

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING PUBLIC HEARING OXFORD CITY HALL MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022 – 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Councilmembers: James Windham, Jeff Wearing, Mike Ready

Staff members present: City Manager Bill Andrew, City Clerk/Treasurer Marcia Brooks

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Beatty (NEGRC), Carol Flaute (NEGRC) Art Vinson, Laurie Vinson, Lyn Pace, Sam Pace, Ami Hernandez, Nick Cole, Dave Huber, Juanita Carson, Laura Gafnea (Oxford College)

The public hearing was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mark Beatty with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (NEGRC). He explained that this is the first of several meetings they will be facilitating in Oxford regarding the updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan, which must be completed by February 28, 2023.

The purpose of the first meeting is to notify the public that the City will be working on updating its Comprehensive Plan. The City is required to update its plan by state law every five years. Essentially the Comprehensive Plan addresses how the City wants to grow, the things the City needs the most, and how those things can be addressed. Governments are awarded the status of Qualified Local Government by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) as long as they maintain their Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Beatty discussed the four questions all governments must ask, and the required elements of the City of Oxford's plan. He and Carol Flaute will be facilitating several meetings with the City that will be open to the public.

A steering committee has been created to review the plan drafts as it is developed. The local government must adopt the plan, so NEGRC will try to have a proposed completed plan to the City within ninety (90) days of the due date to allow time for review and adoption. Mr. Beatty provided a timeline and shared that a community survey will be opened soon to get input. The results will be compiled by the NEGRC and shared with the steering committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 8th at 10:00 a.m., and the topics for discussion are: Housing, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Local Government.

Mr. Beatty adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Brales

Marcia Brooks

City Clerk/Treasurer