



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, July 18, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL
Minute Summary**

MEMBERS PRESENT: JERRY D. ROSEBERRY, MAYOR; COUNCILMEMBERS: JIM WINDHAM; MELVIN BAKER; SARAH DAVIS; GEORGE HOLT; DAVID EADY; MIKE READY.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Schwartz, City Manager; Dave Harvey, Chief; Lauran Willis, City Clerk; Scottie Croy; Hoyt and LaTrelle Oliver, Kendra Mayfield, Todd Cain, Cheryl Ready, Robert Aiken, Anderson Wright.

The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Jerry D. Roseberry.

Honorary Councilmember

Mayor Roseberry introduced Robert Aiken as the Honorary Councilmember for August who was appointed by Councilmember Melvin Baker.

Mayor's Announcements

Mayor Roseberry announced he received notice from DNR that the deadline for the Gator Lottery Permits to hunt alligator is July 31st.

MEAG Voting Representative

Councilmember Mike Ready gave an update on the MEAG annual meeting he attended last week. He said this year's theme was "Every City in Trouble with Electricity". He said MEAG presented discussion on solar energy and the effects it will have on electricity. Ready pointed out that the city needs to review its plan on solar and look at revenue sources as it relates to electricity. Ready presented council with a 2016 Directory from MEAG which contains their Regional Manager Assignments, Financial Services and Engineering, and Planning & Operation contacts.

East Clark

City Manager Bob Schwartz said he and Jody are working on getting prices for the demolition of the two structures on East Clark Street. He and Chief Harvey have taken photos of the two structures as requested by council. Schwartz said he will have the final prices at the next meeting.

DDA Study Committee

Committee Chairman Mike Ready said the DDA Committee has met on several occasions to determine the need and options the city has for a Downtown Development Authority with the focus on what the city can do in the next five years to have development in the city. Ready presented a draft of questions with various sources and task used to create the list depicting the options of a DDA vs public/private partnership or a developer.

Councilmember Baker asked; "What is the relationship between the DDA and Council"? Councilmember Eady said DDA is not the only way to go, the city would be able to select options, manage and execute their own plan.

Substandard Rental Properties

Mayor Roseberry said we need to discuss the need for an ordinance to deal with substandard rental properties, including requiring inspections before connecting utilities. Mayor Roseberry said we need to take action on trying to improve rental properties. He said we need to put an ordinance in place that would allow the city to inspect and require inspections of properties. City Manager Bob Schwartz presented a copy of the ordinance from the City of Porterdale which explains how they handle substandard rental properties. Councilmember Eady said we need to look at the issues comprehensively, looking at revenue and shifting revenue to the property tax side instead of consumption base tied to our enterprise funds. Councilmember Windham said we need to look at and re-emphasize our policy regarding junk cars, tires etc. With the increasing threat of zika virus citizens should clear out old tires and junk that may be retaining water.

Purchase of Police Vehicle

City Manager Bob Schwartz said the FY2017 budget includes \$24,000 for the purchase of a replacement vehicle. Chief Harvey presented a memo including three bids on purchasing a new patrol car. Harvey said after reviewing of the bids we are requesting Council approval of a purchase order for \$23,727 to Allen Vigil Ford on the state contract. This will be presented to Council at the August meeting for approval.

Speed limit on E. Soule Street

Chief Harvey presented discussion regarding the speed limit on Wesley Street & E. Soule Street. He said after meeting with Mr. Kendrick Collins, the district traffic engineer for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Collins had no objection to approving Wesley Street; however he did have an issue with E. Soule Street after seeing the statistics from our traffic data recording device. Collins said he had an issue with the department operating speed detection devices with a speed limit of 25 mph. He suggested the speed be raised to a minimum of 30 mph, with a speed reduction sign placed before entering the city. Based on these findings Chief Harvey made a recommendation to council to approve the increase in the speed on E. Soule Street to 30mph. After discussion Mayor Roseberry instructed City Manager Bob Schwartz to have the city attorney draft an ordinance to raise the speed limit on E. Soule from 25mph to 30mph for a first reading at the August 1 meeting.

Misuse of the 911 System

Chief Harvey informed Council that we have had some problems with people abusing the 911 system. Chief Harvey explained the issues and presented Council with a *Draft* ordinance with a recommendation for adoption to prevent future issues. After discussion Mayor Roseberry instructed City Manager Bob Schwartz to have the city attorney put together an ordinance for misuse of the 911 system for a first reading at the August 1 meeting.

Projects Status and Engineer's Progress Reports

City Manager Bob Schwartz presented reports depicting the timelines for various FY2017 budgeted projects. He also presented the June activity summary report from City Engineer Robert Jordan.

Write-Off of Uncollectible Debt

City Clerk Luran Willis presented discussion regarding the write-off of uncollectible debt for FY2016. Willis said the total as of Jun 30, 2016 is \$31,602.74. We will request Council approve a resolution to write off the budgeted amount for FY2016. After discussion Mayor Roseberry requested City Clerk Luran Willis to research our policies to determine if we need to make any changes that would reduce the amount of uncollectible debt.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Luran S. Willis, CMC/FOA
City Clerk