

**Oxford Mayor and Council**  
**Work Session**  
**Monday, December 18, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.**  
**Oxford City Hall**  
**110 W. Clark Street, Oxford, Georgia**  
**Agenda**

1. **Mayor's Announcements:**

- a. At our next work session, we will be considering ordinances for regulating short-term rentals and filming. This had been considered for this agenda, but with the length of tonight's meeting, it was considered best to move them out.
- b. Possible Special Called Voting Meeting via Zoom held prior to January 1, 2024, for Budget Amendments to correct the FY 2023 Budget per the current audit.
- c. Please Note: There will be a swearing in ceremony for appropriate appointed officials and council members at the January 8, 2024 Organizational and Regular Session Council Meeting.

2. **Committee Reports:** The Trees, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, Downtown Development Authority, Sustainability Committee and The Old Church Venue Committee will update the Council on their recent activities.

3. **\*Review of A Classification and Compensation Plan for the City of Oxford, Georgia, by Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIOG):** This report will be reviewed by Mr. Sam Trager, Public Service Assistant; Strategic Operations and Planning Assistance at CVIOG

4. **Oxford Downtown Development Authority to Announce Partnership Effort Underway with Main Street Land & Properties** – The DDA has summed up this position as follows:

The DDA has met further with Mainstreet Land & Properties, and we feel they are in line with our vision for this project and the future development of Oxford. They have a heart for this community and are invested personally as well as financially in this area and they wish to see it prosper while maintaining its character and charm. We, as a DDA, feel very comfortable moving forward with them as our development partner in this first and future phases of the Oxford downtown development project."

5. **\*Review the 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.
6. **\*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). Staff is seeking guidance on small springs or streams with an annual flow of less than 25 gallons per minute. See Section 14-134 (16).
7. **\*Review Three Bids for Public Works Fence Demolition and Replacement:** Please note, the current Capital Improvement Plan has \$75,000 budgeted for this project.
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. **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.”
10. **\*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.
11. **Appointment of the Mayor Pro Tem** – The current Mayor Pro Tem is Laura McCanless. Her term runs out in January 2024. Each term is for one year.
12. **Appointment of City Solicitor, City Attorney and Municipal Court Judge**
13. **City Road Signs Update – compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)** – The NEGRC had sign data from the REVAMP project: It includes all stop signs, beacon/flashers, traffic controls, and yield signs. The data was last updated in July of 2019, and with data for over 100 signs in Oxford, most of which are stop signs. This information is being loaded into a web map and will be the basis for our considering a sign plan to be in better compliance with the MUTCD.
14. **\*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.
15. **Other Business:**
16. **Work Session Meeting Review:** Mayor Eady will review all the items discussed during the meeting.
17. **Executive Session:** An Executive Session could potentially be held for Land Acquisition/Disposition, Addressing Pending or Potential Litigation, and/or Personnel.

\*Attachments