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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OXFORD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OXFORD CITY HALL – COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

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 were Mayor Al Woodlief, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Howard Herring, Sr., Commissioners Walter Cantley, Robert B. Williford, Sr., Danny Currin, Jackie Sargent, Ron Bullock, and Calvin Harris, Jr. Present also were City Manager Mark Donham, City Clerk Donna B. Hosch, and City Attorney J. Thomas Burnette.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodlief called the meeting to order. Prayer was given by Rev. Phillip Betts, City Chaplain. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

COMMISSIONER WILLIFORD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

- A) Meeting Minutes of the September 7, 2010 Agenda Meeting and the September 14, 2010 Regular Meeting approved
- B) September financial report by Finance Director Steve McNally accepted

<u>September 2010 Financial Report</u> <i>25% of FY Complete</i>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Water Fund</u>
REVENUES		
Actual	\$578,076	\$363,509
YTD (%of Budget)	\$2,687,704 (32.55%)	\$1,073,452 (23.66%)
Budget	\$8,256,278	\$4,536,383
YTD Percent of Budget <i>(minus loan proceeds and fund balance allocation)</i>	34.29%	27.66%
EXPENSES		
Actual	\$676,805	\$363,509
YTD (% of Budget)	\$1,968,301 (23.84%)	\$1,130,991 (24.93%)
Budget	\$8,239,208	\$4,536,383
YTD Percent of Budget <i>(minus loan proceeds and fund balance allocation)</i>	23.84%	24.93%
DIFFERENCE (Revenues – Expenses)		
September 2010	(\$98,729)	(\$104,462)
YTD	\$719,402	(\$57,539)

- C) Annexation Reports for College Street and the Outer Loop and for W. Industry Drive and Pine Tree Road accepted
- D) Tax Releases approved: Barry Oakes Surveying, \$86.89; Norwood Plumbing, Inc., \$63.12

- E) Closing of Littlejohn Street on Saturday, October 30, 2010 for the Oxford Baptist Church's Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. approved

MAYOR'S YARD OF THE MONTH

Commissioner Calvin Harris presented this month's award to Louis Harris for the overall attractiveness of his yard at 122 Rectory Street. Commissioner Harris stated that the YOM sign will be placed in the yard and a picture will be published in the Oxford Public Ledger.

RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES

Finance Director Steve McNally recognized Phyllis Blackwell for her assistance with implementing a new privilege license system and Pam Pendergrass and Gloria Littlejohn for assisting in the absence of Debbie Currin. City Manager Mark Donham recognized Dud Frazier, the Police Department, and the Public Works Department for their assistance with preparations for the Annual Hot Sauce Contest. He also recognized Stevie Inscoe and Joel Coats for customer satisfaction. All received certificates.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING REQUEST BY JOHN AND LEE CURRIN FOR LAND LOCATED ON NOBLIN ROAD

Mayor Woodlief declared the public hearing open. No one from the audience wished to speak; there were no questions from the Board. Mayor Woodlief declared the public hearing closed.

REZONING REQUEST BY JOHN AND LEE CURRIN FOR LAND LOCATED ON NOBLIN ROAD APPROVED

COMMISSIONER CURRIN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE UNDER SECTION 50(f) FOR EXCEPTIONS APPROVED

Commissioner Currin stated that he spoke with PD Hart about changing the request from up to three lots to just one lot. PD Hart stated this can be sent to Committee.

MAYOR WOODLIEF STATED THIS ITEM WOULD BE SENT TO COMMITTEE AND THAT THE PUBLIC HEARING
WOULD BE CALLED FOR THE NOVEMBER 9, 2010 REGULAR MEETING.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

DEMOLITION ORDINANCE FOR 606 RALEIGH STREET (FORMER BURWELL STORE) NOT APPROVED

Mayor Woodlief stated this item had been removed from the agenda, but he was asked to place it back on the agenda. Commissioner Williford asked why the owners aren't removing this property. PD Hart stated that the owners were in the military, and there was some discrepancy about ownership of this property – the reason she asked for the item to be removed. When the owners purchased the property next door, they were unaware that this property went with it.

Commissioner Williford stated he agreed with the item being removed, because he did not think \$4,000 of City money should be spent taking down a building belonging to the owners. The Mayor stated this item would come back at a later date when PD Hart has more information.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FULL PACKAGE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION GRANT FOR RALEIGH STREET ADOPTED

Mayor Woodlief stated that PD Hart, City Engineer Larry Thomas, and other City staff worked very hard on this Grant. It covers from the beginning of Raleigh Street to Franklin Street. Houses will be worked on, the street will be redone, new sidewalks and water and sewer pipes will be done.

