

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: October 28, 2014
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

ABSENT: Mayor Leon Smith
Mr. Chris Spurlin, 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.

Kyle Macoy of Calvary Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Waits stated that we routinely recognize students in our school system that are excelling not only in academics but also in character. This young man is certainly one of those. This is Derek Schmitz. He is a 4th grader at Coldwater Elementary School. Mr. Maniscalco is the principal and it is good to see you tonight supporting him. His parents are Matthew and Shirley Schmitz. Derek enjoys swimming, Math and Science. At school Derek is involved in the Jacket Singsations, the school broadcast team and hopefully, 4-H Robotics. His favorite subject is Science and his favorite teacher is Mrs. McWilliams. When Derek grows up he wants to be a TV Broadcaster. He would like to have his own TV Network that will make sure children have appropriate programming to watch since there are so many inappropriate things on TV now. That is awesome Derek. Derek wants everyone to know that even though he has Cerebral Palsy, it does not stop him from doing the things that he loves. It is an honor for us to honor you tonight Derek. Thank you for what you do.

Derek Schmitz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Waits stated that is an outstanding young man right there. We are proud to have him as a resident of Oxford.

Mr. Waits stated that Mr. Spurlin was out of town and Mayor Smith is absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the October 14, 2014 regular meeting. Mr. Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

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

Public Hearing

Mr. Waits opened the public hearing to receive comments on the condemnation sent to Branch, Banking and Trust and William J. Streip for a structure located at 1419 Beck Road to show cause, if any, as to why the structure located on the property should not be condemned.

Mr. Waits called for comments for or against this. Mr. Waits recognized Mike Roberts, Building Inspector. Mr. Roberts stated the flooring has fallen out of it. Mr. Jerry Smith also addressed the Council regarding his concerns about the property. Mr. Waits declared the public hearing closed.

Resolution No. 2014- 87 – Approving the action of the Building Inspector that the building located at 1419 Beck Road, be destroyed or removed as soon as possible according to Ordinance 212 of the City of Oxford.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-87. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated I believe we have received clear communications that this property is unsafe.

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

Public Hearing

Mr. Waits stated this public hearing is to receive comments regarding a Historic Commission for the City of Oxford. A couple of things before we declare the hearing open. If you want to speak tonight, if you will come to the microphone, state your name and address for the record. The second thing is since there are so many people here tonight out of respect I am going to ask that you limit your comments to two minutes. Also, out of respect to those who are coming to the microphone and speaking please do not make any comments from the audience, especially while they are speaking. I also want to share with you tonight that the Council will not be taking any action on this tonight. This is about us getting feedback and comments and communicating with our citizens. That is what this is about tonight.

Mr. Waits recognized Mrs. Hubbard for an introduction about what we will be talking about tonight. Mrs. Hubbard thanked everyone for being here. I know you have received a letter so you must have property in the area that might possibly be in a historic district. Just because you received a letter does not mean that your property would be in it. This meeting tonight is just informational. What we are going to do is discuss what is a historic district, what would be the benefit of having this and just get a few questions and answers. There are a lot of things out there that I think we just need to openly discuss so that people understand what the benefits are. Just for your information we just looked at the area in downtown. Kristi Durham, who is Shirley

Henson's assistant and I blocked off an area and I do have a map here and we mailed it out to as many people as we could so we could get a lot of feedback. Kristi sent out over two hundred letters, I think she said two hundred and thirty letters. We did have to make some effort to deliver some of those letters because the property owner was not there or out of town, moved, etc. We did make every effort to get the letters to those people. So, if anyone would be interested later in seeing the actual area that we sent these letters to and where you are represented. I know Mr. Waits will have you say your address when you come up to speak but that is how you got here. We thought you might be interested because you have a historic home or you have a historic business in our City.

