



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024 – 7:00 PM
CITY HALL**

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

David Eady – Mayor
George Holt – Councilmember
Laura McCanless – Councilmember
Mike Ready – Councilmember
Jeff Wearing – Councilmember (late)
Erik Oliver – Councilmember

APPOINTED/STAFF PRESENT:

Marcia Brooks – City Clerk/Treasurer
Mark Anglin – Police Chief
David Strickland – City Attorney

ELECTED OFFICIALS NOT PRESENT:

Jim Windham – Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: Anderson Wright, Robert Lane (Main Street Developers); Laura Gafnea (Oxford College)

1. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable David S. Eady, Mayor.
2. **Jeff Wearing made a motion to accept the agenda for the July 1, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting. Erik Oliver seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).** (Attachment A)
3. **Laura McCanless made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mike Ready seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).** (Attachment B)
4. **Mayor's Report**
5. **Citizen Concerns**
6. **Consider Awarding Bid to Peach State Construction for the Whatcoat Street Project** (Attachment C)

Laura McCanless made a motion to approve awarding the bid to Peach State Construction for the Whatcoat Street Project. Mike Ready seconded the motion. The motion carried (5/1). Erik Oliver voted Nay.

7. **Award of Paving Bid to East Coast Grading, Inc.** (Attachment D)

Laura McCanless made a motion to approve awarding the paving bid to East Coast Grading, Inc. Jeff Wearing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

8. **Rights of Way Encroachment Update** (Attachment E)

Robert Jordan has prepared preliminary drawings for the most urgent encroachments. He has provided estimates of the cost to prepare documents that can be submitted for recording these encroachments officially with the property records in Newton County Superior Court. David Strickland recommends that the City prioritize the encroachments and address the ten or so properties where real property or other significant property improvements encroach on rights-of-way. He recommends sending those property owners a letter from the City along with the official documents prepared by Robert Jordan.

Bill Andrew asked for the City Council's direction on moving forward with the next step of having Robert Jordan complete the first set of official documents.

Erik Oliver stated that he would like for some of the property owners with minor encroachments to be given a chance to mitigate the encroachments. He also expressed concern about using taxpayer money to complete this work and indicated that the City should also address any situations where its buildings and significant property improvements are encroaching on private property.

George Holt questioned why the documents need to be prepared again by Robert Jordan. He contended that the City should already have what it needs. David Strickland advised that Mr. Jordan will bring the research on the property titles up to date and also put them in a format that is suitable for official filing. The right-of-way survey documents the City currently has from 2017 are not suitable for filing official documents for distinct properties.

9. **Charter and Ordinance Changes** (Attachment F)

David Strickland clarified that this is considered a first reading for both charter and ordinance changes.

Mike Ready made a motion to approve the first reading of the charter changes related to City Manager personnel responsibilities and permitting the serving of alcoholic beverages in the City of Oxford. Laura McCanless seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

Erik Oliver made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance changes relating to regulation of alcohol taxes. Laura McCanless seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

10. **Vote to Set the Property Tax for Fiscal Year 2025** (Attachment G)

Marcia Brooks clarified that tonight's vote is the City Council's recommendation pending public notice and comment. The City must still hold three public hearings followed by a final vote on August 5, 2024.

Mike Ready made a motion to approve the recommendation to set the 2024 millage rate at 5.444. Erik Oliver seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

11. Extension of the Turkey Creek Sewer Moratorium (Attachment H)

Erik Oliver made a motion to approve the extension of the Turkey Creek Sewer Moratorium to January 1, 2025. Jeff Wearing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

12. Approve the Carter and Sloope Task Order for the Lead and Copper Waterline Inventory (Attachment I)

Laura McCanless made a motion to approve the task order for the Lead and Copper Waterline Inventory. Mike Ready seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

13. Trees, Parks and Recreation Board Nomination (Attachment J)

Erik Oliver made a motion to approve the nomination of Susan Ballard to the Trees, Parks and Recreation Board. Jeff Wearing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

14. Invoices (Attachment K)

The City Council reviewed invoices paid for \$1,000 or more in the month of June 2024.

Jeff Wearing requested a new set of bids for uniforms to see if more reasonable prices could be obtained than what the City is currently paying. Bill Andrew advised he would work with Jody Reid on this task.

15. Executive Session

None.

16. Adjourn

Jeff Wearing made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Erik Oliver seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Brooks
City Clerk/Treasurer