

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 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; 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.

Absent: Commissioner James (Danny) Currin,

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sergent called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM. Prayer by Reverend Glenn Stallsmith, Salem United Methodist Church. Commissioner John Tovey led the Pledge to the Flag.

CONSIDER ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The City Manager requested that we remove the request to hold a public hearing and change the recession to adjournment. Commissioner Gilreath asked to add a discussion

COMMISSIONER BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE CALL FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING, AND THE ADDITION OF THE CARES ACT DISCUSSION. 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 announced the Yard of the Month was Ann Cooke, 305 Broad Street. She was not able to attend the zoom meeting.
- Fire Chief David Cottrell gave a presentation on how the City received an ISO rating of 4 five years ago and what has been improved since then.

Commissioner Bridges asked about the status of recruiting volunteer firefighters? Chief Cottrell stated that it is harder to get volunteers due to the State's requirements for training and the necessary hours needed and other factors, such as volunteers not being able to leave their jobs to go to a fire.

Commissioner Tovey, How many people would you need if you had a second department? Chief Cottrell stated that the Fire Department would need at least one more fireman per shift. On a personal note, he wanted to thank the Fire Department for his mother-in-law's drive parade for her 100th birthday.

Commissioner Fields commended the Chief on the Fire Departments' hard work to achieve the improvements needed to take care of everything that needs to be taken care of to lower the ISO rating.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Virginia Clay was signed up to speak, but left the meeting before the time for Public Comment and did not come back to the Zoom meeting.

DISCUSSION – CARES ACT FUNDS

Commissioner Gilreath - Have we received the money? City Manager – Yes, we have.

Commissioner Gilreath – What are the plans for spending? City Manager – The plans that we submitted included salary for public safety employees. We are required to submit a plan every month until December, and the plan can be amended.

Mayor – Concerns re being able to use this money to help the community? – How many does the City have without water? The City Manager stated that we have ten people without water.

Commissioner Fields – to Finance Director Ung – is there anyone on the list that is new to having their water cut off – No – they are repeat offenders.

After much discussion, the Board discussed scheduling a Finance Committee meeting to discuss the CARES money and the spending of it.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

Approved the August Financial Report.

Approved the following meeting minutes:

August 3, Agenda Session * August 11, Regular Session

COMMISSIONER GILREATH MADE A MOTION APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. NO DISCUSSION. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Wi-Fi - There was a discussion regarding putting free Wi-Fi for the public to use.

The Mayor asked about going back to the boardroom – the consensus was to continue Zoom meetings.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER FIELDS MADE A MOTION ADJOURN THE MEETING. ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Cynthia Bowen, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jacqueline vdH Sergent, Mayor