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**OXFORD VILLAGE COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

ZOOM Meeting: 1- (312) 626-6799 or 1-(646)-558-8656

Meeting ID: 817 9271 9855 Passcode: 959731

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81792719855?pwd=SVVxelg2eDlnExpTjJzNlhTWdJJZz09>

Village Council Members: Lori Bourgeau, Kelsey Cooke, Maureen Helmuth, Allison Kemp, Ashley Ross

**22 West Burdick Street
Oxford, MI 48371**

May 11, 2021

7:00 pm

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1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Kelsey Cooke called the teleconference meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. as permitted under Emergency Declaration, Resolution 21-08, due to reported increased cases of COVID-19. Participation information for ZOOM meetings: Village website at www.thevillageofoxford.org. Information also printed on the agenda header.

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2.) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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3.) **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE:** Members Present: 5: Physical location: remote from Oxford, MI- Bourgeau, in attendance. Physical location: remote from Oxford, MI. - Cooke in attendance. Physical location: remote from Romulus, MI.- Kemp, in attendance. Physical location: remote from Oxford, MI.-Helmuth, in attendance. Physical location: remote from Oxford, MI.-Ross, in attendance. Absent: 0. Staff Present: Village Manager Joseph Madore, Attorney Robert Davis, Recording Secretary Clerk/Treasurer, Tere Onica, Police Chief Mike Solwold.

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4.) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** May 11, 2021.

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MOTION: by Helmuth/ Kemp to approve the May 11, 2021, meeting agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion is adopted.

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Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Bourgeau, Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp, Ross. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

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5.) **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

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a. **Truth-In-Taxation-**The purpose of the hearing is to present the millage amount to be levied in support of the proposed budget and receive public comments.

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MOTION: by Helmuth/Bourgeau to open the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m.

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Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

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Public Comments:

Kelly Arkle, 491 Thornhill Trail-Question on tax rate.

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MOTION: by Kemp/Helmuth to close the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

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Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Helmuth, Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

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b. **Delinquent Utility Billing and Violations to be Added to the 2021 Tax Roll-**The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on delinquent utility billing and violations over 6-months past due to be added to the summer tax roll per the Village Charter.

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MOTION: by Cooke/Helmuth to open the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

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Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke, Helmuth. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

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Public Comments: None.

MOTION: by Cooke/ Helmuth to close the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

- c. Adult Use Marijuana, Ordinance Section 4.1.29-** The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the proposed Ordinance Section 4.1.29.

MOTION: by Cooke/ Helmuth to open the Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Bourgeau, Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp, Ross. Nays: 0. Absent: 0. Motion adopted.

Public Comments:

Opposed:

- 1.) Brian Teegardin, 401 Thornhill, Opposed. Too close to his property. In back yard. Too close to Scriptor Park. Wrong place to have it. Smell, mess, teenage activity in woods.
- 2.) Kelly Arkles, 491 Thornhill, Opposed. Voted yes to legalized but against being so close to residential. Water contamination concerns. Not compatible with small town community. Growers and processors are an industry major risk effecting long term residents.
- 3.) Connie Turland, 51 Pearl St. Concerned. Research shows standard for communities to not be within 1000 ft from parks, schools, childcare facilities. In residential area. Parking and traffic. Security, safety, odor and property values. Great deal of expense in odor control and filters.
- 4.) Glenn Denomme– Opposed to proximity to residential.
- 5.) Lori Orlando-non-resident. HOA for Willow Lakes sub. Technically in township but adjoin village property. Have common border with the village. Township voted against. Ms. Orlando opposes. Flex district can be petitioned to be marijuana business district.
- 6.) Mark Minor, First Street- Against. Neighbor smokes marijuana and the smell carries. This would be next to a baseball field used by kids.
- 7.) Matt Graff, 64 Pearl- new resident. Has small children. Opposes and would not have moved to the Village of Oxford knowing this.
- 8.) Ron & Evelyn Piotroski, 750 Lakes Edge- opposed. Have yet to hear benefit to quality of life, property values, students. No cost benefit analysis.
- 9.) Police Chief vehemently opposed– no field sobriety tests, it will tie up officers. Council is not listening. Will cause ill will. Asked about conflict of interest and personal benefit from industry. Poor public policy. Village is 1/17 of Oxford Township who voted to prohibit. Not opposed to adult use but does not want to embrace activity that is federally illegal. No documentation for advantage to community. Cash business leads to police force concerns. Consider request of people opposed. Most supporting comments are coming from outside the community.
- 10.) Amy and Dwayne Bergeron, 38 Pearl-opposed. Do not want influence. Too close to residents. Village area is too small.
- 11.) Sue Bossardet-Opposes. Listen to residents.
- 12.) Sylvia M, 50 Pearl St.- 20-year resident. Husband has (medicinal) Marihuana Card, but they are against business in this community.