COMMISSIONER BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Cantley asked if anyone on the Board had an interest in or own any property located on Raleigh Street, to which the answer was in the negative.

Commissioner Sergent suggested that on Item 2, the Fair Housing Complaint Procedures, that anyone with a complaint also copy the Granville County Human Relations Commission when submitting the complaint to the NC Human Relations Commission. Commissioner Williford stated he has a cousin who owns property on this street which is being foreclosed. PD Hart stated this is not a conflict.

ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

RESOLUTION – POLICIES, PROCEDURES, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

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WHEREAS, the City of Oxford has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant Community Revitalization Award for \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oxford desires to adopt Community Development Program Policies, Procedures, Plans, Resolutions and Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Office has created Community Development Program Policies, Procedures, Plans, Resolutions and Ordinances;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Oxford hereby adopts Community Development Program Policies, Procedures, Plans, Resolutions and Ordinances as herein contained.

Adopted this the twelfth day of October 2010.

PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANVILLE COUNTY E-WASTE PROGRAM APPROVED

Mayor Woodlief stated that effective January 1, 2011, all computer hardware and TVs will be banned from landfill disposal. Jason Falls, Director of Environmental Programs for Granville County, is in the process of updating the County's Solid Waste Management Plan to include e-waste recycling. Oxford is included in this Plan.

MAYOR PRO TEM HERRING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PARTICIPATION.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

INVITING GRANVILLE COUNTY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR TO PRESENT QUARTERLY UPDATES APPROVED

Commissioner Bullock stated that even though the City has changed its financial relationship with the County, it is still important to maintain contact to know what's going on. While the City may not in a sense be affected by the County's economic development, it is important to know about customers who may wish water and sewer service. The Business, Industry Development, and EDC Committee met and decided the City needs to continue with the County's EDC quarterly reports.

COMMISSIONER BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE THE QUARTERLY UPDATES.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSSION ON THE ANNEXATION OF THORNDALE COUNTRY CLUB

MPT Herring stated that the City has statutes/ordinances that relate to services provided within the City to citizens inside and outside of the City limits. They are clear and established and affect water and sewer usage, garbage pickup, and fire and police protection. MPT Herring stated that he's been on the Board about 15 years and has never heard a discussion on the use of City resources by individuals outside the City limits, specifically as it relates to Thorndale Country Club. The Club pays an inside City rate for water; they are, in fact, outside the City limits. Unless there were objections, MPT Herring wished for the Board to direct the Manager to fix this the next morning so that Thorndale would start paying outside water rates as all other citizens outside the City limit.

Commissioner Cantley stated he objected to this and that the issue should go to Committee for more research. MPT Herring stated it is real simple – they are outside the City and pay inside City rates.

MPT HERRING MADE A MOTION TO CHARGE THORNDALE COUNTRY CLUB OUTSIDE CITY WATER RATES SINCE THE CLUB IS NOT WITHIN CITY LIMITS.

COMMISSIONER CANTLEY MADE A SECONDARY MOTION NOT TO PROCEED WITH MTP HERRING'S MOTION AND TO SEND THE ISSUE TO COMMITTEE.

Commissioner Williford stated the Club started in 1930 and the City has never taxed the Club and it may go belly up. Some people stepped forward to save the Club, they increased the membership to do so, and here the City may sock it to them. Why, after all these years, has this come up now?

MPT Herring stated he wanted to know why, after all these years, the City has not charged the Club outside rates. Commissioner Williford stated the Club provides a service. MPT Herring asked Commissioner Williford if he was stating that it's okay to be outside the City limits and pay inside City water rates. Commissioner Williford stated, no – he felt as did Commissioner Cantley that this should be studied. MPT Herring stated the issue is not who owns the Club or when it was built. The issue before the Board is are they to pay inside or outside water rates since they are outside the limits. Commissioner Williford asked why they have not paid the rates before. MPT Herring stated it is because no Board has ever caught the issue. He did not know who started the County Club, but he ventured to say that many moons ago there were members on this Board who had a vested interest in the Club and didn't act on this issue.

