**Wearing City archives**

Excerpts from City archives relating to pond and lake

**August 3, 1893 - Town Council meeting**.

On motion grant is to be given for a lease of 99 years for the sum of ($50) fifty dollars to Bishop A. G. Haygood of that part of Coke Street between Clark and George streets provided: That Bishop Haygood buy the property adjacent and build a residence thereon, and provided further, that if the town wishes to open up the street leased that it can do so by refunding the said sum of fifty dollars without any further cost or order. And that these conditions shall be embodied in all future deeds to whom said property shall be disposed to.

**June 26, 1895 - called Town Council meeting**

Bishop A. G. Haygood appeared before the Council and asked that the town lease him that part of Coke Street between George and Clark streets and George Street between Wesley and McKendree streets.

Prof. F. Fort moved that the Intendent and the Clerk be authorized to draw up papers granting lease for the term of 99 years, subject to abrogation in case the town need same for street purposes. And under these conditions that the request of Bishop Haygood should be granted. (Carried).

Note: Our minute book only includes minutes through March 23, 1896. We do not have copies of any minutes again until 1912.

**September 13, 1976 - City Council meeting.**

Jeff Wearing requesting to be allowed to put lake on his property. Dig a hole on right-of-way on west side of Wesley Street for catch basin and fill with rock. Dam to be on his property – – – – lake to be west of dam on his land. Mr. Roquemore to get all information to give to Planning Commission. Mr. Wearing also desires permission to clean and line culverts in his area while lake being constructed.

**September 30, 1976 – Planning Commission.**

The request is included in a letter from Mr. Wearing and is attached hereto, along with a map showing the location of the lake. The Commission approves the request on condition that the lake does not encroach on the right-of-way of George Street, and on condition that is pronounced legal by Oxford Town Council’s legal counsel.

Attention is called to the fact that the dam is located in the wrong place on the map. It has to be on the west end of the lake site.

**October 2, 1976-City Council meeting.**

Jeff Wearing’s proposed lake and culvert: Request had gone to Planning Commission. At their meeting Thursday, September 30, the Commission approved the request for the lake on condition that it would not encroach on right-of-way of George Street and on condition that is pronounced legal by town’s attorney. Mr. Roquemore to check further on culverts. Also agreed to terminate lease on Coke Street property in 1998 when lease runs out… swamp on George Street to be cleaned out. Council tabled request and wait for final maps and plans.

**March 7, 1977-City Council meeting.**

Jeff Wearing reported on progress of pond to be located on his property. Had run into problems—to place dam were old was located would mean dam would be partially on George Street right-of-way—this matter was turned over to Mr. Roquemore and the Planning Commission for recommendations.

**April 18, 1977-City Council meeting.**

Planning commission had rejected Jeff Wearing’s request for lake site to encroach on George Street—setting precedent— agreed to table and entire Council look over situation— Mr. Wearing stated he would lease land if allowed to— also would fence in lake as town requested. Time set for April 26 at 6:30 PM to go look at site.

**May 2, 1977 - City Council meeting.**

On Jeff Wearing’s proposed lake site — Mr. Lancaster to contact Mr. Ballard to get legal papers drawn up to allow Jeff Wearing to proceed with lake.

**July 2, 1979, City Council meeting.**

No fence around Jeff Wearing’s lake.

**October 1, 2001-public hearing.**

Godfrey asked if there was ever a lease agreement for the Wearing property to have a pond on George Street right-of-way? Eva Sitton responded action of the Mayor and Council around 1966 provided for an agreement, but from her understanding, expired in 1998.

**November 4, 2010-letter from Jeffrey and Janice Wearing to City of Oxford.**

We are requesting that the City of Oxford reissue a 99 year lease on the undeveloped Coke Street right-of-way between George and Clark streets, as well as a 99 year lease on the undeveloped George Street right-of-way from Wesley Street to the edge of our property which both either are adjacent to or are surrounded by our property.

In the 1980s, the City gave us permission to build our current pond, which extends into both the George and Coke Street corridors. Also, a corner of the kitchen of our home and a corner of our garage extend into the Coke Street right-of-way.

It is our understanding that the previous 99 year lease granted to Atticus Haygood and another 99 year lease granted to the college for the original Haygood Hall have both expired. We ask that a new lease please be considered for our property. Based on historical precedent and no subsequent changes by us.

**January 3, 2011 City Council meeting.**

A letter was received from the Wearing family requesting an extension of a lease for use of city-owned right-of-way. The Wearing’s were not present. Discussion was deferred to a later date.