

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF LAFAYETTE

CITY OF OXFORD

REGULAR MEETING

August 3, 2004

6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Oxford, Mississippi, was called to order by Mayor Richard Howorth at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 3, 2004, in the courtroom of City Hall when and where the following were present:

Richard Howorth - Mayor
E.O. Oliver - Alderman Ward II
Janice Antonow - Alderman Ward III
Ulysses Howell - Alderman Ward IV
Preston Taylor - Alderman Ward V
Dr. William "Bill" Baker - Alderman At-large

Mayo Mallette PLLC - Of Counsel
Lisa Carwyle - City Clerk
Steve Bramlett - Chief of Police
Jerry Johnson - Fire Chief
Randy Russell - Supt. of Solid Waste Dept.
Bart Robinson- Asst. Public Works Director
Colbert Jones - Planning & Zoning
Al Hope- Personnel Director
Kleb Johnson- Dir of Park Commission
Hugh Stump - Dir of Oxford Conference Center
Lynn Robbins- Supt of Electric Dept
Billy Lamb- Supt of Building and Grounds

AGENDA:

It was moved by Alderman Antonow, seconded by Alderman Oliver, to adopt the agenda for the meeting. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

MAYORS REPORT:

Alderman Patterson is out this evening, and Alderman DeVoe is also out due to a family matter – and our thoughts are with him at this time. Due to a few agenda items pertaining to financial and legal issues, areas where our absent aldermen often contribute their views, I have encouraged our City Attorney and City Clerk to participate in any discussion as they wish. It is not necessary, however, to precede your remarks by a comment such as "Now I'm just an ignorant hayseed..."

We have just about finished our preliminary budget sessions with department heads, and Lisa, David and I wish to have a first 2005 board budget session Friday morning at

8:00 a.m., if that is suitable to the aldermen.

At our last regular meeting we determined to hold a special session to discuss further the sewer capacity issue. This was done this past Friday. Lisa, David, Bart and I will meet with Demery Grubbs this Thursday to develop further cost structure scenarios, and, as you also know, we are meeting with state and federal representatives to discuss same Thursday afternoon. While the board has a much better grasp of the issues now than it did two weeks ago, we as yet are unable to devise or approve a specific plan of which we are confident will work. For this reason, there was consensus among the board that for the present time we will not hear any request for sewer service outside the city limits. Because we intend to develop a plan imminently, and because there are presently no requests before either the board or the planning commission, we do not anticipate a disruption of service, and I feel sure that by our next regular meeting there will be more specific news regarding sewer expansion.

I've attended a few meetings lately with the Tourism Council, from whom we'll hear later this evening in the person of John Welty, but I want to commend them here for the hard work they have done, and I am excited about the way they are moving forward.

I have heard from several people, and received letters, thanking the City for the work on Jackson Avenue and the sewer work on S. Lamar. It's nice to have complaints balanced out by praise, and we thank those who recognize what it takes to make improvements and go out of their way to express it.

The Faulkner Conference apparently was successful again this year, and we appreciate the organizers and the University in general for all it contributes to the community – something we can take for granted and need to express from time to time ourselves.

This concludes my report.

MINUTES:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Antonow to approve the minutes of the July 20, 21, and 23, 2004 meeting. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

ACCOUNTS:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Taylor, to authorize approval of all City accounts. All the aldermen voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

OXFORD DESIGN
GUIDELINES:

This was the public hearing on the Oxford Design Guidelines for the Historic Preservation Commission. There was no comment made from the public regarding the guidelines.

OXFORD SCHOOL
DISTRICT BUDGET:

Dr. Jerry Webb, superintendent from the Oxford School District, came before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to present the 2004-2005 school budget.

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to acknowledge the receipt of the school district's budget. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

OXFORD-LAFAYETTE
COUNTY VOCATIONAL-
TECHNICAL CENTER:

It was moved by Alderman Antonow, seconded by Alderman Baker to adopt the following resolution. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF OXFORD
TOURISM COUNCIL AND
OXFORD CONFERENCE
CENTER:

It was moved by Alderman Oliver, seconded by Alderman Howell to appoint Hugh Stump as the Interim Executive Director of the Oxford Tourism Council and the Oxford Conference Center at a salary of G17-1 and to transfer the

Oxford Conference Center to the Oxford Tourism Council Board. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

**OXFORD PARK
COMMISSION BOARD:**

Mayor Howorth announced that Debra Helms term will expire at the end of August on the Oxford Park Commission Board. An appointment will be made at the next Board of Alderman meeting.

