

**OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL
A G E N D A**

1. **Honorary Councilmember** – Mayor Roseberry appointed Dean Douglas Hicks of Oxford College as the Honorary Councilmember for September.
2. **Mayor’s Announcements**
3. **City Rights-of-Way Survey** – City Engineer Robert Jordan will present his report.
4. **DDA Study Committee**
5. **Substandard Rental Properties** – We need to discuss the need for an ordinance to deal with substandard rental properties, including requiring inspections before connecting utilities.
6. * **Misuse of the 911 System** – We have attached an email from David Strickland along with several examples of a possible ordinance.
7. * **Intergovernmental Contract with the City of Covington for Right of Way Acquisition** – This is part of the GDOT project for the I-20 pedestrian bridge and the sidewalk on the west side of Emory from the bridge to Fletcher Street. GDOT is handling this as one project with the City of Covington as the primary local government involved. David Strickland and Frank Turner, Covington City Attorney, have prepared this contract which requires Oxford to do everything we would have had to do if we were contracting directly with GDOT. It would help move the project along if this contract could be approved by Council at the work session.
8. **Newton County Water and Sewer Authority** – Terry Smith was appointed in July, 2014 to a five year term on the Newton County Water and Sewer Authority to represent the City of Oxford. We have checked with the Authority’s attorney and it is permissible for him to continue to represent the city even though he no longer lives here. We would like to reaffirm that he will serve as the city’s representative until the conclusion of his current term in June, 2019.
9. **Job Descriptions** – Recently, we have had difficulty recruiting for some of our lower skill positions. The requirement for a high school degree or a GED often seems to be the sticking point. It made it hard to find a groundskeeper and it is making it very difficult to find a meter reader. Mayor Roseberry has asked that we consider the possibility of removing this requirement for certain positions. As always, we have the six-month probationary period to make sure the individual selected can do the job.

10. * **SPLOST 2017** - Newton County has adopted a tentative timeline for the next SPLOST election. They plan to schedule the election on March 21, 2017. The other important date is the county will meet with the municipal officials in the county no later than November 6, 2016 to discuss projects to be included in the referendum. We will need to have our list prepared by the October Council meeting.
11. * **Electric Rates** - Our budget this year included an adjustment in our electric, water, and sewer rates in September. The changes to the water and sewer rates are straightforward and do not require any further action. The changes to the electric rates have to be reflected in a revised electric tariff which is attached.
12. * **Allen Memorial Directional Sign Request** - Allen Memorial presented its sign request to the Planning Commission on Tuesday, August 9. The request was denied. The Planning Commission recommended to Allen Memorial that it request City Council approve a directional sign as a governmental sign for Allen Memorial. The Planning Commission made it clear that it did not have the authority to approve any sign in the right-of-way. Such a sign could only be approved by City Council. We have attached a copy of the proposed sign along with two excerpts from the sign ordinance.
13. * **Projects Status and Engineer's Progress Reports** - attached.
14. **Executive Session** – Real estate issue.

*Attachments