



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION
FY2026 OPERATING BUDGET
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025 – 8:00 AM**

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

David Eady – Mayor
George Holt – Councilmember
Laura McCanless – Councilmember
Jim Windham – Councilmember
Erik Oliver – Councilmember

APPOINTED/STAFF PRESENT:

Marcia Brooks – City Clerk/Treasurer
Bill Andrew – City Manager
Mark Anglin – Police Chief
Jody Reid – Utilities Supervisor

ELECTED OFFICIALS NOT PRESENT:

Mike Ready – Councilmember
Jeff Wearing – Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

Agenda (Attachment A)

1. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable David S. Eady, Mayor.
2. **First Review of the FY 2025 Operating Budget** (Attachment B)
Marcia Brooks briefly reviewed the first draft of the FY 2026 Operating Budget, a document summarizing the highlights in the document, and a detailed listing of personal services projected costs for FY 2026 at a high level. Questions and comments are listed under each department. Staff was asked to add an estimated COLA for January–June of 2026 of 3% in the personal services costs for all departments. George Holt suggested adding back a line item in the Electric budget for emergencies. Bill Andrew advised that he is trying to get a company on contract before the next hurricane season.
3. **Police Department**
Chief Mark Anglin provided details regarding the projected decrease in revenue for Fines and Forfeitures. He also explained that the increase in Uniforms for FY 2026 is for a one-time replacement of all uniforms to go from black to blue because of the difficulty finding black uniform items in stock.
4. **Administration Department**
 - Does Judge Hathorn work as a judge for any other jurisdictions? Is there an opportunity for cost-sharing of his training costs with other jurisdictions?

- Jim Windham requested an updated comparison of revenues vs. fees for Bureau Veritas.
- Mayor Eady advised to remove the recommendation of \$10,000 for the YH Welcome Center.
- Computer Upgrades were increased by \$1,000 (\$5,000 to 6,000) to fully cover the cost of purchase and installation of two computers in the City Clerk's office.
- Mayor Eady asked staff to check on prices for upgrading restroom facilities at the tennis courts on July 4th to a restroom trailer rather than porta-potties.

5. Streets, Cemetery, and Parks & Recreation Departments

- Mayor Eady stated he has asked the Trees, Parks & Recreation Board for a Strategic Landscape Plan for rights-of-way and parks throughout the City. Bill Andrew indicated that the City has a Task Order with AtkinsRealis for such a plan. Mayor Eady stated that the City can define the requirements and have Atkins work on a RFP.

Mayor Eady created a Strategic Landscape Committee to make the recommendations for the RFP. Members of the Committee: David Eady, Bill Andrew, Jim Windham, Laura McCanless, Mike McQuaide.

- Mayor Eady stated that stormwater revenue is needed. If creating a stormwater utility is not feasible for Oxford due to its size, property taxes will need to be increased to support this cost.

6. Water & Sewer Department

- Staff discussed the possible need for rate adjustments to cover the deficit in the Water & Sewer fund. Staff was asked to get a request in for a rate study.

7. Electric Department

- A review of the Oxford College rates was discussed and contemplated.
- David Eady advised that when the new smart meters are installed, he wants to have some rate adjustments made to our tariff to implement a time of day/use rate structure.
- Laura McCanless stated that when the Sustainability Committee was first constituted, one of their original recommendations was to place solar panels on the City Hall and Maintenance buildings. She recommended reconsideration of this suggestion.

8. Solid Waste Department

9. Discussion Recap

Mayor Eady asked all Councilmembers to review the documentation and provide any feedback to Marcia Brooks by April 4 for presentation in the next meeting. She will make all updates discussed and send out revised documents in the next day or so. He can meet on April 9th or April 11th 8 am – 10 am. He also asked staff to review their departments looking for any areas for potential savings.

10. Executive Session

None.

11. Adjourn

Mayor Eady adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Brooks
City Clerk/Treasurer