

December 2, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Oxford met for a regular meeting on Monday December 2, 2024. Rusty Hoaks, Tina Coffman, and Terry Zink were present. Town employees and department heads present included Clerk-Treasurer Tina Porter, Utility Clerk Hope Dunning, and Marshall Aaron May.

Regular session called to order at 7:10 pm – Quorum present

Hoaks announced the business guests from Baker and Tilly and Commonwealth were not going to be able to attend this meeting as planned and that a special meeting for Wednesday evening December 4, 2024 at 7:00 pm would be taking place to cover those topics.

Claims: Claims were submitted to the board for approval. Coffman motioned to approve. Zink seconded. None opposed.

Minutes: November 18, 2024, regular meeting minutes were submitted for approval. Coffman motioned to approve. Zink seconded. None opposed.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: Porter presented quotes for amazon fire tablets to be purchased for each council member, stating they could be used to put official council emails on. Discussion was had about the tablet's features. Coffman made a motion to approve the purchase of 5 tablets. Zink seconded. None opposed.

Utility Clerk's Report: Dunning submitted list of disconnects and payment arrangement requests. Coffman made a motion to accept the payment arrangements. Zink seconded. None opposed. Coffman then made the motion to disconnect those remaining without requests. Zink seconded. None opposed.

Dunning updated the council on a court date set for December 3, 2024, to request the court to allow the removal of a meter from inside a resident's home as well as requesting payment from the resident for utility billing as well as legal fees.

Assistant Superintendent Report: Updates were discussed for the utility department. The council asked if quotes had been received from Lord for the purchase of a new utility truck. Porter stated they had not. Porter did report that Lord stated to her that wastewater testing had been scheduled for December 13, 2024.

Marshal Report: May informed the council of annual recertifying of radars coming up.

May updated the council about findings to a property that had been discussed at a previous meeting of possible violations. May stated one vehicle on the property was questionable but no other violations in his purview were notated. May stated that since the council did have questions regarding the business zoning of this property that he suggested the resident attend the meeting. Resident, Chris Nagele, was in attendance and on the agenda to speak.

Old Business: Nagele addressed the council, expressing concerns that discussions held during council meetings about his business have negatively impacted his operations. The council clarified that the questions that were raised were related to proper zoning compliance. Nagele explained that his business is primarily mobile, with only 2% of his business conducted within Oxford and is requesting that the council cease actions he perceives as harassment. May confirmed that the vehicles present on the property during his visit were all owned by Nagele. It was further stated by Nagele that, since he filed the necessary paperwork with the county and state, he believes this constitutes permission to conduct his business from his residence. The council stated that if what Nagele presented is accurate then no further action from the council needed to take place.

Porter presented the 2025 Salary ordinance based on discussions that took place at a special meeting on November 21, 2024. Discussion took place for new positions added, promotions, clerk education stipends, and new elected officials pay, as well as holidays added in. Coffman made a motion to approve the 2025 Salary Ordinance. Hoaks seconded. Zink opposed.

Porter presented the Donation Agreement that was written up by the town attorney for Hoaks to sign. Coffman made a motion to accept the agreement. Zink seconded. None opposed.

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New Business: An agreement letter with Baker & Tilly to conduct the rate study needed for the water project was presented for signing. Zink made the motion to accept the agreement. Coffman seconded. None opposed.

Hoaks stated councilman Jim Deckard would be resigning and since the new year is within the 30 day window of replacement, the council will not be appointing anyone to fill the vacancy and instead wait for the newly elected council to take over in January. A formal written resignation was not presented from Deckard during this meeting.

Comments/Questions from Residents/Businesses: Resident asked about status of mural. Hoaks stated that the project would start back up in the spring when warmer weather returns.

Resident asked about the lead service line letters that had been mailed. Council explained the process by which the letters were mailed and the process that could be handled later to determine which lines need replacing to include notification to residents when that happens.

Resident asked about Jake Breaking in town. May stated that INDOT had removed signs put up by the town but that they could be requested by them to place new ones.

Resident asked about the amount from the claims being stated during the meetings. Council explained that the claims information is available upon request, but the total or individual bills/amounts is not typically stated in the meeting.

Coffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Zink seconded. None opposed. Board Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

The next regular Town Council meeting is Monday December 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oxford Town Hall. The public is welcome and invited to attend.

Submitted by Tina Porter  
TINA PORTER, CLERK-TREASURER

Approved by Russell Hoaks  
RUSSELL HOAKS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Date Approved 12-16-2024