed in the next five to ten years. Public works is still working on flushing hydrants through town, and we would like to thank everyone for your patience during this time. Again, I just want to remind everyone to please use caution while we are on the side of the road flushing, and to also be mindful of the standing water after the hydrant has been flushed it will dissipate in a couple of hours. If you experience low water pressure this will only last a few minutes while we are flushing in that area.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Maxwell reported that beach traffic has been manageable and kids camp is going well. There have been recent theft issues within the county and he again reminded all to please report any and all suspicious activity. The officers have been doing regular monitoring of the business locations both while open and after hours.

FIRE COMPANY

Nothing this meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

President Fronk opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2112 Forest Conservation, repealing and reenacting the Forest Conservation Ordinance. Attorney Ryan explained that this would reduce recent changes into one standalone ordinance that is in line with the state model ordinance. No public comments were received.

President Fronk opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2114, an ordinance to increase the Annual Commissioners Salary from \$2000 to \$3000, noting this increase would not take effect during the term of any of the currently seated Commissioners. No public comments were received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Wells motioned to approve Ordinance 2112 Forest Conservation, repealing and reenacting the Forest Conservation Ordinance, Commissioner Jaramillo seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Jaramillo motioned to approve Ordinance 2114, an ordinance to increase the Annual Commissioners Salary from \$2000 to \$3000, Commissioner Wells seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Wells explained the applicant review and announced the winners of the R Gordon Graves Scholarship, Karli Abbott and Katherine Chapple, who will each receive a \$500 scholarship towards school supplies for their fall semester. The announcement is attached to these minutes. The Commissioners extended a thank you to the Campbells, Bixlers and Phyliss Rambo for their generous donations.

LETTERS AND REQUEST

The Talbot County Economic Development Committee thanked the town for the recent donation to their annual Talbot County Business Appreciation Breakfast.

ATTORNEY

None Presented

TOWN MANAGER

Lewis presented two resolutions from Shore United Bank authorizing the Commissioners signatures for the existing CD's currently held by the bank. Commissioner Wells motioned to approve the bank resolution, Commissioner Jaramillo seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion passed. The signature cards were signed.

Lewis provided the Commissioners with the most recent local COVID data stating in combination with recent exposures locally, there was reasonable concern and recommended reducing the opportunity for spread, including the holding of only one Commissioner meeting in August, adding that because it is usually slow this time of year it is not unusual to only have one meeting in the summer months. The Commissioners determined, unless something presented the need for a meeting, the next Commissioners meeting would be held on August 24, 2021. The determination as to whether it would be in person or virtual would be made closer to that date, depending on the COVID trend over the next few weeks.

With no further business, Commissioner Jaramillo motioned to close the regular meeting, Commissioner Wells seconded the motion and the meeting was closed at approximately 6:45 pm.

Cheryl Lewis, Town Manager