

Oxford Township Meeting Minutes

Regular meeting

June 13, 2023

6:30 pm

Chairperson Jennifer Perkins led the pledge of allegiance, then called the hybrid zoom meeting to order. Roll call was taken with all board members present at the town hall. Minutes of the last meeting were read with Harlan Bellin making a motion to approve them, and Mike Miller seconding the motion. Following the clerk's report, Peggy gave a treasurer's report. Mike Miller made a motion to approve her report after removing the Shermik Tree Farm invoice from the list. Harlan Bellin seconded that motion and the motion passed. Next, Mike Miller made a motion to separately approve the Shermik Tree Farm bill for \$14,167.50. Harlan Bellin seconded that motion and the motion passed.

Roads

1. Steve Winters was present to give an update from MSA.

Brian Swanson is currently placing class 5 on his road, and asked for an inspection. Steve will arrange to have this done in the next month.

With respect to Oxford's long term road strategy, Steve prepared a spreadsheet that the supervisors need to help him fill out. It is the board's goal to prioritize how to manage our roads long term. Chairperson Jennifer Perkins would like the engineers to point out which roads need work. At this point, MSA is not planning to do traffic counts, but said that traffic counts can be used to help decide which roads to do first. Jennifer's recommendation is to form a task force and spend some months putting together a plan. Mike Miller made the comment that it is the supervisors job to drive down the roads, identify problems, and make recommendations for road improvement and maintenance. His question was whether the residents want us to keep doing it like we've been doing it or have the engineers more involved. Supervisors are authorized to spend the money that is taken in with the specific levies, and Jennifer made the comment that she wants to be responsible with this money. Jennifer would also like more public input on how we are spending our money. A resident on Pigeon Loft road asked if residents on the road get a say in what happens to their road. Mike replied even with all the sand and chips that were put on it, the road is still not where it needs to be. Since the township doesn't have enough money to pave the entire road, the township will just be doing the first ½ mile. Jennifer made a motion to put together a 12 month task force to collect information and give recommendations to our engineers for a strategic plan. Mike Miller seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Following this motion, one resident asked if we could just make Pigeon Loft a sand road again.

2. Proposal for blacktop in Oxford township for 2023

Mike Miller has two updated proposals that he discussed with Steve from MSA this morning. Steve is going to have his team perform an inspection to make sure that we get the material that we pay for and believes the cost will be around 2% of the estimate. The estimate for Pigeon Loft is around 93,000 dollars and Mike Miller made a motion that we move forward with North Valley for ½ mile on Pigeon Loft. Harlan seconded the motion and the motion passed. Then Mike Miller made a

motion that North Valley also move forward with Baylor street with an estimate at \$89,870. Harlan seconded the motion and the motion passed. There was an easement question from a resident who lives on Pigeon Loft road, and Mike clarified that we aren't making the road wider and no trees will be removed. Another resident asked about prioritizing roads in Oxford township because he believes there are many more roads that have a higher priority than Pigeon Loft. This resident feels that that the money would be better spent on other roads. Mike Miller stated that a traffic study was done a couple of years ago and that Pigeon Loft had among the most traffic recorded for Oxford Township. Mike Miller also stated that the recent task force recommendation was to pave Pigeon Loft. Jennifer stated that she would follow the task force recommendation.

3. Oxford Township blue emergency signs to be installed.
Mike made a motion to approve all of the blue emergency address signs that have been ordered for the township. Jennifer seconded the motion and the motion passed.
4. Local Road Improvement Project (LRIP)
Mike Miller clarified that the Oxford roads eligible for grants are Baylor (which would be a joint venture with Linwood township) and 253rd Street west of CR 18. This road should qualify for state park road funding. Oxford Township supervisors need to meet with Steven at Linwood to see if we can jointly apply for an LRIP grant. Jennifer made a motion to engage the proper people to write these grants. Mike seconded the motion and the motion passed.
5. There were no updates from the Dust Control advisory task force.
6. Chips on Pigeon Loft
Mike Miller made a motion to have Shermik Tree Farms take the chips that are on Pigeon Loft and put them in storage so we can use them as needed in winter. Harlan seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Old Business

1. Township Insurance- Jennifer made a motion that Oxford Township stay with MAT for insurance through 2023 due to being declined by two other insurance companies. Harlan seconded the motion and the motion passed.
2. For the Fire District update Harlan summarized meeting minutes from the last district fire meeting.

New Business

1. National Night Out is the first Tuesday in August and Jennifer arranged for the Sheriff and Fire Chief to stop by. Jennifer asked for feedback for a location to hold the event and residents suggested Anderson Park as the preferred location. Shermik Tree Farms will donate hamburgers and hot dogs. Jennifer made the motion to hold a National Night Out in Oxford Township for 2023. Mike seconded it. The motion passed.

2. Resident Rick Miller requested a discussion regarding township access and weed removal on Hoffman Lake via phone call to the clerk. Rick Miller was not present at meeting and this item was tabled.
3. Township clean up day. Resident Laurie Faust has volunteered to organize a clean up day next spring, and is looking for help. Jennifer suggested that we coordinate with the county and asked Laurie to gather resources for where residents can bring items. Once the list is generated, Linnea will post it on the township website.
4. Oxford township's Zoll AED unit needs to be removed from service due to its outdated software and battery issues. The cost for a new AED is between \$1900 and \$2100 for a comparable AED. Jennifer made a motion to purchase a new unit. Mike Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed and Mike authorized Linnea to purchase a new AED.
5. Jennifer made a motion to contract a plumber to fix the toilet in the men's bathroom at the town hall. Mike Miller seconded the motion and the motion passed.
6. An Oxford resident has requested to use the town hall building on August 12. With no other conflicting events, the request was approved. Another board member will have to arrange to open the hall on this date as the clerk will be out of town.
7. A resident mentioned that there is a high speed internet discussion online regarding Isanti County and ECE. Interested residents can obtain a link and others are encouraged to go to the web site to submit input.

Mike Miller made a motion to adjourn while Harlan seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Linnea Lentz
Oxford Clerk
June 13, 2023