



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2022 – 6:30 PM
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Meeting Recording Available at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCatIP9h21Eyp0LkbfVjNJQ>

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

David Eady – Mayor
George Holt – Councilmember
Lynn Bohanan – Councilmember
Laura McCanless – Councilmember
Mike Ready – Councilmember
Jim Windham – Councilmember
Jeff Wearing – Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT:

Marcia Brooks – City Clerk/Treasurer
Stacey Mullen – Deputy City Clerk
Bill Andrew – City Manager
Mark Anglin – Police Chief
Jody Reid – Utilities/Maintenance
Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT: Cheryl Ready, Art Vinson, Theresa Eady

Agenda (Attachment A)

1. Mayor's Announcements

Motion to amend agenda to include invasive species removal proposal – Laura McCanless

Second – Jeff Wearing

Approved unanimously (7/0)

2. Committee Reports

The Trees, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, Downtown Development Authority, and Sustainability Committee reported on recent activities.

a. Trees, Parks and Recreation Board

Proposal to hire company for invasive species plant removal – Mike Ready and Laura McCanless expressed support for the project. Request will be voted on in March regular session.

Cheryl Ready and Jeff Wearing announced plans to complete work on the George Street Park fence on March 19, 2022 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Marcia Brooks will post a request on social media for volunteers.

- b. Sustainability Committee – Laura McCanless advised the committee is working on the Streets and Trails Plan. An update on the GOSP Grant will be provided at the next meeting.
 - c. Planning Commission – Bill Andrew reported on decisions made and items discussed at the last meeting.
 - d. Downtown Development Authority – A Special Called Meeting was held on February 17, 2022 to review RFPs. Historical Concepts was selected to create a conceptual plan for the downtown area.
 - e. Committee on Race – This committee will be reconstituted soon. Mayor Eady will be meeting soon with Dean Hicks at Oxford College to discuss the Twin Memorials initiative.
3. **Discussion on City's Plans to Celebrate July 4th** (Attachment B)
City Council members agreed that a July 4th event will be held in 2022. James Windham and Mike Ready volunteered to serve on the event committee. Marcia Brooks will post a notice on social media requesting participants from the community to serve on the committee.
4. **Request to Contract with Officers Mobley and Johnson for Evidence Room Audit** (Attachment C)
There was consensus among City Council members to approve the request provided that adequate funds are available in the budget. Bill Andrew and Marcia Brooks will confirm. Request will be voted on in March regular session.
5. **Request for the City Council to Consider the Outfitting of an Oxford Bike Patrol** (Attachment C)
Chief Anglin would like to use SPLOST funds to implement this problem as a community policing initiative. He anticipates being able to save some money from updated quotes on the vehicle and radios previously planned for under the SPLOST funds. Several City Council members expressed interest in this request. Jim Windham requested that Chief Anglin compare the cost of electric bicycles to regular bicycles.
- Chief Anglin informed the City Council of red-light cameras at no cost to the City as a possible revenue stream and as a speeding deterrent.
6. **Presentation of Whatcoat Street Traffic Count** (Attachment D)
This data will be used by the Downtown Development Authority as they proceed with their concept plans.
7. **New Body Cameras Recommended for the Oxford Police Department** (Attachment E)
Chief Anglin is requesting to use SPLOST funds to purchase new cameras. He feels this purchase cannot wait for implementation of the new budget. The City recently signed a contract with Axon for cloud storage of body camera footage. The proposal is

for purchasing body cameras from Axon for an increase in cost over five years of \$15,939,60. Request will be voted on in March regular session.

8. **Contract with Condrey & Associates for a Compensation Study** (Attachment F)
Laura McCanless and Mike Ready were in favor of proceeding with the contract now since the Carl Vinson Institute has cancelled their contract. They feel it is important to have the information for budget development. George Holt and Jeff Wearing did not feel there is any rush to have the study completed since all classified employees have just received a 14.1% pay increase. Mr. Holt recommended putting this item in the FY 2023 budget proposal. This item will not be included on the Regular Session agenda for March.
9. **Consideration of National Green Building Standards for the Oxford Building Code** (Attachment G)
Mayor Eady requested that Bill Andrew check with Bureau Veritas to see if there are any procedural issues the City should consider before adoption.
10. **Adoption of the Newton County Hazard Mitigation Plan** (Attachment H)
There was consensus among City Council members to approve the request provided that adequate funds are available in the budget. Bill Andrew and Marcia Brooks will confirm. Request will be voted on in March regular session.
11. **Other Business**
None.
12. **Work Session Meeting Review**
13. **Executive Session**
None.
14. **Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Eady at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Brooks
City Clerk/Treasurer