

**Oxford Mayor and Council Special Called Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, February 17, 2025 – 6:30 P. M.**  
**City Hall**  
**110 W. Clark St – Oxford GA 30054**  
**A G E N D A**

1. **Call to Order: Mayor David Eady**
2. **Motion to accept the Agenda for the February 17, 2025 Mayor and Council Special Called Regular Meeting**
3. **Mayor’s Report:**
4. **Citizen Concerns:**
5. **\*Discussion of House Bill 581 Resolution:** Through the passage of HB 581 there is now a statewide floating homestead exemption for all local governments. A floating homestead is a special type of homestead exemption designed to offset or reduce increases in taxable value to the property. If Oxford chooses to opt out of the floating homestead, it must do so by a resolution filed with the Secretary of State by March 1, 2025. The opt-out process required three public hearings, which we concluded today at 6:00 PM.

Please see the attached Excel documents for numbers prepared by Martie Kinard, Newton County Chief Appraiser. Ms. Kinnard has a projection (2024) and a lookback (2021) showing what would have happened if it had passed in Tax Year 2021. The lookback gives a real-world set of numbers as they would be based on the actual increase in the property digest. Our understanding is the 3% on the CPI is the maximum allowed, and the Georgia Department of Revenue will provide the actual number each year. Ms. Kinnard used 6% as a general estimate on the increase but this number may be too conservative.

In terms of the Floating Local Option Sales Tax (FLOST), it is the staff’s understanding that the City of Social Circle is opting out, so the FLOST will not be an option for Newton County.

Oxford’s FY 2025 Operating Budget has Property Tax Revenue estimated at \$226,109. This is approximately 13.9% of general fund revenue.

6. **Other Business:**
7. **Executive Session:** An Executive Session could potentially be held for Land Acquisition/Disposition, Addressing Pending or Potential Litigation, and/or Personnel.
8. **Adjourn**

\*Attachments