

March 4, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Oxford Board of Port Wardens was called to order by the chairman, Thomas Campbell, on Thursday, March 4, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room of the Oxford Community Services Building.

Other board members in attendance were Larry Murray and Nancy Cook.

The minutes of the meetings of November 18, 2009 and December 3, 2009 were approved and accepted as distributed.

The board members met with Scott Delude, Oxford's Public Works Superintendent, who wanted to inform the board members of projects that the town is in the process of pursuing. Currently the town wants to put out bids for engineering to rebuild the boat ramp on Tilghman Street and to rebuild the ferry dock at the base of N. Morris Street. Mr. Delude explained that the town has received two grants, each for \$25,000, specifically for the engineering of these two projects. Mr. Delude was looking for the board to comment on what the town has put together.

The first project, pertaining to the boat ramp on Tilghman Street, would involve keeping the same footprint but extending the boat ramp out further. New pilings would be going in and all the piers and cement work would be replaced. The town has owned this property since 1957. The last time any updates were made to this area was back in 1973.

The second project would involve the ferry dock area. The questions that Mr. Delude raised were should the dock be made more into an "F" pier or should the plan be to cut off the center of the "F" and make it an "L" pier. He noted that the second pier is not in great shape and does not get much use. There has also been talk about making the pier non-load bearing. When it was originally constructed, it was made for heavy duty vehicles. The town could save about \$100,000 by not making it useable for heavy vehicles. Mr. Campbell asked that if the town was considering something like that, how would they discourage people from driving on it? Mr. Delude responded that they would put in something like a walking path in order to keep vehicles off of it. Mr. Campbell added that he thought they would still need a finger pier in there if they were trying to create slips for dockage. Ms. Cook asked what purpose the town wanted for the pier, specifically, did they want to have slip access or access to fish and crab? Mr. Delude responded that they would like to see public access but that they needed some boat docking because once in a while the town has a few big boats tie up in that area. Mr. Campbell suggested that if the town is considering slips in that area that they should consider 18' wide slips. If a finger pier is installed, it could be fitted with 3 more slips. Ms. Cook asked if something could be considered for dinghies. Mr. Campbell agreed that would be a nice consideration to have an area for dinghies to tie up to and that maybe thought should be given to putting in a floating pier. Mr. Delude noted he was

not sure what the town's budget would allow. Mr. Campbell offered to take copies of what Mr. Delude had given to the board members to look over at this night's meeting and make copies for the board members to comment on and discuss at their next meeting. Afterwards, Mr. Campbell will put together a note for Mr. Delude with the board's comments regarding these two items.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Campbell revisited the issue of having a live aboard permit. He noted that he had not given much more thought on it since the board last discussed it, but offered to take something from the contracts for liveaboards at the boatyards and insert a few things in it such as a required amount of insurance for liability. Ms. Cook commented that the permit should be written strongly. She noted that if the Board of Port Wardens have a responsibility to the water, they should be responsible for the discharging of boats. Her thought was that if someone doesn't have a system it shouldn't be allowed in town waters.

Though the board has a draft they put together on the mooring regulations, which everyone agreed needed some modifications, it was agreed to wait on any further discussion of that until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Campbell read aloud a letter from Lane Engineering informing the board that Kimberly Oxford Investments, LLC is submitting an application to the MDE to obtain authorization to perform work on their property located at 200 S. Morris St. They are proposing to construct a 100' x 5' timber pier with a 10' x 20' "L", two mooring piles and a boat lift. Mr. Campbell reminded the board that at their December meeting, Sean Callahan, representative for Mr. Kimberly, met with the board to discuss doing maintenance and repair to shore up the existing rip-rap on this property. It was agreed at that time that the work could be done under maintenance and repair. At that time, the board also asked that George Apple from Apple Marine inform the board before he started work on the property. Mr. Campbell shared a letter from Mr. Apple dated January 26, 2010 informing the board that the work was starting. It was agreed to send a letter to Lane Engineering informing them that they will have to file an official application with the Board of Port Wardens.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Willoughby
Assistant Clerk