

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: March 25, 2014  
TIME: 6:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Oxford City Hall  
PRESENT: Mayor Leon Smith  
Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member  
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore  
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member  
Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council Member

ABSENT: 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.

Mr. Henderson stated Mr. Waits is absent tonight.

Leroy Jones of Meadowbrook Baptist Church of Oxford gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Henderson stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the March 18, 2014 regular meeting. Mr. Gardner made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Proclamation declaring the week of April 13<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> as National Library Week.**

Mr. Henderson asked Ms. Henson to read the Proclamation and recognized Amy Henderson, Library Director.

Mayor Smith presented the Proclamation to Amy Henderson.

Mr. Henderson asked Mrs. Amy Henderson if she would like to make any comments. Mrs. Henderson thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and would like to invite them to National Library Week. Mr. Henderson thanked Mrs. Amy Henderson for what she and her staff do. You provide a great service for our City and we appreciate that. We are glad to present this Proclamation.

Mr. Henderson asked if any of the Council members would like to comment. Mrs. Hubbard stated I just want to say thank you. Every time I go in the Library it is always a pleasant place. The workers seem to love working with you and for you. That really makes a difference when you are greeted by someone who doesn't know who you are. I have noticed other people seemed like they enjoyed being there and it is always a place that is full especially in the computer area.

Mr. Spurlin stated Amy thank you. I can tell you are very passionate about our education and literacy of our children and adults. I appreciate your passion and the job you do. I appreciate Ms. Rinehart being here and serves on the board. Thank you for what you do.

**Resolution No. 2014-14 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Terracon Consultants, Inc. for Construction Materials testing services at the new fire stations.**

Mr. Henderson recognized Fire Chief Gary Sparks for any comments.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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 we have a couple of items that are not on the agenda. Mr. Henderson recognized Mrs. Hubbard for a motion on Sain and Associates.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve an impact study at Fish Hatchery Lane and U.S. Highway 78 West with Sain and Associates in the amount of \$5,000.00 in accordance with a proposal subject to clarification or removal of the indemnity provision that is in the proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Henderson stated the residents on Highway 78 West and Fish Hatchery Lane have expressed concern about a facility being built and the safety that it might be causing on Fish Hatchery Lane. We are looking into this with the State of Alabama and our engineer Rusty Gann has met with them. The Sain and Associates impact study will give us the guidelines of what we will need to do to go further and make this a safe road with the traffic flow.

Mr. Henderson stated Mayor Smith has been a big supporter of this and we appreciate your support. Hopefully, we can get this done with the facility set to open this summer. Mr. Gann stated it will take about two weeks to get the study back. Then we can take some action on what

we need to do to make the location safer. I appreciate all the work everyone has put in. I know Mr. Gardner has done some work on this and we appreciate what he has done.

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 that is not on the agenda is a motion to participate in the Main Street program. Again, I would like to recognize Mrs. Hubbard.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve a letter of intent for Oxford to participate in the Main Street Initiative. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mrs. Hubbard stated the Main Street Initiative is a program that Governor Bentley has really endorsed. They have hired a director at the State level, Mary Helmer. It helps to create jobs and new businesses, retain and grow existing businesses, to improve downtown buildings, infrastructure and the over all image of the downtown area and it helps to increase the local tax base. I know the Mayor and Alton Craft, Finance Director are always looking for that. I think everyone is very much in favor of this and I am looking forward to a big team effort in getting this process going.

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.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Henderson stated I have already mentioned the road work on Fish Hatchery Lane. I encourage everyone to look at our new website. If you haven't gone to check it out go to [www.oxfordalabama.org](http://www.oxfordalabama.org). It is a lot more user friendly. I encourage you to check it out and you can get to Amy Henderson's site from this site. There are several links there to get to other sites. You can see all the good things that are happening in the City of Oxford by going to the website.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Smith stated he has no comments.

### **Visitors**

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

Fran Swords of 502 Central Avenue addressed the Council about an alley off Bruce Street that does not run all the way to Recreation Drive.

Mr. Henderson stated that nothing has been brought to the Council. Mrs. Hubbard stated what has been done so far is Fred Denney has gone out there and looked and talked about some different options that we can do. One of the things and the Police Chief may want to have someone look at putting a four way stop up which we talked about in the Planning Board meeting. They did assure us there are going to be two parking spaces for every apartment. So

that should keep people from parking on the streets. They haven't begun construction. We did talk about Rusty Gann, City Engineer going out and looking at the area as well and getting his idea on turning out on the street there. Mrs. Hubbard stated it is something that we would want our police officers to look at since they know more about traffic and safety. They see things that I don't even want to think about. I think that would be a good plan so we will ask them to take a look at it as well.

Mr. Henderson stated what we will need to do Ms. Swords is let Mr. Gann take a look at the situation and also get with Police Chief Bill Partridge to look at the safety issues. Mrs. Hubbard stated what it sounds like Ms. Swords' is talking about is existing things not going to be caused by the apartments. This is already there. Someone else that might need to look at that is the transportation person at the City schools who has to send that bus down through there.

Mr. Henderson stated we will certainly look into this and follow up on it. Mrs. Hubbard stated we will get Mr. Caldwell, Oxford City Schools to maybe take a look at that area and see what he thinks.

Mr. Henderson stated we will need to go into an Executive Session to discuss litigation matters and I will recognize Bruce Rice, City Attorney to verify what we will be discussing.

Mr. Rice stated the Executive Session will be to discuss pending litigation. Mr. Henderson stated we will adjourn from the Executive Session.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to go into Executive Session. 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.

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

---

Steven Waits, Council President