**TOURISM COUNCIL
BOARD:**

Mayor Howorth announced Nancy Joy, John Welty, and Ann Turnbow's term will expire at the end of August on the Tourism Council Board. Appointment's will be made at the next Board of Alderman meeting.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMISSION:**

This item was continued until the next board meeting.

RESOLUTION:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Howell to adopt the following resolution to apply for the CDBG Grant up to \$250,000.00, apply for a CAP Loan, not to exceed \$600,000.00 and to advertise for a public hearing.

All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

**SPEED LIMIT
ORDINANCE:**

The public hearing was held on the change in the speed limit ordinance. Alderman Antonow pointed out that another City Ordinances designates the City Engineer as the Traffic Engineer and the traffic engineer should work with the Chief of Police and the City Planner. She recommended that the ordinance read the traffic engineer

instead of engineering department and that it refer to Oxford City Ordinance 28-9-1. The vote on the ordinance will be at the next board meeting.

DOOLEYVILLE WATER IMPROVEMENTS:

It was moved by Alderman Antonow, seconded by Alderman Baker to authorize the advertisement of Dooleyville Water Improvements. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPPLIES:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Oliver to authorize the advertisement of Public Works Supplies for FY 2004-2005. All the alderman present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

WASTEWATER SHORT-COURSE:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Baker to authorize two operators to attend the Wastewater short course on August 30 - September 3, 2004 in Biloxi, MS at a cost of \$1,385.00. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

PARKVIEW SUBDIVISION:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to accept the maintenance for water, sewer and streets for Parkview Subdivision. All the alderman present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

HIGH SPEED NETWORKING CONFERENCE:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Taylor to authorize Bob Opalko to attend the high speed networking conference in Austin, TX on September 25-October 1, 2004 at a cost of \$1,589.00. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

LESS LETHAL MUNITIONS CLASS:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to authorize Joey East to attend the Less Lethal Munition's Class in Meridian, MS on August 16-19, 2004 at a cost of \$768.00. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

WRITING WINNING PROPOSALS:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Howell to authorize Beth Raspberry to attend the "Writing Winning Proposals" class on September 28-29, 2004 in Senatobia, MS at a cost of \$135.00. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

INTERN WITH OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to authorize Lester Allen Barrios as an intern with the Oxford Police Department. All the alderman present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

SALES TAX AUDIT:

It was moved by Alderman Antonow, seconded by Alderman Baker to authorize the settlement of the state

sales tax audit of the Oxford Electric Department in the amount of \$17,620.00. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Antonow to give Jimmy Allgood permission to apply for the Homeland Security Grant and to name Jimmy Allgood as the grant administrator. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

DISPATCHER:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Baker to authorize the employment of Justin Joe Marshall as dispatcher for the Oxford Police Department at a salary of \$20,874.66, G8-1. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS WORKER:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Taylor to authorize the employment of Melvin Farrow as building and grounds worker for the Oxford Conference Center at a salary of \$17,651.85, G5-5. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

It was moved by Alderman Antonow seconded by Alderman Oliver to consider executive session to discuss possible litigation and the purchase of property. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

It was moved by Alderman Oliver, seconded by Alderman Baker to go into executive session. All the aldermen voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Oliver to go into regular session. All the aldermen voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

BELL UTILITIES BOND:

It was moved by Alderman Oliver, seconded by Alderman Baker to accept the bond from Bell Utilities, pending Counsel's review, and to dismiss the petition. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

APPRAISAL OF PROPERTY:

It was moved by Alderman Howell, seconded by Alderman Antonow to authorize the appraisal of property out of the 2% Tourism Tax Fund. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY:

It was moved by Alderman Oliver, seconded by Alderman Baker to authorize negotiations for the purchase of property for the expansion of the water treatment plant. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

INDUSTRIAL PROJECT:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to authorize the Mayor, pending review of counsel, to execute a resolution and other agreements as necessary to satisfy CDBG requirements in conjunction with the location of an industrial project. All the aldermen

present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN:

It was moved by Alderman Baker, seconded by Alderman Antonow to adjourn the meeting sine-die. All the aldermen present voting aye, Mayor Howorth declared the motion carried.

Lisa Carwyle, City Clerk

Richard Howorth, Mayor