

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING  
WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013 – 6:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: JERRY D. ROSEBERRY, MAYOR; TERRY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEM, COUNCIL MEMBERS: GEORGE HOLT; JIM WINDHAM**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Schwartz, City Manager; Lauran Willis, City Clerk; Dave Harvey, Police Chief; Neil Penn; Carol Penn; Hoyt Oliver; Erik Oliver; Mike Ready; Clark Miller**

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

1. **Honorary Councilmember** - Councilmember Lyn Pace has appointed Mr. Walter Snipes to serve as honorary councilmember for July. Mr. Snipes was unable to attend the May work session so he will attend the June work session along with the July council meeting.
2. **City Logo** – Bob Schwartz, City Manager presented several different examples of a proposed new city logo for consideration to be used on city vehicles, signs and buildings. After much discussion it was suggested by Councilmember Windham this be tabled for more research and brought back to another meeting for further discussion
3. **Historic District** – There was an email from Ken Kocher with Piedmont Preservation in Madison presented explaining what is involved to label a part of the city an historic district and what are the advantages of doing that. Former Councilmember Hoyt Oliver indicated that the city is already on the Historic Registry. This item will be researched further.
4. **Oxford History Project** – An email was received from Erik Oliver suggesting an Oxford History Project. This came with the announcement of his receiving an offer from Arcadia Publishing to prepare a book about Oxford. Oliver presented a four page project description with several tasks and costs listed. Oliver reviewed this list giving detail and costs of each project for consideration.
5. **Personnel Policy Amendments** – During the budget discussions, the finance committee discussed two amendments to our Personnel Policy. The first would require all police officers to have an annual physical exam with the cost paid for by their insurance carrier and the city will pay the deductible. The second would set up a scholarship program to pay for work related schooling.
6. **Tap Fees** – Newton County Water and Sewer will be approving an increase in tap fees effective July 1, 2013. Councilmember Terry Smith explained the two concepts of the increase. 1. A connection fee. 2. A tap fee which is the physical process of connecting to the service line. It was suggested the city adopt this same increase and change to mirror NCWS at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
7. **Cell Phone Tower** – Bob Schwartz, City Manager reported GMA is working on the negotiations with Verizon. David Strickland, City Attorney has researched and provided them with the property title. We will update council as the project progresses.

8. **Maintenance of city owned grounds** – Councilmember David Eady sent an email regarding concerns of a more cost-effective way to manager grounds maintenance within the city. Eady provided several alternative methods and suggestions for maintaining city owned grounds. Although Eady was not present to discuss Councilmember Windham elaborated on some of the suggestions. Windham suggested the council consider hiring an employee with experience in horticulture and the pruning of trees. This person would be responsible for overseeing all of the city owned property, planting and maintain pocket gardens around various areas of the city.
  
9. **MEAG Voting Delegate** – MEAG requires each city appoint an alternate delegate for its annual election. A resolution will be adopted at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting appointing Bob Schwartz, City Manager as the alternate voting delegate. This will replace former City Manager Clark Miller.

Respectfully submitted;

Lauran Willis  
City Clerk