

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: October 27, 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.

Dr. Horace Carson of Antioch Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Waits stated we like to recognize students in our school system who excel in character and academics. Tonight we are recognizing Sarah Ashley Edwards. She is a 4th grader at Coldwater Elementary School. Her parents are David and Jenny Edwards. Sarah has attended Coldwater since kindergarten and has had many wonderful teachers who have encouraged her love of reading. She earns all "A" status each nine weeks. Sarah has participated in the Calhoun County and State Technology Fairs winning awards for independent and group projects as well as 3rd Place in the technology test at the state competition. She is a member of the Jack Sing-sations and participated in the AMEA Music Festival at Samford University last month. She is also a member of the school's broadcast team and a school ambassador. Outside of school, Sarah enjoys reading and participating in activities such as Children's Choir, Handbell Choir, and mission projects through her home church, Golden Springs Baptist Church in Anniston. She also enjoys sewing with her grandmother, a retired teacher, who has served as an inspiration for her academically. Mr. Waits stated that is pretty neat. Mr. Waits asked Sarah who her grandmother is and she said Margie Turley.

Sarah Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Waits stated congratulations Sarah. We know you are really proud of her and she really is a good example for our school system. Thank you Sarah and 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 October 13, 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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 2015-18 – Ordinance annexing the property of Gerald Parks of 1880 McIntosh Road, Talladega County, containing 4.0 acres, more or less.

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration permitting Ordinance No. 2015-18 to be adopted at this meeting. 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. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2015-18. 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. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Mr. Waits opened the public hearing to receive comments on the request of Gerald Parks to zone the property located at 1880 McIntosh Road to R-1 (Residential). Mr. Waits declared the public hearing open.

Mr. Waits asked if there was anyone here to speak for or against this. There were none.

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing closed.

Ordinance No. 2015-19 – Ordinance to zone the property located at 1880 McIntosh Road to R-1 (Residential).

Mr. Spurlin made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration permitting Ordinance No. 2015-19 to be adopted at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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. Henderson made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2015-19. 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.

Ordinance No. 2015-20 – Ordinance directing the execution of a deed of Restrictive Easement and Extinguishment of certain development rights to the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust, Inc.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration permitting Ordinance No. 2015-20 to be adopted at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

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. Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2015-20. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits stated that in return of the 99.3 acres the City will be paid \$248,250.00.

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. 2015-101 – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the installation of traffic signals at SR-21 at I-20 Westbound ramps.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-101. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spurlin.

Mr. Waits stated this has been in place a while. This is actually the City taking over the maintenance of that intersection. There is a light there and has been up for a while.

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. 2015-102 – Appointing Steve Akers to the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-102. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits thanked Mr. Akers for his willingness to serve and asked if he would like to make any comments. Mr. Waits stated we were just talking in the hall with our City Engineer about the Citizens Advisory Committee and the impact the voices on that committee can have as far as the

development of road structures in our City. Not just the City but the whole County. We appreciate you serving.

Mr. Henderson stated we also have some other vacant board positions on that committee if anyone is interested in serving. The board application is online and we need a few more people to serve on this board with Mr. Akers.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mrs. Hubbard stated I appreciate you serving.

Mr. Spurlin stated I appreciate you serving.

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

Mr. Waits stated the next resolution we will be adding.

Resolution No. 2015-103 – Resolution incorporating Capital Projects into the 2016 Budget in the amount of \$11,076, 489.47.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-103. 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. Gardner "Yea", Mr. Spurlin "Yea", Mr. Henderson "Yes" and Mr. Waits "Nay". The motion carried.

Resolution No. 2015-104 – Authorizing the Mayor to file a formal request to establish additional positions with the recommended job descriptions and salary ranges.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-104. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mrs. Hubbard stated just a comment that I have previously made in the work session. We are doing this for several reasons to clear up some confusion about department heads as we move into merit pay and the evaluation process that proceeds that. This is to provide a clear understanding of the chain of command in our City and to coordinate with the Civil Service Board. To have a clear line of communication about whose responsibility it is for each department and who is responsible in that department.

Mr. Henderson stated it does create some new department heads. Mrs. Hubbard stated it creates a new Marketing Department. We are very excited about a committee who has been working diligently for six months now and the whole City will see a huge impact from that department rather quickly as this moves forward to the Civil Service Board. What we are doing is asking them to approve this and for the department heads to be in place and for them to approve the job

descriptions. Another one that is created is the Performing Arts Director who will be supervising the Main Street project. We changed that around just a bit. That will be a new department head. We also started an Information Technology Department. Just trying to keep up with trends throughout the nation. All major cities do have strong IT Departments. As soon as some of the buildings are completed at the City Garage there will be some moves within City Hall. It will clear up more space for this department. There are several reasons for this but the main one is to clear up the chain of command as we move forward with any projects in our City.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments.

Mr. Henderson stated Halloween is Saturday and asks everyone to be careful.

Mrs. Hubbard stated our City is about to send a team to Emmetsburg for disaster training. Our public safety people, all first responders are going to be represented there and I am going to attend. We are looking forward to that. We already have a strong plan for our City but I think we can learn a lot from that. This is the training that the Tuscaloosa group went through right before the horrible tornado that they experienced. Their Mayor, Walt Maddox has commented how valuable that training was, what it meant for their City and how much more prepared they were.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Waits stated Mayor Smith is absent.

Visitors

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

Mr. Waits stated at this time I will entertain a motion from the Council to go into Executive Session related to litigation.

Mrs. Hubbard made the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Waits stated we will go into Executive Session and when we come out of the Executive Session we will go into a brief open meeting. We will not be taking any action but we will adjourn from that meeting.

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.

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

Shirley Henson, City Clerk

Steven Waits, Council President