Commissioner Sergent stated MPT Herring makes an excellent point. However, Commissioner Williford's point is also extremely valid. In the interest of taking the high road, Commissioner Sergent stated she felt it behooves the Board to have discussion with Club leadership and to put everything on the table. There are a variety of issues relating to inside and outside rates, voluntary annexation, public safety concerns, etc. She proposed following Commissioner Cantley's suggestion of taking the issue to Committee. Not because she doesn't feel MPT Herring isn't right because he is right; but because she feels that the Board should show it is making a decision with all parties involved. It has been this long, and we can wait a little longer and have some discussion.

Mayor Woodlief stated there was a substitute motion on the floor from Commissioner Cantley to be acted upon. MPT Herring stated he has not said one word about annexing the Country Club. Commissioner Cantley pointed out there were possibly audience members who wished to speak on this issue. MPT Herring asked that any audience members wait because he has not spoken about annexation. In addition, he was not finished with what he wished to present.

Commissioner Williford asked what would be the difference in money [inside vs. outside rates], to which the Mayor replied it would be three times what they are now paying. Commissioner Williford stated he has not seen figures and this is what needs to be discussed. He does not know how much water is used at the Country Club. MPT Herring stated, again, the issue is that the Club sits outside the City limits of Oxford.

Commissioner Cantley stated the Club offers a service that is not available anywhere else in the City. Mayor Woodlief restated that Commissioner Cantley had a substitute motion on the floor and asked for guidance from City Attorney Burnette. CA Burnette stated he was not sure if Commissioner Cantley's motion was in response to MPT Herring's motion that the Country Club be

charged the outside rate. This issue is not on the agenda; annexation is on the agenda. In order to discuss rates, the Board would need to vote to add it to the agenda so that it could be discussed. Otherwise, the issue is not properly addressed. MPT Herring then asked if it was feasible to pass to the Annexation Committee the feasibility of annexing the Country Club with a report to the Board at the January meeting. Commissioner Sergent stated this may not be feasible after her statements on the subject. The Mayor then excused Commissioner Currin from voting on this particular issue (NOTE: Commissioner Currin is a member of Thorndale Country Club, he owns stock in TCC, and is a shareholder with "Save Thorndale").

MPT HERRING MADE A MOTION TO SEND THE ANNEXATION OF THORNDALE COUNTRY CLUB TO THE ANNEXATION COMMITTEE WITH A REPORT TO THE BOARD DUE AT THE JANUARY MEETING.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THE MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Sam Royster of 305 Saddletree Road addressed the Board. He stated he may be a bit premature since annexation has been referred to committee. He wished that he be advised of when this committee meets. Mr. Royster stated he was not present as an attorney for Thorndale but rather as a citizen of Oxford and member of the Club.

Mr. William Lytton of 108 West Front Street addressed the Board. Mr. Lytton stated a lot of Board members know him, and he came back to Oxford at the request of several people to save Thorndale. He stated 30 some acres of the Club are in the City limits of Oxford and they pay City taxes. Regardless of whether they do or do not pay, he was not here when the assessment was done. They pay a tremendous amount of taxes. If one were to try to sell the Club and close it as a golf and country club, no one would pay the assessment. Mr. Lytton asked to be a part of the water and annexation discussions when they arise.

Mayor Woodlief asked if anyone on the Board objected to the remaining items MPT Herring wished to discuss, to which there was no objection. Mayor Woodlief excused Commissioner Currin from this discussion. MPT Herring stated that the Country Club also pays an inside City rate to pick up their garbage, which they should not be paying. As a matter of fact, the City should not be picking up their garbage period because they are in the County. The Club pays no outside City protection fees. Yet, our Fire Department has responded twice within the past five years to fire calls at the Club. Additionally, our Fire Department is listed at the Country's central dispatch system as the primary responder to answer calls at Thorndale. This City should not respond to Thorndale unless it is through request by mutual aid. The Club needs to negotiate with the fire department in their district who should be serving them. Thorndale enjoys the City's full police services when they should be using the Sheriff's department since they are in the County.

Since 2000, stated MPT Herring, Oxford has treated Thorndale as part of the city in relation to all services available. When problems arise at the Club, it has been the City Police Department that Thorndale has contacted. Since 2005, our Police Department answered 17 service calls at the Club ranging from burglary, to property damage, to larceny, to suspicious vehicles, to disturbances of the peace, as well as miscellaneous calls. These calls should have been responded to by the Country Sheriff's Department.

