

November 18, 2024

The Town Council of the Town of Oxford met for a regular meeting on Monday November 18, 2024. Rusty Hoaks, Tina Coffman, Terry Zink and Larry Barnard were present. Town employees and department heads present included Clerk-Treasurer Tina Porter, Utility Clerk Hope Dunning, Marshall Aaron May and Assistant Superintendent Kurt Lord. Town Attorney Cliff Robinson was also present.

Regular session called to order at 7:00 pm – Quorum present

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

Minutes: November 4th regular meeting minutes were submitted for approval. Zink motioned to approve. Barnard seconded. None opposed.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: 2025 Salary Ordinance was presented. The council requested a special meeting to take place to further discuss the ordinance. That meeting will take place on November 21st at 7pm.

A Resolution to balance and establish the payroll fund was presented. Porter explained the prior issues which caused the fund to be out of balance as well as the need for a cushion in the fund. Coffman made a motion to approve the resolution. Barnard seconded. None opposed.

Utility Clerk's Report: Dunning presented a letter that came into the office thanking the Town for having a streetlight placed near a resident's home who had voiced concern prior about the area being extremely dark. Dunning also updated the council on ongoing issues with Republic Services, the contracted sanitation service the town uses, as well as resident concerns about the growing stray cat population.

Assistant Superintendent Report: Lord let the council know that brush pickup ended the week prior, and that December 6th would be the last day for leaf pickup. Coffman requested assurance the red truck was not being used; Lord confirmed it was not.

Marshal Report: May updated the council regarding their request to contact REMC about the cost of power and light posts out on E Smith and in the new subdivision. A voicemail has been left and an email sent but no response as of the meeting date. May has been running traffic and making more stops in the area that a resident express concern about in a previous meeting. Last, May updated the council regarding a resident who had previously disputed an ordinance violation given to them for having too many dogs. May stated the residents gave paperwork showing that all four of their dogs are registered as USA Service Animals. Town attorney will work with May to proceed further.

Barnard addressed May about a residential property with a large, rusted vehicle that did not appear licensed as well as other possible questionable vehicles on the premises. Discussion ensued as to what was or was not allowed and to the actual zoning of the property. May will reach out to Matt Hull for clarification of property zoning.

Fire Dept. Report: Quote for new desktop computers for the Fire Department and Utility Clerk were presented. Coffman made a motion to approve the purchase of both computers. Barnard seconded. None opposed.

Business Guest: Robert Bellucci, Senior Project Manager with Common Wealth Engineers updated council on lead service line letters sent out in error to some residents and what was done to notify those residents of correct information. Discussion, questions and some clarifications were had on the proposed water project, to include phase breakdown. The council requested line-item costs for the project from Common Wealth as current paperwork and numbers are not reflecting changes made since splitting the project into phases. Further discussion on the smaller Benton Street project also took place to clarify details and funding source.

Bellucci requested council president signature for an update requirement to the Asset Management Plan paperwork required for the SRF funding. Coffman made a motion to approve the signature needed. Zink seconded. None opposed

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Comments/Questions from Residents/Businesses: Resident expressed concern about the councils' earlier discussion singling out one resident owning a business within a residential area, citing that there are other businesses in residential areas, particularly a snake business, that has been allowed to operate despite past incidents. The council acknowledged that concern and stated they have attempted to stop that business in the past without success.

Resident expressed concern about the appearance of a particular property. May explained what constitutes a violation and what does not.

Resident expressed concern about sign and road work not being done and questioned what the town employees are doing at work. Discussion followed involving council members, town employees, and other residents. The conversation became informal, and the meeting temporarily lacked order.

Resident expressed concern about a particular property that has a vehicle parked that obstructs the view of an intersection. May will check the location.

Coffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Zink seconded. None opposed. Board Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

The next regular Town Council meeting is Monday December 2, 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 12-2-2024