

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: March 16, 2017  
TIME: 6:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Oxford City Hall  
PRESENT: Mayor Alton Craft  
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council President  
Mr. Steven Waits, Council President Pro Tempore  
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member  
Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member  
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council Member

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

David Bain of Meadowbrook Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Spurlin stated tonight we have Joshua Thomas who is a senior at Oxford High School to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. His parents are Vernon and Michelle Thomas. Joshua enjoys sports, fishing, and spending time with his friends. At school Joshua is a member of the Varsity Football team, 6-A State Championship Varsity Wrestling Team, FBLA, and Key Club. His favorite subject is History and his favorite teacher is Ms. Watkins. After graduating from Oxford High, Joshua plans to be an attorney. Joshua we appreciate you, we appreciate you excelling at school and you are an outstanding student and congratulations on the State Championship.

Joshua Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Spurlin stated thank you Joshua. We appreciate that. I think you have brought the largest crowd to ever come and see that. Great job.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Spurlin stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the February 28, 2017 meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Spurlin stated Mayor Craft would like to congratulate the Oxford High School Wrestling Team with some proclamations.

Mayor Craft stated this is my first proclamations and it is a great honor. Mayor Craft asked for the proclamation to be read.

### **Proclamation congratulating the Oxford High School Wrestling Team**

Mayor Craft stated I coached ball for over 30 years so I know the dedication for young men and young women to compete at the level you do but to achieve the ultimate goal of State Champion is something that you will always live with. You will always understand that this moment is so special in your life and we wanted to honor you. We could have just gave one proclamation to the school but we wanted to give each of you a proclamation because you deserve it. We appreciate how much you did for us.

### **Proclamation congratulating Matt King of the Oxford High School Wrestling Team**

### **Proclamation congratulating Wesley Slick of the Oxford High School Wrestling Team**

Mr. Spurlin stated thank you and congratulations. We appreciate you being here. A job well done and not just a State Championship but a triple title this year.

### **Resolution No. 2017-28 – Resolution appointing Emmett Shake to the Park and Recreation Board for a term expiring April 26, 2019.**

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-28. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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

### **Resolution No. 2017-29 – Resolution re-appointing Terry Womack to the Commercial Development Authority for a term expiring March 15, 2021.**

Mr. Waits made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-29. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

### **Resolution No. 2017-30 – Resolution re-appointing Danny Shears to the Commercial Development Authority for a four year term expiring March 15, 2021.**

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-30. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waits.

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

**Resolution No. 2017-31 - Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission for a Transportation Planning Process for the Calhoun Urbanized Area.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-31. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

**Resolution No. 2017-32 - Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an easement with Alabama Power Company at the new Maintenance Building.**

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-32. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waits.

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

**Resolution No. 2017-33 - Resolution re-appointing Greg Thrower to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for a term expiring January 13, 2020.**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-33. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Spurlin called for comments or questions.

Mrs. Hubbard stated she attended the Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting and she appreciates what that board does. They have taken several things away from the Planning Board so that we can focus on the Comprehensive Plan. We do have an opening on this board if anyone is interested. They meet once a month if there is something on their agenda. There is a process on the City's website to sign up for a board or contact one of the Council members.

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

**Resolution No. 2017-34 - Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Alabama Power Company for an easement at Choccolocco Park.**

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-34. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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

**Resolution No. 2017-35 - Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation to transfer a public road**

Mr. Spurlin stated Ron Allen, City Attorney wishes to look into some language in the contract.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to table Resolution No. 2017-35. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waits.

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

**COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Spurlin called for Council Comments.

Mrs. Hubbard stated Mr. Henderson and I had to privilege of attending for our City and representing them at a conference in Washington, D.C. over the last few days. We were in several sessions regarding federal funding coming down to our State and City and how we need to be very aware as citizens that the Federal Government and the State Government are looking to move money away from the municipalities with no funding put in place of the money they are taking away. That is something we are going to be looking at closely and working on. I think the best thing we can do as citizens when you see a representative, if it is a State or Federal person send them an email or text and let them know that you are in favor of keeping all taxes that are currently flowing to municipalities in place. For instance last year the State went after our gas tax that was coming our way. It is going to take a grass roots effort to keep them at bay because as we know the State Government is, the General Fund budget is in trouble. It was a good trip and I appreciate the opportunity to go.

Mr. Henderson stated we had a very successful softball tournament at Choccolocco Park last weekend. It was well attended. Teams from the Ohio Valley Conference were there at the facility. Again, it proves to be a positive asset to the community. We have things lined up for the summer and I thank the staff there and at Park and Recreation for what they are doing for those facilities along with everyone who has had a part in it. It is proving to be an asset for our community.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Spurlin asked Mayor Craft if he had any comments.

Mr. Spurlin stated we need to set a public hearing for March 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. for a condemnation at 219 McKibben Street.

Mr. Spurlin stated we also need to set a public hearing for March 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. to close a Planning Grant we have for downtown.

### Visitors

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

Terry Phillis of 15 Edgefield Way and owner of Mellow Mushroom addressed the Council regarding Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Phillis stated he was for Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Phillis congratulated the Oxford High School Wrestling Team.

Jeff Smith of 1208 Tanglewood Drive addressed the Council regarding Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Smith stated he is against Sunday Alcohol Sales.

Darrell Paulk of 2101 Briarcliff Road and Pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church addressed the Council regarding Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Paulk stated that he is against Sunday Alcohol Sales.

Bill Bunn of 2017 Cheatwood Drive addressed the Council regarding Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Bunn asked the Council to consider doing a study from other areas to find out what are the negatives to Sunday Alcohol Sales. Mr. Bunn stated he is for Sunday Alcohol Sales.

Mr. Spurlin stated that the Council will need to go into Executive Session to discuss possible real estate. Mr. Spurlin asked Ron Allen, City Attorney to certify this. Mr. Spurlin stated we will adjourn from the Executive Session.

Mr. Waits made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

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

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

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Shirley Henson, City Clerk

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Chris Spurlin, Council President