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In Support:

- 1.) Jennifer Prather, 14 Pontiac St. Resident-in support. (Email correspondence)
- 2.) Connie Ogg, 40 Burdick Woods Ct.- Resident, supports. (Email correspondence)
- 3.) Larry Campbell-Real Estate broker, Oakland County. Supports. Ordinance protects properties. Non-resident.
- 4.) Justin Wilcock-Resident, supports. Base vote on election results from 2016.
- 5.) Robert Huth- Non-resident in support. Land developer. Ordinance is good. Harrison Twp. attorney.
- 6.) Stravos Toma, Non-resident. Supports. Involved in marijuana business without issues of crime or policing. Interested in pursuing a business opportunity in Oxford.
- 7.) Justin Danaskiss -Non-resident. Supports. Two-year process with a lot of feedback.

MOTION: by Cooke /Ross to close the Public Hearing at 8:01 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5: Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.
Motion adopted.

6.) CALL TO PUBLIC:

Connie Turland, 51 Pearl- Berm and six-foot wall that was supposed to be put up by Genisys Bank. Arborvitaes have died and not been replaced. Requested screening for property. Mark Minor, First St. -commented on landscape screening. Inquired about ordinance. Evelyn Piotroski- question on police officer wages.

7.) CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: by Cooke/Helmuth to approve consent agenda items under 8(a) as presented. All in favor. Motion adopted.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 5. Helmuth, Kemp, Cooke, Ross, Bourgeau. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.
Motion adopted.

MOTION: by Cooke/Helmuth to approve Consent Agenda items 8(b) as presented -including bills in the amount of \$178,851.57.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 5. Kemp, Cooke, Ross, Bourgeau, Helmuth. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.
Motion adopted.

8.) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Adult Use Marijuana Facilities, Section 4.1.29, First Reading

Discussion on public hearing comments on marijuana ordinance to allow businesses in the village. Council member Cooke is opposed but does not oppose individual choice and use. Oxford Village is a small town with a lot of residents that live close to the marijuana zoned district. Council member Helmuth commented marijuana is a legal business. No reason not to allow business. Council member Kemp listened to comments/opinions. Ordinance addresses concerns. Children are the personal responsibility of parents. After considerable research, council member Ross understands concerns. Cited 78,000 jobs created in 2020 generating approximately \$30,000 in license and application revenue. Marijuana industry is heavily regulated. No evidence of negative impact to property values. Disagrees with Chief of Police position. Marijuana is illegal in only 13 states. New positive research coming. Bourgeau argued the business belongs in larger land areas such as the township not in the tiny village, noting the number of residents in opposition outscored those in support. Five

143 voicing support were non-residents and business developers. Majority are saying no. Will
144 listen to village residents who live here any pay taxes.

145 **MOTION:** by Ross/Helmuth to approve the First Reading of the Adult Use Marijuana
146 Facilities Ordinance, Section 4.1.29, and schedule the second reading for June 8, 2021.

147 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 3. Helmuth, Kemp, Ross. Nays: 2. Cooke, Bourgeau. Absent: 0.

148 Motion adopted.
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150 **b. Local Emergency Declaration Extension Consideration:**

151 **MOTION:** by Cooke/Helmuth to extend Resolution 12-08 to be reviewed at next meeting
152 and continue to meet virtually until next month to see what the case numbers look like.

153 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 5. Helmuth, Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.

154 Motion adopted.
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156 **9.) NEW BUSINESS:**

- 157 a. **Resolution 21-10, Approval of the Budget for FY 2021-2022.** Discussion on
158 raising the millage rate to fund road repair and maintenance. Council members
159 Cooke and Bourgeau recommended waiting to see what federal funding for
160 infrastructure will be. Assuming the marijuana ordinance passes, it will generate
161 revenue to dedicate to road repairs and maintenance. State has mandated water-leads
162 replaced by 2040. Helmuth suggested ½ mill increase. Ross not comfortable with 1
163 mill increase but agreed ½ mill was needed to fund road projects. Kemp also agreed
164 with ½ mill increase to invest in infrastructure.

165 **MOTION:** by Cooke/Kemp to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget as presented in
166 Resolution 21-10 with the operating millage rate of 10.62 (expected to yield
167 \$1,294,652.00).

168 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 2. Cooke, Bourgeau. Nays: 3. Kemp, Ross, Helmuth. Absent: 0.
169 Motion failed.

170 **MOTION:** by Helmuth/Ross to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget as presented
171 raising the operating millage rate to 11.12 (expected to yield \$1,416,559, with
172 approximately \$61,000 designated for road repair and maintenance).

173 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 3. Kemp, Ross, Helmuth. Nays 2. Bourgeau, Cooke.

174 Motion Carried.

175 Resolution 21-10 is adopted with millage rate of 11.12 to be levied July 1, 2021.
176

- 177 a. **Resolution 21-07, Delinquent Utility Billing and Violations to be added to the**
178 **2021 Tax Roll.**

179 **MOTION:** by Cooke/Helmuth to adopt Resolution 21-07 as presented to add delinquent
180 Utility Billing and Violations to the 2021 Tax Roll for collection per Village Ordinance
181 321, Section 70-78(d). Summer tax collection is July 1, 2021-August 31, 2021.

182 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 5. Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.
183 Resolution 21-07 adopted.
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- 185 c. **Water Catch Basin Relic From M-24 Project: Discussion to Move, Fence**
186 **Around or Remove.**

187 **MOTION:** by Kemp /Ross to recommend leaving the catch basin relic where it is,

188 surround it with split rail fence and provide signage.

189 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 5. Cooke, Helmuth, Kemp, Ross, Bourgeau. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.

190 Motion adopted.

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192 **d. Resolution 21-11 MDOT Category B Grant Application.**

193 **MOTION:** by Cooke/Helmuth to adopt Resolution 21-11 as presented to acknowledge the
194 commitment on behalf of the village for funding our 50% share of the project if awarded
195 the grant.

196 **Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: 5. Kemp, Helmuth, Ross, Bourgeau, Cooke. Nays: 0. Absent: 0.

197 Resolution 21-11 adopted.

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199 **10.) ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

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201 **11.) PUBLIC COMMENT:**

202 Kelly Arkles-not satisfied with 3-2 vote. What is the next step to put marijuana issue on the
203 ballot?

204 Evelyn Archer Piotrowski- Help wanted signs on Glaspie. Questions on road work. Agreed with
205 Kelly Arkles comment and would like to be copied on any information provided.

206 Connie Turland- How to connect with Village Manager.

207 Sue Bossardet-Total delinquent water/sewer amount. Asked to be copied on village attorney
208 response to Kelly Arkles.

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210 **12.) COMMITTEE REPORTS-**

211 NOTA-Update from Bourgeau.

212 Planning Commission- Report from Helmuth.

213 Cable Commission-Report from Helmuth.

214 Polly Ann Trail-No meeting since last month.

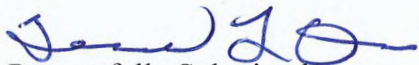
215 DDA-Report from Cooke. DDA Director commented on upcoming events.

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217 **13.) MANAGER, STAFF, & ATTORNEY REPORTS**

218 **14.) COUNCIL COMMENTS**

219 **15.) ADJOURNMENT:**

220 **MOTION:** by Cooke/Bourgeau to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. All in favor. Motion adopted.

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224 Respectfully Submitted,
225 Teresa L. Onica, Recording Secretary


Kelsey Cooke, President

