



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, June 20, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: JERRY D. ROSEBERRY, MAYOR; COUNCILMEMBERS: JIM WINDHAM; MELVIN BAKER; SARAH DAVIS; GEORGE HOLT; DAVID EADY; MIKE READY WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Schwartz, City Manager; Dave Harvey, Chief; Lauran Willis, City Clerk; Jody Reid, Utility Superintendent; Hoyt and LaTrelle Oliver, Erik Oliver, Miriam Hall, Kendra Mayfield, Penny Windham, Lyn Pace.

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

***Agenda**

Honorary Councilmember

Mayor Roseberry introduced Miriam Hall as the Honorary Councilmember for July appointed by Councilmember Jim Windham.

Mayor's Announcements

Mayor Roseberry announced that Hoyt Oliver has been appointed to the Newton County Tomorrow Board, as an At-Large Board Member.

Mayor Roseberry announced the City has received approval of \$16,000 from Georgia DOT for highway 81 roadside landscape improvements at the Asbury Street Park.

*** Citizen Concerns:**

LaTrelle Oliver announced The Historical Society and Lions Club annual potluck picnic on Sunday, July 3, at 6:00 at Old Church.

*** MEAG Voting Representative**

Mayor Roseberry announced that since Terry Smith has resigned we need to appoint another voting representative to fill his place with MEAG. Councilmember Ready will be attending the MEAG annual meeting July 11th.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Windham to approve a Resolution appointing Mike Ready to serve as the City's voting delegate on the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia's Election Committee. The motion passed 6/0.

*** Old Church**

City Manager Bob Schwartz presented documents for Old Church with the original lease from 1965, the lease transfer in 1975 from the North Georgia Conference to the Oxford Shrine Society, a memo dated July 1997 requesting that Kitty's Cottage be included in the lease, and an agreement in January 1998 to include Kitty's Cottage in the original lease. There was much discussion about Old Church and who is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep. Councilman Eady requested we obtain a copy of the financials from the Oxford Historical Society. Holt spoke on behalf of the OHS as Secretary and said he knows they have spent more than \$50,000 in the last four years on repairs and renovations. Davis said she knows the church was down to nothing before the Shrine Society took it over. The funds they had were from grants and membership dues. Holt said the dues are \$300 annually but a lot of members do not pay. Windham asked if they have reviewed other means of revenue. Eady said we need to shift our thinking on how it is maintained that we need to recognize this as a community asset. Perhaps the city should look into taking more ownership. Windham said we need a proposal we can consider. Mayor Roseberry asked City Manager Bob Schwartz to verify with the city attorney if it is legal for the city to sign a lease that exceeds 50 years and bring this back for more discussion.

*** GDOT Off-System Safety Grant**

City Manager Bob Schwartz presented a letter of approval from Georgia Department of Transportation for additional LMIG funding with a proposed revised budget. After the reviewing the changes Holt asked why we are changing putting the pedestrian crossing at the Park to E. Clark Street. Mayor Roseberry said because we can use SPLOST funds for the one at the Park next spring and the money from this grant has to be spent before the end of this calendar year and construction of the park will not begin in time to meet the GDOT deadline. Eady said we should move forward with the raised cross walks because there are people living in those areas. Schwartz said he will have the new pricing by the July 11th meeting.

*** Project Status and Engineer's Progress Reports**

City Manager Bob Schwartz presented the project status reports depicting some ongoing projects and projects that will begin with the new fiscal year. He gave a summary of the ongoing projects being worked on by the city engineer such as the Right-of-Way surveys, George Street Trail and the Sewer Extension for E. Clark and N. Emory.

*** Radar Recorder Study**

Chief Dave Harvey presented a memorandum showing the utilization of the radar recording device the city purchased last year. Chief Harvey said the data collected on E. Soule Street shows a total of 17,769 vehicles traveled between March 21st and April 4, 2016 with 85% of the vehicles traveling west at 46 miles per hour and 85% of the vehicles traveling east at 48 miles per hour. The study showed that between May 23rd and June 13th vehicles on Wesley Street between W. Watson Street and W. Soule Street showed a total of 3,098 vehicles travelled that area with 85% of the northbound vehicles travelled at 33 miles per hour and 85% of the southbound vehicles traveled at 36 miles per hour. Dave said after meeting with a representative from DOT Wesley Street had previously been approved for radar use at 30 miles per hour. After the speed limit was changed to 25 miles per hour, Wesley Street was not checked by DOT to be approved due to the lack of violations on file. However, with the new data from the radar recorder, they feel radar should be approved for

Wesley Street. It appears all other streets in Oxford have no issues. Chief Harvey said he will continue to monitor various other streets to obtain data and address any issues.

July 4th Parade update

City Clerk Lauran Willis gave an update on the progress of July 4th parade and events.

Millage Rate

Mayor Roseberry announced we received the preliminary report from NC Tax Assessor today and it looks like the rollback millage rate for 2016 will be 7.236. Mayor Roseberry said we will vote on the millage rate at the July 11, 2016 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauran S. Willis, CMC/FOA
City Clerk

* Attachments