MPT Herring stated he is only stating loud and clear, the citizens are hearing it, and the newspapers are printing it, that we have rules and regulations for people inside and outside the City. All he is asking the Board to do is to apply the City's applicable, established rules and regulations.

Commissioner Williford asked Mr. Lytton about the article in this day's Ledger that the Country Club allowed the Special Olympics to play golf at the Club and asked was this a courtesy. Mr. Lytton stated it was a courtesy and added that colleges and any school requesting permission to use the Club would be allowed to do so. Commissioner Williford stated he feels the City is responsible for providing recreation; and that by exempting Thorndale, it is our contribution to the Club as long as it stays in business. Commissioner Williford stated he feels terrible that after all these years "we decide to go out there and lay it on them". The Club is for the public to enjoy, the new fire chief being invited to join. MPT Herring restated that he feels any agency outside the City limits should pay the outside rate. If you do it for one, you can do it for all.

Mayor Woodlief then asked Commissioner Currin to step aside from the issue of annexation (he is a member of the Annexation Committee).

Mr. Eddie McCoy of 408 Kingsbury Street addressed the Board. Mr. McCoy asked why a public hearing could not be involved since citizens pay taxes. It's time to change the old system the City has been under. As a tax payer, this is unfair. Mr. McCoy stated, particularly to the new Board members, that this is how you get in trouble. When you come on the Board, you establish your own agenda and your own mind. What you do is play by the rules. If you let this get by, you are in the same system – the good old boys looking out for special interest people. Mr. McCoy stated to the new Board members that they owe no one any favors. All you come here to do is protect the citizens. You know what's wrong and you know what's right. As MPT Herring stated, you don't have to study the outside water rates vs. inside rates. The rates are the same for everybody.

If a person comes in and doesn't pay their water bill, they get cut off and this is not fair. Mr. McCoy stated the problem is the media. If the media would do their job, the citizens would come down and voice their opinion and "not take this mess". The media hides the stuff and plays the good old boy, and is invited to the country club to eat. Mr. McCoy asked that everybody be treated fair and eat out of the same spoon.

Commissioner Currin asked to make a comment. To him this sounds like favors are done and there are special interests. The Club is run by a board, and it changes every year. There are new employees every year. If there was a problem, they picked up the phone and called the Fire Department. He did not feel that anyone pulled out a map and said they were or weren't in the City limits. The same goes for the Police Department. Commissioner Currin stated he didn't think this was done trying to beat anyone or avoid anything.

Mayor Woodlief stated that this annexation was looked at by the manager and himself almost two years ago. It happened to come at the same time as the Club trying to be saved. It was not put on anyone because they were trying to save the Club, but it was done as a means of gaining revenue for the City of Oxford. The Mayor stated he shared with the Board how the Club was officially left with the people who owned it. It was left to the City by members of the Thorndale

Association back in the 1920's. As the years went along, they wanted to build a country club. The log cabin which was there became outdated. They needed land and addressed the Board, deeding the City the property as it is now. The Board decided at some point it did not want to be in the country club business. As years went along, there was a quitclaim deed and that's how the Country Club came to be so by itself – not having Oxford involved in any way, shape, form, or fashion.

The Mayor stated he, himself, did not realize the Club is not in the City limits except for a portion along Country Club Drive. Living in Oxford all his life, the Mayor stated he never knew the property was not in the limits. The Mayor made it clear it was not anyone's intention to bring about this item simply because "fresh money" or any resurrection was about to happen. This is simply to try to correct, as Mr. McCoy stated, something that needs to be corrected.

The Mayor stated it would take about four public hearings for the Board to be able to decide whether or not to annex the property. If it did, it would have to lay on the table another year before the annexation took affect. Therefore, it would be about two years down the road before the first dollar would need to be paid. The Mayor stated he was told "give us three years and if it doesn't work, do whatever you want to do". The Mayor stated they would have almost three years even with annexation. The Mayor again stressed that this was not a quick decision and that the issue has blossomed into what it is now.

The Mayor stated that he feels everyone knows what MPT Herring said is right. We let people play on our facilities no matter where they live. Bringing up a handicapped soccer team, etc. is an excuse to say "let them get by with it". The Mayor feels this will all come out in the Annexation Committee meeting. The Mayor stated that people may have looked at him funny when he excused Commissioner Currin from the discussion. He pointed out that he and Commissioner Currin are good friends and that he is a member of the Country Club and one of the ones trying to resurrect the Club. His being excused is the legal and right thing to do on this issue.

