

**TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2020 – 7:00 PM.  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OXFORD  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS VIA ZOOM**

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Oxford met at the above-mentioned time and place. All members of the Board and local news media were notified of the same as well as the purpose of the meeting.

Present: Mayor Jackie Sergent, MPT Calvin (C.J.) Harris, Jr., Commissioners James (Danny) Currin, S Quon Bridges, Ron Bullock, Patricia Fields, Teresa Gilreath, and John Tovey. Also present were City Manager M. Alan Thornton, City Attorney J. Thomas Burnette, and City Clerk Cynthia Bowen.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sergent called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Reverend Jenny Wilson with Oxford United Methodist Church opened the meeting; the Pledge to the flag followed, led by Commissioner Teresa Gilreath.

COMMISSIONER CURRIN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**OPENING REMARKS BY MAYOR SERGENT**

Mayor Sergent read the opening remarks statement as stated on the agenda with no conflicts of interest noted.

**DELEGATIONS**

- Mayor Sergent presented the Yard of the Month electronically to Winston & Nancy Brooks of 600 Sunset Ave. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks could not be in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Virginia Clay – 125 Main Street** – Ms. Clay spoke regarding the implementation of the 2016 Downtown Master Plan as it pertains to downtown parking. Her interest lies in the downtown area as she is a building owner her tenant is in retail.

She wants the Board to consider the impacts related to the following items:

- Business Mix – Our business mix has changed since the masterplan was developed.
- More direct involvement with the building & business owners.
- Beautification
- Parking convenience
- Timing of changing the amount of parking spaces during this COVID-19 economy.

**Commissioner Bridges** asked if the City can have a representative from within the downtown businesses.

**Mrs. Yount, Downtown Economic Director**, stated that all the members of the DOEDC are business owners or building owners with a vested interest in the Downtown area.

**Chalis Henderson – 316 Main Street** – Speaking regarding police force policy – She wants to encourage our mayor and community leaders to join other leaders across the country and take the pledge to address police force in our city. She is hoping that our city can be proactive, learning from

these experiences. The pledge asks mayors to REVIEW the police use of force policies, ENGAGE communities by including a diverse range of input, experiences, and stories in the review, REPORT the findings to the community and seek feedback, and if necessary REFORM the community's police use of force policies. More information regarding the pledge can be found online at [www.obama.org/mayor-pledge](http://www.obama.org/mayor-pledge).

**Mayor** – Offered Chief Coley the chance to speak. Chief Coley stated that he is always open to review. He feels Oxford has a great Police Force and he is always looking to get better, they go above and beyond the required regular training standards is of 20 hours, Oxford officers take the complete 32 hours as well as de-escalation and CIT (critical incident training) every year.

**Commissioner Bridges** – Thanked Ms. Henderson for bringing this information for discussion. No one becomes a bad cop on the day of an incident, he asked that Chief Coley review his roster now, and be aware of complaints against officers, and if there have been complaints, address them now.

**Chief Coley** – Oxford PD has an early warning system and if there are issues they are addressed. Chief Coley takes full responsibility for his officers. He offered an invitation to Ms. Henderson come and speak with him anytime, meet some of the officers and talk with them.

**Arch Hicks – 101 Pine Cone Drive** - Parking spaces – Some of the points he was going to speak about were covered adequately by Ms. Clay. He stated that a Beauty salon not a quick stop like the bakery and days that court is in session represent a problem. He urged the Commissioners to be flexible and think outside the box.

**Commissioner Currin** – The DOEDC Board did not make this suggestion “off the wall.” NC DOT made this suggestion, and DOEDC will be happy to talk to DOT again.

**Commissioner Bridges** – take our local citizen's needs into account; the DOT may not understand the needs of Oxford's residents.

#### **4A - PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR CITIZEN INPUT ON THE FY 2020-2021 BUDGET**

Mayor Sergent opened the public hearing. No comments via Zoom or prior to the Zoom meeting. Mayor Sergent closed the public hearing.

#### **4A1 - ADOPTED THE FY 2020-2021 BUDGET ORDINANCE.**

Due to electronic meeting regulations, this meeting will be recessed for 24 hours, and this vote will not take place until Thursday, May 14, conclusion of this recessed meeting.

#### **4A - PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR CITIZEN INPUT ON THE ANNEXATION**

#### **4B1 - APPROVED A REQUEST FROM CHASE MASSEY PE. FOR A THREE-HUNDRED AND TWO (302) LOT SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS THE MEADOWS LOCATED OFF OF HWY 96 (ADJACENT TO THE ROLLINGWOOD SUBDIVISION).**

COMMISSIONER BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

#### **5B - ADOPTED A RESOLUTION FOR TENTATIVE AWARD OF BID FOR THE 2017 B DWI SEWER MAIN PROJECT.**

COMMISSIONER GILREATH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

#### **5C - AUTHORIZED THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE TASK ORDER AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,500 WITH MCGILL ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT ASSOCIATED WITH THE WATER TANK PROJECT.**

COMMISSIONER GILREATH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**5D - APPROVED THE ONE-TIME SALE OF ALCOHOL AND PUBLIC CONSUMPTION ON HIX FIELD, A CITY-OWNED PROPERTY, FOR DOWNTOWN OXFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND GRANVILLE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SUPPORT OF SUMMER COMMUNITY EVENTS.**

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CURRIN TO APPROVE THE **ONE-TIME** SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL ON THE HIX FIELD. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**5E - RENEWED THE AUDITING CONTRACT WITH WINSTON, WILLIAMS, CREECH, EVANS, AND CO.**

Commissioner Bridges asked Finance Director about the extra work load for the Finance Department since the auditing firm would be doing less. Mr. Ung replied that his staff was aware and prepared, but he would need to hire additional staff.

COMMISSIONER GILREATH MADE A MOTION TO RENEW THE AUDITING CONTRACT WITH WINSTON, WILLIAMS, CREECH, EVANS, AND CO. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**5F - CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SECURE AND REMOVE DEBRIS FROM 409 GRANVILLE STREET.**

Commissioner Currin – Will City employees clean this property? Cheryl Hart, Planning Director – Yes and we have another department that will board up the property and someone else will clean it up, but it will be done in the most economic way possible.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER FIELDS TO AUTHORIZE THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO SECURE AND REMOVE THE DEBRIS. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED**

Approved the May 2020 Financial report.

Approved the following meeting minutes:

May 4, Agenda Session            \* May 12, Regular Session            \* May 14, Reconvened Meeting

COMMISSIONER FIELDS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER FIELDS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS THE MEETING UNTIL THURSDAY, JUNE 11 AT 8:00 AM. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

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Cynthia Bowen, City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Jacqueline vdH Sergent, Mayor