



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 – 7:00 PM
CITY HALL**

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

David Eady – Mayor
George Holt – Councilmember
Laura McCanless – Councilmember
Mike Ready – Councilmember
Jeff Wearing – Councilmember
Erik Oliver – Councilmember

APPOINTED/STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Andrew – City Manager
Marcia Brooks – City Clerk/Treasurer
Mark Anglin – Police Chief
Jody Reid – Supervisor of Maintenance
David Strickland – City Attorney

ELECTED OFFICIALS NOT PRESENT:

Jim Windham – Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: Art Vinson, Mike McQuaide

1. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable David S. Eady, Mayor.
2. **Jeff Wearing made a motion to approve the agenda for the December 4, 2023 Mayor and Council Regular Meeting. Mike Ready seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).** (Attachment A)
3. **Jeff Wearing made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda for December 4, 2023. Mike Ready seconded the motion.**

Discussion:

Laura McCanless noted that the minutes for the November 17, 2023 work session erroneously show the meeting as being held on a Monday. This needs to be changed to Friday.

The motion was approved unanimously (6/0). (Attachment B)

4. Mayor's Report

The City Councilmembers were in agreement with trying to have the City's Christmas Dinner at one of the restaurants on the square in Covington on December 14th. Marcia Brooks will check on availability of venues and get back to everyone.

5. Citizen Concerns

Erik Oliver raised the issue of sign clutter in the City. Mayor Eady agreed to add this issue to the work session agenda.

6. Presentation of research on the benefits and effectiveness of pollinator gardens (Attachment C)

Michaelina Schach was unable to attend the meeting. She will be invited back for a future meeting. Marcia Brooks suggested that she be appointed Honorary Council Member when she attends. The City Council was amenable to doing so. Laura McCanless will coordinate with Ms. Schach.

7. WaterFirst Renewal (Attachment D)

Laura McCanless made a motion to approve renewing the WaterFirst designation with Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA). George Holt seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

8. Resolution for the Oxford Water and Sewer System Development Charges (SDC) (Attachment E)

Laura McCanless made a motion to approve the resolution. Mike Ready seconded the motion.

Discussion:

An extended discussion was held concerning the specifics of the proposed fees and what they include. Bill Andrew clarified that the proposed charges should be distinguished from tap fees. Tap fees must be paid in addition to these charges, which are considered system development charges.

The motion carried by a vote of 5/1 with George Holt casting a nay vote.

9. Authorization to Request Additional Sewer Capacity from the City of Covington at \$22/gallon

Discussion:

Erik Oliver expressed his support for buying more capacity than the minimum necessary to minimize the risk of spending more per gallon for capacity in the future. Mayor Eady stated that the study being conducted to determine capacity on the west side of Oxford is being leveraged to also make the same determination on the east side, which the City of Covington is servicing. He suggested waiting until that study is complete before buying any additional capacity.

Laura McCanless made a motion to request 18,000 gallons of additional capacity from the City of Covington. Jeff Wearing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

10. Authorization to Withdraw \$250,000 from Oxford's Municipal Competitive Trust Fund for the Purpose of Upgrading the Geiger Street Substation (Attachment F)

Laura McCanless made a motion to authorize the withdrawal for the purpose of upgrading the Geiger Street Substation. Mike Ready seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Erik Oliver raised the point that the authorization should not be for a specific purpose since the upgrade of the substation has not been finalized. It can specify that the money will be placed in the Electric Capital account.

Laura McCanless amended her motion to authorize the withdrawal and place the money in the City's Electric Capital account. Mike Ready seconded the amended motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

11. **Invoices** (Attachment G)

The City Council reviewed invoices paid for \$1,000 or more during November 2023.

12. **Executive Session**

None.

13. **Adjourn**

Jeff Wearing made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Mike Wearing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (6/0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Brooks



City Clerk/Treasurer