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Incorporated December 23, 1839

Mayor Jerry D. Roseberry
City Manager Bob Schwartz
City Clerk Lauran Willis

June 27, 2017

Bob,

It is always a special occasion when we say goodbye to a co-worker – especially when the co-worker is also a valued friend. You certainly are that to all of us who have had the good fortune to know you and work beside you. And that goes beyond Oxford. Your career has left you with a network of former associates who admire your professional accomplishments and value your friendship.

Your work in city administration has taken you to many places – each with its own group of personalities and peculiarities. Oxford has been no exception. The decision to change Oxford's form of government to include a city manager was met with some apprehension. Change is not always easy and there is a natural tendency to resist – especially when change is perceived as a loss of power or authority. But you were undisturbed by this because you had been there before and was confident that time and effort would take care of most of those concerns.

As you have said several times, Oxford is different from many other cities where you have worked. Council members, employees and citizens are fully engaged in practicing what Atticus Haygood said so well - "what is really good, let us stand by, and make it better if we can." You have been a valuable member of that collaborative effort.

Oxford is a better place because you were here. And for that, on behalf of the city council, employees, volunteers and residents, I thank you.

Best wishes on your retirement and know you will always be welcome in Oxford.

Sincerely,



Jerry D. Roseberry
Mayor