OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE:	March 12, 2015
TIME:	6:30 P.M.
PLACE:	Oxford City Hall
PRESENT:	Mr. Steven Waits, Council President
	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

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.

David Harmon of Meadowbrook Baptist Church gave the invocation.

Mr. Waits stated Representative Steve Hurst is with us tonight. He met with you about some things in the work session. We appreciate you, your leadership and your support for the City of Oxford.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Waits stated tonight we are recognizing one of our 4th graders, Mr. Caleb Robertson. I know this young man really, really well and am excited. Many of you know that we recognize students in our school system who excel not only in academics but in character. I can vouch first hand that this young man hits both marks. Caleb is a 4th grader at DeArmanville Elementary School. His parents are Jeff and Beth Robertson. Caleb enjoys sports. He made the All Star baseball team and plays 2nd base on the Top Gun Travel Baseball Team. He plays football and basketball with PARD. He also wrestles and placed 3rd in the County. He enjoys reading and video games. He is in the Kids Choir at church and has participated in the Easter and Christmas dramas. At school he is a member of the Morning Broadcast Crew, Honor Roll, and Safety Patrol. He has been Student of the Month, Bucket Filler of the Month, an Ambassador for the State Accreditation visit, and a Gold Card winner for Academics. His favorite subject in school is Math and his favorite teacher is Mrs. Searcy. When Caleb grows up he wants to be a major league baseball player.

Mr. Waits stated I think we can see that happening. Congratulations Caleb we appreciate you.

Caleb Robertson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Waits stated I did acknowledge his parents Jeff and Beth Robertson. You have done a great job with both kids.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the February 24, 2015 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2015-11 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. for sidewalk rehabilitation and Downtown revitalization of Downtown Oxford.

Mr. Waits stated we will have some discussion and a meeting about this on Thursday night. So, I would ask for a motion to postpone this until our March 24, 2015 meeting.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to postpone Resolution No. 2015-11 to our next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of Firefighter of the Year from Terry French of the VFW.

Mr. Waits recognized Fire Chief Gary Sparks. Chief Sparks stated Terry French from the VFW Post in Talladega contacts us every year and asks us to nominate someone from our department for the Firefighter of the Year award. This year we decided on Ty Corban. Ty is one of our volunteers and one of our most active volunteers. We most recently appointed him a Lieutenant on the volunteer side and we are very proud of Ty. With that I will turn it over to Terry.

Mr. French stated it is my privilege to be here tonight to present the Firefighter of the Year award to Ty Corban.

Mr. Waits stated Terry we always appreciated you and we are glad you are back. Ty we appreciate what you do and it is great to see our firefighters honored. You do a great job and we are extremely proud to have you as a part of our department. You are a class act.

Resolution No. 2015-23 – Approval of contract with Allstar Pressure Washing for cleaning of all curbs, sidewalks, entrances, sign and building at City Hall in the amount of $2,200.00.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-23. 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.

Resolution No. 2015-24 – Resolution approving an amended tax abatement for KronoChem USA LLC.

Mr. Waits stated Don Hopper with the Calhoun County Economic Development Council is here and asked if he has any comments regarding this resolution. We appreciate you being here.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-24. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits stated this is a $30 million commitment to our community. We appreciate Kronospan. They are a great industry and a great partner of our community. It was good to see Tim Pack here earlier. This does not abate our school taxes.

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. 2015-25 – Resolution approving disposal of surplus property.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to rescind Resolution No. 2015-25. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits stated this is a long list of surplus equipment. Several trucks and cars from the 60's believe it or not, the 70's, 80's and 90's.

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. 2015-26 – Resolution approving grant of franchise with Oxford Water Department.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-26. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits stated this is to formalize the City services with the Oxford Water Department. This is to assist with bond issues. Mr. Waits asked Bruce Rice, City Attorney for any comments.

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. 2015-27 – Resolution approving standards of conduct and procurement methods for use in conjunction with grant funds.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-27. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits stated we received a grant the 2013 Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for parking and extra lighting for the League of Our Own Field. We have a tremendous opening there on Sunday and that was one of the highlights of my life right there to see that happen not just for those kids but the parents. To see the parents be able to realize that was there for their kids was really, really special. This is a grant to further develop that area and help us with that. Basically this marks out the standards that we have to walk through to make that happen.

