OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE:	May 12, 2015
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. Chris Spurlin, Council Member
ABSENT:	Mayor Leon Smith
	Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member

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.

Matthew Coby of Antioch Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Waits stated we recognize students in our school system who excel in character and not just academics who are just well rounded individuals and Aaron Chumley is one of those. I would also like to recognize Mr. Maniscalco, his principal who is here supporting him. Aaron is a 4th grader at Coldwater Elementary School. His parents are Roger and Tammy Chumley. Aaron enjoys playing chess, going outside, and water parks. At school Aaron is involved in the school safety patrol, has been chosen "Bucket Filler of the Month," and works hard on all his studies. His favorite subject is Reading and his favorite teacher is Mrs. Capps. When Aaron grows up he wants to be in the military. That is extremely honorable. Thank you for being here and congratulations on being nominated by your Principal Mr. Maniscalco.

Aaron Chumley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Waits congratulated Aaron and stated keep up the good work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the April 28, 2015 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits stated Council member Gardner is absent.

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

Public Hearing

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing for the CDBG Planning Fund Application for downtown redevelopment open. There is a sign in sheet going around so if you don't mind sign it. I would like to recognize Diane Glenn from East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission.

Ms. Glenn stated the CDBG grant was started to benefit low income areas. The government allocated $21 million. There is $125,000.00 available in the Planning Fund. The maximum amount allowed for this grant is $40,000.00. This will benefit the blighted areas. There is a 20 percent match requirement that the City will be responsible for. Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood will do the engineering. There is an estimated cost of $25,000.00 to look at downtown. You will need to prioritize what you are going to do and be aware as they proceed to other areas for construction.

Mrs. Hubbard stated I appreciate your work on this and Rod's also. Rod put together in bring the gentleman from ADECA (Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. I was very impressed with him as we walked through the downtown area and the comments that he made were very helpful.

Mr. Waits stated so our next step is to pass a resolution at a future Council meeting actually acknowledging this.

Mrs. Glenn stated the deadline for the grant is June 15 and at that time we will get the City Clerk a resolution for the Council to pass.

Mr. Waits stated I am not aware of an issue but it is something we can look at. There is a visitors section and if it isn't related to this grant there is a visitors section where we will give you the opportunity to speak. We can talk about this in a minute. She is just here to talk about the CDBG grant.

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing closed. We appreciate you being here Diane.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation recognizing the week of May 10-16, 2015 as "National Police Week".

Mr. Waits read the proclamation recognizing the week of May 10-16, 2015 as National Police Week.

Mr. Waits stated Chiefs if you will come up and will bring your men up. I will give you the opportunity to say something and I would like to get a picture with the Council.

Mrs. Hubbard stated I was at the breakfast this morning and I have some ribbons that I think were meant to put on your car but you can display them on your mailbox to show support for the police officers.

Mr. Waits stated I have one thing I want to add to the proclamation. We as a City appreciate our Police Department. We feel like we have an outstanding group of men and women with a tremendous amount of character and dedication. I have been bothered by the lack of leadership from City Government and nationally and their lack of support for their police officers but I want you to know that your City, not just your City Council and I am speaking for the Council but for the City as well that we appreciate you, support you, pray for you and we will continue to be supportive and we will not waiver in that support. Thank you to each one of you for what you do.

Mr. Waits stated there is a candlelight vigil at Oxford Lake at 8 p.m.

Proclamation recognizing the week of May 3-9, 2015 as "Municipal Clerk's Week".

Mr. Waits recognized Mrs. Hubbard for the reading of the proclamation. Mrs. Hubbard stated this is Ms. Henson's 21st year as City Clerk.

Mr. Waits stated that 21 years is a long time. There is a quote that anybody can be a shooting star but if you are going to get something really special stay around here. There is not many people who put that many years of service in at the level of quality you have given us. So we appreciate you.

Mr. Henderson stated Ms. Henson has served as the president of the State Municipal Clerks' League. That was a big honor for her and I got to enjoy that celebration and I think she did to. We are proud of Ms. Henson and she does a great job.

Resolution No. 2015-47 – Resolution accepting financial assistance for the Miracle League Field from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

Mr. Waits stated this is an acknowledgement of a 50/50 match up to $100,000.00 for this grant. I appreciate Aaron Sexton's work on this.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-47. 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. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Waits stated at this time I am going to recognize Mr. Spurlin for an amendment to the 2015 budget.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to reallocate $60,000.00 that we had appropriated to the City Garage for a sign truck and reallocate to purchase a flatbed truck and a crew cab truck. 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. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments.

Mrs. Hubbard stated that the Cheaha Challenge is this Sunday. This is an activity that we support and there will be an event at the Oxford Exchange on Saturday night.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

Mr. Waits stated we need to set a public hearing for May 26, 2015 to approve the condemnation of a structure located at 535 Taylors Chapel Road.

Mr. Waits stated there will be a work session on June 1, 2015 in the Conference Room at 6 p.m. with the Council.

Visitors

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

Ms. Annie Bagley of 415 Alice Street addressed the Council regarding the condition of her road and about getting the ditches taken care of.

Mr. Waits asked if it was because the road was not wide enough. Ms. Bagley stated it is not wide enough. Mr. Waits stated if you will leave with us your contact information we will get with the Street Department and get back with you about what their plan is.

Ms. Genene Holland of 618 Spring Street addressed the Council regarding the condition of Spring Street. There is a hole in the curve and there have been two wrecks there. This is a dangerous area.

Mr. Waits stated I would like to recognize Fire Chief Gary Sparks regarding some good news related to our ISO rating.

Chief Sparks stated that we began the process in 2012. We were a class 4 then went to a class 5 when we implemented improvements. We made $5 million in improvements. We are now a class 3. Which will mean cheaper insurance within the City.

Mr. Waits stated I recognize your leadership in this and Chief Sparks is the 2015 Fire Chief of the Year for the State of Alabama. Again great leadership got us in that direction. That is about

an 81/2 to 9 percent deduction in your insurance for your home. I think that is what the citizens expect when they pay that fire tax. They want a great fire department and a safe City that is able to use those dollars to cut personal home expenses at the same time. I think that is a tremendous win and being in the top 6 percent in the nation is a major win. Thanks for your leadership.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2015 for Memorial Day.

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

Shirley Henson, City Clerk

Mike Henderson, Council President Pro Tempore