

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: July 12, 2016  
TIME: 6:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Oxford City Hall  
PRESENT: Mr. Steven Waits, Council President  
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore  
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member  
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council Member

ABSENT: Mayor Leon Smith  
Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member

The meeting was called to order by Council President Steven Waits and Shirley Henson, City Clerk of the City, served as the Clerk of the meeting.

Tommy Screws of Calvary Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Waits stated please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Waits stated Mr. Gardner is absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the June 28, 2016 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits called for any comments or questions; there being none, on roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Waits called for a motion to remove Resolution No. 2016-80 from the table. There was no motion. This will appear on our next agenda. This is a resolution regarding an addressing contract with Talladega County 911. Our Police and Fire Chief are working with them and we appreciate that. We will have this for the next meeting.

**Resolution No. 2016-80 – Resolution approving an addressing contract with Talladega County 911.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

## **Public Hearing**

Mr. Waits opened the public hearing to receive comments on the request of D and R Investments LLC to re-zone the property located at 314 Choccolocco Street from Residential (R-2) to Central Business District (CBD). Mr. Waits declared the public hearing open.

Donald Mullins stated he was for the re-zoning.

Mr. Henderson asked what the plans were for the property. Mr. Mullins stated that he didn't realize the property wasn't zoned commercial and for the last five years a CPA firm has occupied it. So your plan is to renovate it and rent it out.

Mr. Spurlin stated so at this time Mr. Mullins you don't have any idea what type of business you would be recruiting to go there. Businesses that would be suitable for the downtown area.

Mr. Henderson asked roughly what kind of investment you are going to be making, dollar wise. Mr. Mullins stated it would be a \$35,000.00 investment.

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing closed.

## **Ordinance No. 2016-21 – Ordinance to re-zone the property located at 314 Choccolocco Street from Residential (R-2) to Central Business District (CBD).**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration permitting Ordinance No. 2016-21 to be adopted at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2016-21. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution No. 2016-84 – Resolution awarding the bid for the lease of the batting cages at Oxford Lake Park.**

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to table Resolution No. 2016-84 until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2016-85 – Resolution authorizing the Council President to enter into a Purchase and Sales Contract to acquire additional property.**

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-85. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated this is a piece of property next to our Fire Station on Bynum Cutoff Road. It is a piece of property that we have actually been maintaining for quite some time because it has been a practice field for our youth. The property has come up for sale and we got an appraisal on it for \$42,000.00 and we will be purchasing it for \$38,000.00. There are two ball fields basically there and after speaking with Parks and Recreation Director Don Hudson, he wants to work with us to get input from the Bynum Community and Coldwater Community on what the public's vision is for that park and what we might can do to really enhance it going forward. He is going to be working with the Council and communicating that through the Bynum Community Center trying to get some input from the residents.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2016-86 – Resolution authorizing the Council President to enter into an agreement with Kimberly Appraisal Services.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-86. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits stated this was for \$375.00.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2016-87 – Resolution authorizing the Council President to enter into an incentive agreement with the Calhoun County Economic Development Council and Kronospan, Inc.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to table Resolution No. 2016-87 until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated this is the incentive agreement with the City and Kronospan for the recent announcement that we had for their \$362 million new portion of the plant that they are developing that will bring 160 to 200 jobs. We did a tax abatement at our last meeting for 10 years but this is the second half of that which is an incentive agreement. There are just some technical wording that needs to be changed and our attorneys are working on that. We will have this for our next meeting.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard “Yea”, Mr. Spurlin “Yea”, Mr. Henderson “Yea” and Mr. Waits “Yea”. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Waits recognized Mr. Henderson for a resolution.

**Resolution No. 2016-88 – Resolution to appropriate up to \$85,000.00 for irrigation and turf installation at Choccolocco Park.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-88. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated we appreciate Chad Robinson with Honours Golf. He is really doing a great job at Choccolocco Park working on that. This is part of the build out at the park and some turf areas that we are actually creating and expanding some areas around the track. We will have an official announcement soon on the date and time. We are looking forward to a grand opening in October. We are ready for that to be here and Mr. Robinson we appreciate your work. You are doing a fantastic job, you and your team.

On roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: Mrs. Hubbard “Yea”, Mr. Spurlin “Yea”, Mr. Henderson “Yea” and Mr. Waits “Yea”. The motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments.

Mr. Henderson stated he mentioned in the work session regarding Mr. Robinson that he has received several positive comments about Cider Ridge Golf Course which was part of the Sunny King tournament about the condition and beauty of the golf course. Mr. Robinson and his team take care of the golf course facility as well for the City and they do a great job. So thank you for all the work you do.

Mr. Henderson stated I would like to thank our Police and Fire Departments for the presence they had on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. They had a great presence out there for the firework show. The show was great and we had one minor little incident. We appreciate them being there all day.

Mr. Waits stated Chief you estimated what about 30,000. That’s impressive. I was sharing with him earlier to be right in the middle of it, walk to your car in ten minutes and leave that is pretty impressive for 30,000 people. You did a phenomenal job getting the traffic in and out, keeping us safe and all the officers everywhere. Chief Sparks and our firemen I know we had to respond medic wise several times and to several instances. We appreciate the work you do. Thank you.

Mrs. Hubbard stated the Planning Commission got their first look at the land use through our new comprehensive plan Imagine Oxford. Our consultant, Jason Fondren was here and shared a first look at the land use that they are proposing which includes current land use and some ideas they had on how we might change a few things. It is on a large table in the back and we want as many eyes as we can to see that and any ideas that we might have to be looking at that so that

next time we meet with him have those ideas written on that map. If you would like to look at it go into the Planning Board office, Building Department where Mike Roberts is. You will meet Toni Ridley at the front desk and tell her you would like to look at that map. It has the legend down at the bottom so you can see how it should go. This is not a zoning map. This is just land use and proposed how we would use the property within our City. We want as many eyes as we can to be on that.

Mr. Spurlin stated I would like to thank our Police Department. We have a fine Police Department and just this past week we had an incident in a nearby County that had an officer who was injured and requested our assistance. I am glad that we have a Police Department that is properly trained and fully equipped and staffed that is able to assist other agencies. No other officers were hurt and they did an outstanding job. I appreciate that and that is a direct reflection on our Chief's leadership. I appreciate that. Also, our Fire Department this Thursday will graduate our first bridge program out of our station that we had built with the training facility. It is being put to use already and we had our first year with co-op at Oxford High School. We had a 160 training course that trained 7 who graduated from it. We have three of those seven who went through the bridge program and are now graduating. They will now be certified firefighters in the State of Alabama. That is a great reflection on our Chief and their passion for training their men and not only training our men but men throughout the State. There are a lot of other agencies that have come to Oxford, Alabama to be trained through this bridge program. I appreciate that as well.

Mr. Henderson stated I would like to congratulate Aimee Birchfield for now being over our Finances. She does a great job. Amy Henderson, Library Director is here and she also does a great job.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

**Visitors**

Mr. Waits called for any comments or questions from anyone present.

Bill Bunn of 2017 Cheatwood Drive stated besides the City limits and welcome signs I believe the Council needs to put extra money in the budget for directional signs and traffic control signs throughout the City. Either installed, repaired or replaced.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Henderson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

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Shirley Henson, City Clerk

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Steven Waits, Council President