MPT Herring stated he hopes we will not have to wait two to three years for Thorndale to start paying outside rates. Commissioner Harris asked why the issue of rates was not being voted upon this night, to which MPT Herring stated there were not enough Board members to step up and do what needs to be done.

DISCUSSION ON CREATING AN ANNEXATION PLAN THROUGH THE ANNEXATION COMMITTEE PRIOR TO MOVING FORWARD WITH FUTURE ANNEXATION REQUESTS

Commissioner Sergent stated that in her perspective, the Board has taken no real opportunity to sit down and talk with a group and put all questions on the table and to discuss questions as well as differences. We've not taken the time to step back and look at the City as a whole – the current boundaries, where water and sewer lines are going, and all properties eligible for consideration whether residential, commercial, or industrial. Commissioner Sergent's feeling is that we need to sit back, review all things, and consider them in the context of our personal visions as well as the vision

put forth with the Vision Committee and the vision plans for the City. We need to determine our plan and our philosophy accordingly.

We have seven different people, a city manager, the mayor, and everybody's got opinions, stated Commissioner Sergent. We have not had productive discussions – when do we want to do this, and in what order. Most importantly, we need to be discussing why. There are some purely fundamental reasons you would annex any property; but in terms of looking at the order and the process, we need to know why are we going here and not there. When questions arise, it helps us if we are able to respond to those questions showing clearly that we thought the process all the way through. Not whether we thought all the way through just on Thorndale or this property over there, but all the way through in terms of where does this fit in terms of our vision for the City.

We need to create a strong plan and be able to effectively explain our rationale for any steps we take. Commissioner Sergent suggested postponing any action on pending annexations until a process has been completed. This is not a delay tactic. Commissioner Sergent stated the Board would serve the best interest of the City well if we take the time to talk through all the pieces, make sure they are understood, know where the water lines are going, etc.

PD Hart stated that the current rules and regulations of annexation are basically that if a property is contiguous and it meets the statutory requirements, then normally the property can be annexed if it's feasible to the City. If it costs a lot of money, then we usually back off. The Mayor stated that we try to keep this process as simple as possible. Commissioner Sergent stated she wished for the Board to not approach each situation as a unique entity. She wishes to see where everything fits and answer the question of why annex one property vs. another. Commissioner Sergent does not see the City at this point treating everyone equally. If we are not going to do so, then we should take the time to talk it through and figure out what so we want to do and why do we want to do it. Once the decision is made, then, to go after a property and we are questioned, there would be a process in place to say this is what we went through.

The Mayor stated that industry would shoot you in the foot on this. They will say that if you bring me in the City limits, then we'll leave and this Board freezes and never votes. Commissioner Sergent stated the Board needs to talk through all the pieces and work it out. Commissioner Harris stated he feels this issue should go through the Annexation Committee, but he wishes first to sit down with PD Hart. Commissioner Currin asked if it was being recommended not to proceed with the annexations which had been addressed this evening to which Commissioner Sergent stated she would feel better if the Board could do so. But these annexations have already been passed by the Board. In response to Commissioner Cantley asking if the Board could rescind these annexations, the Mayor stated it could be done but a lot of money and time has already been spent on these annexations.

PAVING ON McCLANAHAN STREET DISCUSSED

Mayor Woodlief stated that the State is through paving all of its streets until the Spring of 2011. There is a place on the corner of McClanahan and Broad Streets that is bumpy and bad. There is

\$60,000 left from the Powell Bill and the Mayor asked that the Property and Public Works Committees look into this. It has been suggested that S. T. Wooten, since they have a continuing contract on streets they are doing, perform the work since they can do it less than if the job is put out for bids. This is about a 20 yard stretch in the middle of the street that the heavy trucks have demolished. People have complained about this. The Mayor stated that the Finance Committee may also want to look at the funding, but the finance officer informed him that \$60,000 was not spent from last year.

Commissioner Sergent asked if this street is listed on the ITRE report to which the Mayor replied in the negative. It seemed to her the natural order of things would be to go in the order of the streets on the report. The Mayor stated that he, as Mayor, is asking for this to be done and asked the Board to determine if he is correct in doing so. Commissioner Sergent asked if we know how this street was not included on the report, the Mayor replying that the rest of the street is in excellent condition – one portion recently being repaved.

RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS AND SELL FIRE ENGINE #10 NOT APPROVED

The Mayor stated this issue was discussed at the last meeting and that the fire truck has not yet been put on the internet for sale. The City Manager was directed to discuss this with the Fire Chief, and the Fire Chief determined this truck should be sold. The City has been told that the value is \$60,000 to \$90,000. On this evening, Chase Parrott with the Stem Fire Department was present to represent Stem in an offer for the truck. There are two alternatives: advertise on the internet or take Stem's offer and lay it on the table for 10 days. The Clerk would advertise the offer; and if no one has a better offer, Stem could have the truck. The second alternative is to advertise on the internet. The Mayor stated the offer from Stem is \$80,000. Several Commissioners stated it would be nice to be able to keep the truck in the community.

Chase Parrott, Assistant Fire Chief for Stem, addressed the Board. If the truck is put up for bid, Mr. Parrott stated there is a chance that he could or could not get the truck cheaper. He asked the Board to negotiate with the Stem Volunteer Fire Department, hoping the bid would start about \$70,000. Straight out, he could not compete with this amount of money. They have two aging trucks which need to be replaced and are front line trucks. One has been removed from service. To them, Oxford's truck is worth more than any amount of money put on it, and it's a great truck. As a volunteer, he gets a bit of money from the County. He has about a \$50,000 operating budget. He has to pay insurance and maintenance costs along with outfitting his firefighters. Stem would not be able to afford this type of truck new. Stem provides mutual aid to surrounding departments and are the second busiest volunteer company in the County.

Mayor Woodlief asked if the Board wishes direct negotiations with Stem or internet sale of this truck. MPT Herring stated he would like to see Oxford assist Stem, and that Oxford is in a position to be a bit lenient in the selling of the truck – especially to one of our sister cities. The Mayor stated that the County has provided Stem \$61,000 in funding and the Board needs to decide how much time to give Stem on the remaining \$20,000. The Mayor stated the City Manager was in his office when the \$80,000 offer was made. Mr. Parrott stated that with only \$61,000 in the bank, Stem wishes to

negotiate for something cheaper than \$80,000. The Mayor stated the two bodies would get together and if something was not worked out, then it would go on the internet. Asked for his comments, CA Burnette stated there is a responsibility to the citizens of Oxford to get the most money for the surplus truck.

The Board agreed that the Public Safety and Finance Committees along with the Fire Chiefs would meet to discuss this sale, MPT Herring asking that Stem come to the table with their best offer and terms for financing.

RETURN DISCUSSION ON THORNDALE COUNTRY CLUB

Commissioner Harris asked for clarification from CA Burnette that if annexation was not on the agenda, it could not be acted on, to which CA Burnette stated that was correct. Commissioner Harris then questioned that if we have standards in place [water rates], why can't they be enforced. MPT Herring stated the clubhouse, swimming pool, and tennis courts are outside the City limits, City services being received at the clubhouse. Commissioner Cantley asked where was the sprinkler water coming from, to which the Mayor responded that it is City water. Again Commissioner Harris questioned what is there to vote on if standards are already in place. MPT Herring stated the manager could fix the problem the next morning. Mayor Woodlief stated that this issue would be passed to the Annexation Committee for discussion along with annexation. If this is not suitable, then water rates can be put on the Agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Harris questioned now that there is clarification, what is the problem.

The Mayor stated that the Board has not instructed the manager to raise the water rates or cut off any services. Mr. McCoy asked if the Fire Department goes out into the County. The Mayor explained we have mutual aid. If something catches on fire at Thorndale and the trucks are there, and a house catches on fire in the City, the Mayor asked Mr. McCoy wouldn't he be upset that the trucks were at Thorndale. The Mayor stated to the City Manager that he is not being instructed to make any changes to Thorndale services. MPT Herring stated Thorndale can ask to be voluntarily annexed.

Commissioner Sergent stated the Board should ask the manager to work up a price difference, pointing out the discrepancies to say this is what the cost would be if Thorndale was paying outside rates as they ought to be, this would be the cost for fire protection, etc. Go down the list and create a document that shows the costs and put it to the board at the Country Club and ask if they want to pay these costs, in her mind, retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year, and/or request voluntary annexation. It is true it is clear that if you are not within the jurisdiction of the City limits, the rates are one thing. Rather than saying we will do this tomorrow, have the City Manager create the list of costs and present them to the Board for decision.

Mayor Woodlief stated that Thorndale asked any action toward annexation be postponed for three years starting July of this year. Mr. Lytton stated he would be glad to sit down and discuss this with the City Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

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