

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: June 23, 2015
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Oxford City Hall
PRESENT: Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council Member

ABSENT: Mayor Leon Smith
Mr. Steven Waits, Council President

The meeting was called to order by Council President Pro Tempore Mike Henderson and Shirley Henson, City Clerk of the City, served as the Clerk of the meeting.

Minister John Ross of Bettaview Hills Church of Christ gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Henderson asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Henderson stated Mr. Waits is absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Henderson stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the June 9, 2015 regular meeting. Mrs. Hubbard made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Henderson 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" and Mr. Henderson "Yea". The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2015-61 – Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Hand Arendall, LLC for utilizing copyrighted material in the amount of \$700.00.

Mr. Henderson stated we are writing a new nuisance ordinance and in that nuisance ordinance we are having to use copyrighted material. To use copyrighted material you have to pay for it and it costs us \$700.00 to do that.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-61. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Henderson 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" and Mr. Henderson "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2015-62 – Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Radio Station WVOK-FM to broadcast the opening ceremonies of the Freedom Festival in the amount of \$400.00.

Mr. Henderson stated they do this every year and do a good job promoting the Freedom Festival for us.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-62. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Henderson called for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson stated we invite everyone to come out on the 4th of July to the ceremonies. The Park and Recreation Department does a good job putting on the activities and celebrating our Independence Day. Come out to the Lake and enjoy the festivities.

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

Resolution No. 2015-63 – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Real Estate Purchase Contract for the purpose of purchasing property from Flossie Ann Hollis Davis and Flossie Davis Children's Trust Agreement in the amount of \$62,000.00 for building a new Fire Station.

Mr. Henderson stated this is located at the corner of Friendship Road and Lane Road. We are going to be building a new Fire Station there per our agreement with ISO (Insurance Services Office) and part of Fire Chief Gary Sparks' plan we asked him to do several years ago. This will help us to purchase that property.

Mr. Henderson recognized Assistant Chief Ben Stewart for any comments. Mr. Henderson stated we appreciate all that our Fire Department does, our Police Department and all of our First Responders do. We look forward to having that out there. What is the plan on when this might get started?

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-63. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Henderson 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" and Mr. Henderson "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2015-64 – Authorizing the Performing Arts Director and Arts Council President to attend the Performing Arts Exchange Convention in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Henderson stated John Longshore, Performing Arts Director and Jane Batey, Arts Council President will be attending the Performing Arts Convention. I believe they went to this last year.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-64. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Henderson 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" and Mr. Henderson "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item we are going to add to the agenda. For this I recognize Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Spurlin stated I would like to recommend that we approve the employee handbook as it has been presented. This handbook will go into effect on July 1st.

Resolution No. 2015-65 – Approving the Employee Handbook.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-65. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Henderson called for comments or questions.

Mr. Spurlin stated I would like to thank all of the department heads and employees who have worked hard on this. I know it has involved months of work and I appreciate your hard work doing this. I think this will help make a way where we can reward the employees for the job that they do and let them know that we are satisfied for the job that they do.

Mr. Henderson stated there has been a lot of work put into this and a lot of effort. I would like to thank all of those that have done that. It certainly will improve our personnel situation.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Henderson called for Council Comments.

Mrs. Hubbard stated we have a committee that is just about ready to move forward with moving the Veteran's Park. We are getting the final drawing done and then we are going to move forward with that with moving it to Oxford Lake. The other project we are working on is the downtown revitalization and the sidewalk project. We were updated in the work session on the

amounts and comments from our City Engineer regarding an extended sidewalk project which personally I agree with him. It is time to do that project and get that done and those cuts made. If we are going to go ADA compliant we have got to have the right equipment to do it. I would be in favor of moving forward with that project including the extending of the sidewalks. The last one is the dog park. The committee is meeting again next week and going to move forward with the dog park at Oxford Lake at the old driving range area. It is about a five acre plot at the Civic Center which we are looking forward to that. We have a person from Park and Recreation, someone from the Humane Society, Cal Munroe, myself and guy who works for Honours Golf who will also be helping us. We have a really great committee together for that.

Mr. Henderson thanked Mrs. Hubbard for those updates. We are working on a new nuisance ordinance that is very detailed and I appreciate Ron Allen, City Attorney help on that. Hopefully this will solve a lot of the issues we have that are starting to develop in our City right now. Some items that are a little bit unsightly. You can go on the City's website and file a complaint on the website through the Building Department. Please take advantage of the website if you have anything you would like to report. We have had a few instances of holes in the road that have been fixed. We are working on some of those things to get them fixed. We have had some ditch issues that we are trying to get resolved. If you have problems please be patient with us and we will get to those as soon as we can.

Mr. Henderson stated please don't forget the 4th of July activities that are taking place in a couple of weeks.

Mrs. Hubbard stated there is a concert on July 3rd. A Celebrate Freedom concert at the Oxford Performing Arts Center that is an addition this year.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Henderson stated Mayor Smith is absent.

Visitors

Mr. Henderson called for any comments or questions from anyone present. There were none.

Mr. Henderson stated City Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2015 for Independence Day.

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

Shirley Henson, City Clerk

Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore