

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: June 14, 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. Phil Gardner, Council Member  
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council Member

ABSENT: Mayor Leon Smith

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.

John Ross of Betta View Hills Church of Christ gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the May 24, 2016 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Abstain", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Waits called for any old business; there was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution No. 2016-69 – Resolution authorizing the Performing Arts Director and Advisory Board President to attend the Performing Arts Exchange Convention.**

Mr. Waits stated John Longshore, Performing Arts Director is with us tonight.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-69. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson stated there is a nice article in *The Anniston Star* today about John's assistant. It was a good article and very positive for the Performing Arts Center. It looks like she does a great job and the children's thing I thought was a great deal.

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.

Mr. Waits stated thank you John for all you do and I hope you find some great shows for us.

**Resolution No. 2016-70 – Resolution awarding the bid for a van for the City Garage to Sunny King Ford in the amount of \$33,852.00.**

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-70. 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. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2016-71 – Resolution for the approval of a funding agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation.**

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-71. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits asked Keith Strickland with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. to share what this resolution is about.

Mr. Henderson asked if we are going to widen Leon Smith Parkway or if we are adding additional lanes. Mr. Strickland stated yes sir.

Mr. Waits stated a couple of things, in between the two bridges there is a land mass. This funding does not cover this land mass. That will be something the City would have to do. This \$5 million ATRIP project was a 20 percent match. This is \$7 million with zero match. The City will just be responsible for the architectural and engineering fees that we would have been responsible for with the ATRIP funding as well. We do have a letter from the Department of Transportation acknowledging approval from Mr. Cooper, the director of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). We appreciate him taking the time to come to Oxford and we appreciate your time Keith. He was very interested in our City, wanted to learn about the sports complex, he wanted to learn about Leon Smith Parkway and the Exchange. They had already done traffic counts with the opening of the bypass and the number of cars has increased. We are very familiar with that but he did not know as much about the southern end of that and the impact that it has traffic wise for our City. I appreciate him coming from Montgomery and actually visually seeing that. I appreciate him recognizing the need for this and working with us.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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. 2016-72 – Tax Abatement Agreement for National Gypsum.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-72. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits stated Don Hopper with the Calhoun County Economic Development Council is here along with Neil Stephenson, Plant Manager at National Gypsum is here. I also want to recognize Lindsey with the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce and Doug who is the Production Manager at National Gypsum. Doug actually gave me super tour the other day.

Mr. Waits recognized Mr. Hopper and Mr. Stephenson for comments. Mr. Stephenson stated it is going to be a two phase project. We appreciate the opportunity to add more employees. We have been a part of the community for 60 years and hopefully we get the opportunity to be here for 60 more.

Mr. Waits stated in the work session Doug and I were talking about the turnover rate. There were some people who were coming in and out of the business the other day when I was walking in and he was sharing this person has been here 30 years. It was really impressive to hear about their low turnover and that says a lot about what kind of company you run. For me in the work session it was the first time I had heard that they had the community programs they had and how they give back to the community. We appreciate you being a great corporate citizen and \$26 million is a major investment and we are proud to have you.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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. 2016-73 – Appointing the City Clerk to perform all election duties to be performed by the Mayor per Title 11 and Title 17 of the Code of Alabama, 1975.**

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-73. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits stated this is a pretty standard resolution that we do every four years.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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.

Mr. Waits stated there are a couple of more items that we would like to address. At this time I would like to recognize Mr. Henderson for a resolution.

**Resolution No. 2016-74 – Resolution approving a letter from the City of Oxford to DeJarvis Leonard, the regional engineer for the Alabama Department of Transportation to rescind**

**the ATRIP funds that were awarded to the City for improvements on Leon Smith Parkway.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-74. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits recognized Keith Strickland for comments regarding the letter.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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.

Mr. Waits thanked Mr. Strickland and Ron Allen, City Attorney for all the work that has been done on this and we really appreciate your work lately.

Mr. Waits stated I would like to recognize Mr. Spurlin for a resolution.

**Resolution No. 2016-75 – Resolution to approve a change order for the Oxford Police Department Special Operations Building in the amount of \$14,197.12.**

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-75. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits stated Cal Munroe, Munroe Jenkins Architecture who is the architect for this project explained this which included some credits and some extra dirt work.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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.

Mr. Waits stated I would like to recognize Mrs. Hubbard for a resolution.

**Resolution No. 2016-76 – Resolution for the purchase of furniture for the City Engineers office, the Street Department office, the Building Department office and the City Garage office for the new building in an amount up to \$97,875.73.**

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-76. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits recognized Todd Gauntt, City Engineers office for comments. Mr. Waits stated these items will be off the State bid list so there will be no bidding out of these items.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions. 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.

**COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments. There were none.

## MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

### Visitors

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

Craig Young of 133 Mountainview Circle addressed the Council about de-annexing his property from the City. Mr. Young stated his children go to school at Munford and his wife changed jobs. They are asking for de-annexation so that they do not have to pay the dues for their kids going to school at Munford.

Mr. Waits asked Mr. Young to get with Shirley Henson, City Clerk about what the process will be because there is a formal process that we go through and she can help guide you through that. Mr. Waits stated you will have to go back through the process.

Bill Bunn of 2017 Cheatwood Drive addressed the Council about the upcoming Fiscal Year 2017 budget. Mr. Bunn stated with the opening of Choccolocco Park, the area there with the bridges always looks so dirty and wants to keep this area clean especially with people from out of state coming in. If it wasn't for the commercial businesses doing the curb appeal there would be no trash. That is something you need to look at because that is a very important impression people see coming into our City and to help bring people back.

Mr. Waits thanked Mr. Bunn.

Mr. Waits stated I would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session for real/potential litigation and for that aspect I would ask our City Attorney, Ron Allen to certify that. Mr. Allen stated so certified.

Mr. Waits stated we will have the Executive Session in the Conference Room and we will actually adjourn from there.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to go into Executive Session. 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. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

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

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Shirley Henson, City Clerk

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Steven Waits, Council President