

**OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND REGULAR SESSION  
JANUARY 8, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL – 110 W. CLARK ST. OXFORD, GA 30054  
A G E N D A**

**1. Call to Order**

- a. \*Oath of Office for Municipal Court Judge Steven A. Hathorn, administered by City Staff, State of Georgia Notary Public

**2. Organizational Meeting – Judge Steven A. Hathorn presiding.**

- a. Oath of Office for Mayor and Councilmembers continuing to serve:
  - i. David S. Eady – Mayor
  - ii. Erik Oliver – Post 1
  - iii. George Holt – Post 2
  - iv. Laura McCanless – Post 3
  - v. Mike Ready – Post 4
  - vi. Jim Windham – Post 5
  - vii. Jeff Wearing – Post 6
- b. Mayor and Council Appointment and Oath for the Administrative Officers continuing to serve:
  - i. \*C. David Strickland, PC – City Attorney
  - ii. \*Cheryl Freeman – Municipal Solicitor
  - iii. Marcia Brooks – City Clerk/Treasurer
  - iv. Mark Anglin – Chief of Police
- c. **\*Mayor Pro-Tem for 2024** – The current Mayor Pro Tem is Laura McCanless. Her term runs out in January 2024. At the Work Session, it was suggested that Erik Oliver would serve as Mayor Pro-Tem.

**3. Motion to accept the Agenda for the January 8, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting.**

**4. Consent Agenda**

- a. \*Minutes of the City Council Regular Session December 4, 2023
- b. \*Minutes of the City Council Work Session December 18, 2023
- c. \*Minutes of the Special Called Voting Meeting December 21, 2023

**5. Mayor's Report:**

- a. Please note, the next Work Session will be held on Monday, January 22. It is moved from what would be its regular date of January 15 due to the MLK, Jr. Holiday.

- b. Oxford College of Emory University and the City of Oxford have been selected to host the first day's destination and the start of the second day of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) on June 2, 2024. This is a 7-day event covering 419 miles from Atlanta to Savannah.

## 6. Citizen Concerns

7. **\*City Council Meeting Schedule for 2024:** Please note, this calendar reflects the needed changes to the meeting schedule based on the holidays and elections. Generally, the meetings are shifted one week out.
8. **Authorization for Mayor Eady to sign the official Proclamation declaring Newton County as an Education First Community by supporting the Newton County Education Foundation (NEF) and the mission to put community resources to work for our youth** – Chairman Banes has requested the cities to support this effort.
9. **\*Review of recommended changes to the Stream Buffers from 25 Feet to 100 feet:** See attached sections Sec. 14-134. Minimum protections (15) and (16).
10. **\*Review Three Bids for Public Works Fence Demolition and Replacement: Please note, the current Capital Improvement Plan has \$75,000 budgeted for this project.** – The Council had discussed choosing HCS at the Work Session.
11. **Consideration of Placing Signs for Catova Creek where it flows under E. Soule Street and W. Richardson Road** – As you know, Mike McQuaide worked with faculty at the College of the Muscogee Nation in Okmulgee, OK to look for a more appropriate name for Dried Indian Creek. Mr. McQuaide sent photos of the creek showing many of the significant granite outcroppings the water flows over. Norma Marshall, an Instructor in Native American Studies at the College of the Muscogee Nation, suggested “Catova Creek,” which is Muscogee for “creek among the rocks.”
12. **\*Approval of Request for Assistance from Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (NEGRC) to apply for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant** – With a deadline of February 28, 2024, the City Manager and Mayor elected to send a request for assistance for this effort. We are respectfully asking for approval of this action. Note, the request may be withdrawn with no expense incurred. The RAISE funds may support shared use paths and would likely require no further local expenditure of funds due to the Georgia Office of Planning & Budget Funds we have and because the path would be located within a Census Tract that has persistent poverty. The cost for the application is \$500.
13. **\*Distribution of FEMA Reimbursement Funds** – Please see the attached memo regarding direction needed for the distribution of \$9,368.01 in FEMA funds for expenses incurred from the January 12, 2023 storm damages.

14. **\*GEFA Lead and Copper Grant** – This item was not heard at the last Work Session. Staff just received this grant award on 1/2/24 and it is due back to GEFA on 2/1/24. There appear to be some errors in the budget as prepared by GEFA and these are detailed in the 014a attachment. We have determined the City is not obligated to spend more than the grant of \$73,900 and there is no match required. The inspection and replacement of lead joints and lines is a new requirement, and more funding is expected to assist with this effort.
15. **\*Invoices:** Council will review the city’s recently paid invoices over \$1,000.
16. **Executive Session:** An Executive Session could potentially be held for Land Acquisition/Disposition, Addressing Pending or Potential Litigation, and/or Personnel.
17. **Adjourn**

\*Attachments