

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oxford was held on June 17, 2025 at the Village Hall - 20 LaFayette Park, Oxford, NY 13830. Special Board meeting started at 6:30 P.M.

**Present were:** Mayor Terry Stark, Trustee Dale Leach, Trustee Dustin Hendricks, Trustee Richard Marks, Trustee Mary Branham, Captain Mark Forrest, Fire Chief Ron Martin, Kim Nichols, Clerk-Treasurer Shelly Marks.

Mayor Terry Stark called the Special meeting to order at 6:28 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

We did publish the referendum for the ambulance on June 3, 2025. After 30 days, the village can proceed with the purchase of the ambulance if we do not hear back from anyone complaining or petitioning against this.

Mark Forrest reached out to a vendor on a new ambulance. Savvik is a FASNY and they get a percentage back from what is purchased. This ambulance is in stock and ready to ship according to Mark. There are no thrills to it and it is a standard 4x4 chassis – a standard cookie cutter vehicle which should last another 20 years. The vendor is in Syracuse. Mayor Stark asked if they could drive the vehicle down to Oxford so we could look at it. The truck is all together and just needs lettering put on it.

If we buy a new vehicle, who knows if we will have an EMS staff in the future. If we do not have an ambulance but do have staff, that is a problem too.

Chief Martin said that the fire department understands the reality of needing an ambulance. As they age, they are out of service. There are several members questioning why we are dealing with them when we may not have employees.

At the end of the day, the fire department understands that we need to purchase an ambulance. The funding is that we borrow the money but we can only go out for 10 years and the loan will have to be paid for in a fair amount of time. Currently, interest rates are questionable. Getting a BAN though NBT Bank would be an option also. Interest rates of 3-4% probably will not vary that much by then.

Mayor Stark had the understanding that if we buy a new ambulance, we will only have one. Mark Forrest said that the only problem is that if the new ambulance is out for repair for a while, we would not have anything to respond with. The 1999 is the better vehicle (2006 is not that great).

We would like a long-term plan of 24/7 coverage but, financially, we cannot do that since we cannot see into the future. Would like a public forum at the fire station for those that would like to attend for a Q & A session. Look at some dates for the public forum.

V-Fire Grant – need to be submitted into the program at the end of July for our progress report. Kim Nichols said the electrical and lighting package is essentially done and can go out to bid. Everything is going to LED's and convert rather than get a whole new unit.

The boiler and HVAC plans are at the 90% stage working on Labella specs. Kim could not use theirs and had to prepare them himself. They need an A/C for the meeting room and are planning to get rid of A/C unit and multi-unit and getting a mini split to have A/C for meeting, TV, chiefs office and EMS room. This will be a 4-zone ductless mini split unit for the A/C.

Plumbing plans will be ready before July 11<sup>th</sup> or soon thereafter. Urinals, sinks, low flow with auto flushers and hands-free sinks. Trustee Hendricks asked if we can just buy the products and hire a plumber to install them. They will need to replace the 100-gallon water heater also. There are plenty of things that need to be done plumbing wise that would justify hiring a

plumber. The estimate is \$250,000 for the boiler and HVAC programs but Kim Nichols is hoping he can get a lower price. Things are coming in lower than when he has been looking at them.

Kim Nichols does not see any significant issues coming up. Chief Martin asked Kim to look at the windows and doors for the future. Energy efficiency is pointless if we do not change the windows and doors.

Kim said we should put an RFP out for a couple of bids – he assumes we must do a bid document for the work he is looking to have done.

Mayor Stark asked Kim how he wanted to proceed. As soon as Kim gets the packages complete, he will get back to the board on his progress.

10-15 years \$290,000 to \$540,000 for used vehicles per Chief Martin. Engines or pumps may not meet the specifications. Looked at new vehicles – some of the program trucks (not custom) are \$450,000 and go up to \$612,000. That is a Pierce and we still get a standard engine and that is not what we want or need for this area. There are a couple from a few other places. They are looking to get rid of the 1994 that is 31 years old. This has been a decent truck and is in the \$500,000 - \$590,000 range to get to specs. We still need to get the NFPA specifications. Chief Martin cannot see us buying used when we are so close to a new one. Why get a used truck with someone else's headaches.

Midwest Fire has a lifetime warranty and a 5-year warranty on paint. They have gotten some good things from them. The 2026 emission change is coming with a bigger price tag to meet emissions - 20% of our fleet must be electric. \$591,000 for a new truck is what we are looking at right now. It is 30-36 months out for a Pierce, 24-30 months out, 15-24 months for Midwest truck. Chief Martin mentioned the specs for a new truck. These are Sourcewell approved.

BAN to renew or go to Bonding. They cannot do a bond for that amount of money. Should we wait a year to see if the interest rates go down from 3.5% in another year. Trustee Branham said later this year we should have an interest rate decrease but it said only one decrease for the year. Mayor Stark will contact Jamie Reynolds at NBT to find out his thoughts.

The village must have the reorganizational meeting the first Tuesday after the fiscal year. We do not have to have it on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Board voted to have the Reorganizational meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 and the monthly meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

Chief Martin said we may have bingo in the future. The air quality issue has been fixed and if it meets requirements, we may have it again. The exhaust capture was not in place.

OIC Francis is to get a date for the EPA.

**TRUSTEE COMMENTS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Terry Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly W. Marks  
Clerk-Treasurer