

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2014– 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: JERRY D. ROSEBERRY, MAYOR; COUNCILMEMBERS: JIM WINDHAM; TERRY SMITH; SARAH DAVIS; DAVID EADY; GEORGE HOLT; AND LYN PACE.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Schwartz, City Manager; Dave Harvey, Police Chief; Jody Reid, Utility Superintendent; Max Vincent, Honorary Councilmember; Vivian Harris, Mike Ready, Cheryl Ready, LaTrelle Oliver, Hoyt Oliver, Eric Oliver, Anderson Wright, Judy Greer, Patsy Burke, Carol and Neil Penn, Terry Fullerton, Georgette Izen, Lisa Dorward, JP Godfrey, John Burson, Brian Barnard, Cynthia Millsaps, Tim McGaffney, Mark McKercher

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Jerry D. Roseberry, Mayor, at 6:08 PM.

175th Birthday Committees

Mayor Roseberry introduced reports from six committees helping to plan the celebration for Oxford's 175th birthday.

July 4th parade - Cheryl Ready reported that much work had been done. Banners had been ordered. Uncle Sam is almost selected. A letter to close state Route 81 has been sent to DOT. The float for the city is under way. There was also some discussion of the various categories for awards after the parade.

Collection of remembrances - Lisa Dorward reported that she and Louise Eady have been working on a book of remembrances. They have solicited people to submit stories. They have had more luck by visiting people and writing down their stories. They are still interested in receiving more stories. They had an article published in the *Covington News* on March 30 highlighting the 175th birthday planning.

Photography contest calendar - Cynthia Milsap reported on the calendar and the accompanying photography contest. They encourage submittal of photographs which will be used for the calendar.

Selection of 175 persons to honor - JP Godfrey reported that they wanted to recognize 175 residents who had contributed to Oxford. They had received 229 names. Mr. Godfrey related the stories of two African-Americans whose stories would be included.

December 6 convocation - JP Godfrey reported that since this town was founded by a church it was fitting that the final celebration would be in Old Church. Dr. Herschel Sheets has agreed to speak.

Historic sites within the city-Mike Ready and Terry Fullerton reported on the work of this committee. They have selected many sites around the city. Terry Fullerton and her 4-H students have a website under construction showing all of the sites on Google maps.

Vivian Harris reported that she is working on a book of African-Americans who had contributed to Oxford. Mayor Roseberry said the city was continuing to look for volunteers to help with these projects. The city would put a place on its website for volunteers. Or, you could just call City Hall.

Honorary Councilmember

Mayor Roseberry announced that Lyn Pace had appointed Max Vincent as the honorary Councilmember for May.

Citizen comments

Mayor Roseberry noted that several citizens had said they would like to comment. Usually, citizen comments are heard during the regular Council meeting but he would make an exception tonight.

Georgette Izen spoke about her concerns about a recent college concert. It was very noisy. At the end she heard what she thought were gunshots. Mayor Roseberry noted that they were fireworks that had been set off by students after the concert was over. The fireworks were not part of the concert. When the fireworks went off the Oxford College police ran to the location and chased the students away. They discovered one box of unexploded fireworks. Ms. Izen noted that it's a challenge living across the street from the college. The college did not notify them in advance of the concert.

Eric Oliver reported that the concert was too loud for his small children. He felt that our noise ordinance which states that the sound is not to be heard at a distance of 300 feet is not reasonable. The reasonable distance should be somewhere between 300 feet and 3000 feet. Some of the people in the neighborhood were notified of the concert. The college usually has a concert every year.

Chief Harvey said that he and his officers were on patrol during the concert. If they had received any noise complaints they would have investigated and, if necessary, had the college turn the sound down. They did not receive any complaints during the concert. In the future, he would recommend that people with a complaint call 911 so it can be relayed to his on-duty officers.

Street repairs and patching

Bob Schwartz and Jody Reid reported on prices received for patching on Moore Street and on the section of Asbury near the Emory bus stop. The prices were \$18,470 from MHB paving and \$7,050 from Designed Installations. Council asked several questions and requested some additional information to be provided at the regular Council meeting.

FY 2015 budget

Mayor Roseberry and Bob Schwartz presented the draft FY 2015 budget. The *ad hoc* budget committee has held two meetings to review the budget. We have about 45 days before adoption is scheduled. A formal presentation will be made at the regular Council meeting in May.

Master plan

In response to a question from Jim Windham, Mayor Roseberry said that he would soon appoint an *ad hoc* committee for the development of a master plan. He asked that Council members bring suggestions for members to the next meeting.

There being no further action the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Schwartz
City Manager