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 three items that we will be adding to the agenda.

Resolution No. 2015-28 – Resolution approving three grants totaling $13,000.00 from the Alabama Tourism Department to fund the Legend of Lick Skillet Heritage and Music Festival.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-28. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits stated this is a $13,000.00 grant from the Alabama Tourism Department that we will be able to put toward promotion and execution of the Legend of Lick Skillet Music and Heritage Festival. When is this?

Mrs. Hubbard stated it is May 23, 2015 which is Memorial Day weekend. It is going to be a festival that is very different and have a lot of things that will be there to educate and some things that will be fun like music. We will also have some authentic crafts to the time period of the Lick Skillet legend. We are looking forward to that. This money will be used to promote that and give us a jump start. We do appreciate this money coming from the Tourism Department through our legislature.

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. 2015-29 – Approval of changes to the Civil Service Act for Legislature.

Mr. Waits stated there are some minor changes that we have been working on. Mr. Rice would you like to share anything about this.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-29. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Henderson stated I appreciate all the work that Mrs. Hubbard, Mr. Rice and Alton Craft, Finance Director have done on this. This was sort of a confusing document and they have cleaned it up and cleared it up. Now, there will be nothing confusing going forward for us or other Councils. I appreciate them doing this, getting this done and it being simplified.

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. 2015-30 – Consulting agreement with Honours Golf.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-30. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated they will be providing consulting services to us at the new recreation complex. We appreciate our relationship with Honours Golf. They do a fantastic job. Bob Barrett is here and Chad Robinson we appreciate what you do.

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.

Mr. Henderson stated Mrs. Hubbard, Ms. Henson and I attended a conference in Washington, D.C. We got to hear from our Senators and I am glad to hear that they are working on the Marketplace Fairness Act. In simplified terms means that we will be able to tax purchases on the internet. They feel like there is a good chance that will pass. This is something that has been around for years and hopefully we can get something done in Washington on that. Another thing they felt really good about was keeping the tax exemption for municipal bonds. Those were a couple of things the League has been working on with Congress and they felt good about both of those items. We did actually get to hear from the President and that was interesting. It was a good conference and very informative.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

Visitors

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

Kenneth Morrison of 1231 McIntosh Road stated the organization I am representing has taken it upon ourselves to try and put together a memorial service for the Confederate Veterans. I have put together this packet. The intent is to memorialize the Confederate Veterans. The intent is to meet at First Baptist Church of Oxford and march to the Oxford Memorial Gardens and read the names of all of those veterans. This is being planned for June 6, 2015.

Mr. Waits asked about what time. Mr. Morrison stated around lunch time.

Mr. Waits stated when this was first proposed there was talk about a sleep in or something like that. So essentially it would be just these things you have listed here. Mr. Morrison stated march to the cemetery, read names and play taps. Mr. Waits asked who would be the contact person. Mr. Morrison stated I will be the contact person. Mr. Waits stated I just want to get your contact information so we can get this to the Mayor and get back to you.

Mrs. Hubbard asked how many are in your group. Mr. Morrison stated about 15 people.

Mr. Henderson stated changing the subject but yet still on the subject. We are looking at upgrading our Veteran's Park. Do we have any idea who these people are in the cemetery? Do you have a list of names? Oh, I am sorry. I have been looking at some other Veteran's Parks and they actually included their Confederate soldiers in their Veteran's Park.

Mr. Morrison stated we actually have a Governor of the Dakota Territory buried there. Mr. Henderson stated I was just wondering if we had a list if we decided to do something like that.

Mr. Waits asked if there were any questions for Mr. Morrison. We will get with the Mayor and the Police Chief. Thanks for what you do at our school. I know our kids love you to death and respect you. So, thank you.

Police Chief Bill Partridge stated that Terry French is an Army veteran and served his entire life in our City with 20 plus years at the Police Department. I was privileged enough to be his FTO about 26 years ago. I just want to give you a hand Lieutenant.

Mr. Waits stated we will have a joint meeting with our School Board on April 16, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Oxford High School Annex.

Mr. Waits stated we will have a work session next Thursday night, March 19, 2015 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. We will primarily be discussing our downtown renovations.

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

Shirley Henson, City Clerk

Steven Waits, Council President