I do want to say I put together a hand out for you just to let you know because I know sometimes when you get home you will say what was this and what was that. So, what we have is the first couple of pages front and back are just facts about historical districts. To me that very first bullet on the very first page where it says Facts about Historic Districts tells us what a historic district is. It is going to raise the value of the investment that you have there, whether it is your business or your home. It is going to provide us more securer homes because the people that live in those homes will be home owners rather than just renters and absentee landlords who are not around to see what the home looks like. So the property value is going to go up if you live in a home and you are one the to take care of it. It is going to have a stabilizing effect on resident's patterns so that people who live there will stay there. It will be a place that they want to be, not a place that they are looking to sell because other homes in the area are not being kept up. So it is going to stabilize the neighborhood and it is going to preserve the community character of that neighborhood. Another thing it will do is it will actually give us some tax incentives to those who live within the district to have a lower property tax. Hoping that the incentive will help you to use that money that you save on property taxes and do something to improve your home. Because all of us who do have older homes or older businesses knows it takes some money to keep those up. It is an investment. So, that is a little bit why we are here and the kinds of things that we want to discuss. The other bullets on that particular page and I hope you have had an opportunity to read through these as you have been sitting and waiting. The property value will go up and there is some actual data from other areas that will let you see the improved property values and those are also mentioned in the questions and answers in the Historic Facts. If you will turn to the second page there is actually a five to thirty-five percent per decade over the values in similar neighborhoods that become a historic district versus undesignated districts. So, it is not going to happen overnight but over the course of five years we would begin to see the difference in the property values there. As I was going through and helping Kristi try to find some of those residents whose letters came back to her, one of them was a real estate agent and I called the real estate agent to get the property owners address and it ended up being in Texas. She said oh, Mrs. Hubbard this will help me to sell the house if it is a historic district and I said yes, it should. That in its' self just someone who has no interest in this other than to sell a house. She realizes that if a house is located in a historic district that it is going to be more valuable than if it is not a designated district. The question and answers come from, if you notice at the bottom of the second page, came from New Hampshire. You probably are wondering why I used New Hampshire but in the northern part of our country is where historic districts have been more prevalent and recognized so there is more data there, more information. Although, Alabama has a very strong Historic Commission at the State level this is some information that I think will help you to understand more about, especially the q and a to understand more about what a historic district is and what it is not. On the very last page and this will come much later but I did want you to have it because a certified local government is what Oxford would become if all of this goes forward and that would help us have a pool of

grant money that would be available for revitalization within that historic district. With that said I turn it back over to Mr. Waits.

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing open.

Mrs. Hubbard stated there is a clause in the ordinance. The ordinance is what the Council will work on next. We will write our own ordinance. That is the beauty of this we control what we want to do. There is a section in the State ordinance that talks about hardships. Now everyone understands that we are not talking about the inside of anyone's house at all. All we are talking about is the outside, the yard, the part that is visible. That's the integrity that we want to keep. So the inside of the house, the electrical, the plumbing none of that is pertinent. Here is what happens, after we write our ordinance, the ordinance puts together the commission and it is made up of a group of people like you and maybe some people in here would be on that commission. Probably have one architect on it if we can find someone with that level of expertise and then they would put together the district. Even though you got a letter, like I said doesn't mean that you are in the district. The property owners that are in the T section have met and talked about this and they are in favor of having this area. So you would think that area would be in the district. The church being where it is may or may not be in. I really can't answer that question to tell you the truth because we don't put together the map. The people that will put that together will be the commission. The ordinance establishes the commission. So our ordinance and at all times the Council has control of that. A historic district is just more of what you have seen and I am so happy that we had the condemnation of the property tonight because that just shows that Oxford has zoning laws and we are going to abide by what those zoning laws say. For the historic district what this does is give a little bit more protection to our old historic area of our City. The beauty of it is if you live in Dearmanville because I have a friend who lives there she can be a part of the historic district. She doesn't have to live in the old section of Oxford. If you live in Bynum and you have an old historic property you can be a part of the historic district. It doesn't have to touch everyone that is in it. I can say that Mr. Dorsey was the only one in the historic district to start with then the commission can add on other people. You don't have to opt out. You can come and say you don't want to be a part of this but our hope is the only way to preserve the community and to keep the property values up in our area is to have a majority of the houses in the area a part of that district.

Mrs. Hubbard stated remind them that we are just talking about the outside of the home. We have a Planning and Zoning meeting that happens the first Tuesday of every month for all of our City. Those zoning laws supersede anything that the commission would have in place. So, if there is code or anything in that house that has to be brought up if you start to revitalize it rather than tear it down you are going to have to meet those codes anyway. I don't think there would be a problem. I went to a training session in Montgomery a couple of weeks ago because I wanted to know more about how are these things presented to the zoning commission that is in charge of the historic district. We had some mock properties and we pretended we were the commissioners and they brought it to us. They had an outline of what they were going to do and it is the same thing you would have to show to Mike Roberts when you went and asked for a building permit to do something to that house that the church owns or if you wanted to tear the house down. Nothing can be torn down without going in front of that commission because we want to preserve if we can. One of the beauties of the process that I saw was that the people that are on that commission are going to be people who have some really good ideas and have knowledge of the value of historic homes. How to go about glazing a window rather than going

out and buying a new window. So, I guess to answer your question it is really hard to answer it without the ordinance being in place but I don't think that would be an issue at all.

Mr. Waits stated also understand this to. This is about us hearing what concerns you because we are going to write the ordinance if we go forward with this. I want to know what you are concerned about and what the church is concerned about so we can be mindful to address it if we do go forward and write an ordinance.

Mrs. Hubbard stated one thing that people are confused about is our church and all the churches in this historic district, First Baptist, Dodson Memorial and United Methodist the way the church looks now we just wouldn't want you to maybe put a tin roof. You are going to keep it like it is looking because it is gorgeous. All the churches are and they are a huge part of this historic area that we designated on this would be area. If your house was built in the 40's we are not going to ask you to go back and make it look like it was built in 1800. If it was built in the 40's you want to keep it looking like that. You chose that house because you liked the craftsman style or whatever style it might be and so you want to keep that and protect the integrity of that and the people next to you. The people next door to the house that the church owns they have an investment in their house as well and they want your property to be kept up so that the value of their property stays in place or increases.

Mr. Waits stated Greg you are representing possibly a 1000 people probably so if there is any questions that come up when you go report back you can call Mrs. Hubbard. Mrs. Hubbard stated you can call me or tell them to call me anytime.

Rick Allen of 115 Spring Street and I have been living in this house for 20 years now. My concern is that I have been trying to get it approved as a registered historic site for some time but I can't get past the requirement saying that someone has done custom work on the house. It has to have some kind of custom markings on the house even though it was built the year Licksillet become Oxford. There is a 300 year old magnolia tree in the yard but they keep saying that I have better chances of having it registered as a historical tree instead of historical site. The T section you were talking about I was thinking was the T of Main Street and the thing about that is I live right across the railroad and is diagonal to the old train station. I just can't get past that.

Mrs. Hubbard stated you are trying to get onto the National Register and we do have one house and that is a really good question. The one house that is on the National Register and that is the Claridy Mansion that many of you might know that is by the Board of Education offices. That is a really good example. Mr. Turner went through a lot to get that house on there and that is a really good example that the house looks great but there are houses around it that have not been kept up because they are not a part of a historic district. There has been no expectation from the owner and the value of that house even though it is sitting there and it is a gorgeous property it is not going to improve the other houses around it are not kept as such. With a historic district like we are talking about you can become a part of that district and take advantage of all the incentives that comes along with that and not have to go through the National Register. We are not trying to be Williamsburg. We are trying to be Oxford. So you will not have to do all of that. It is funny that you said that about the magnolia tree because that was one of the questions that came up because preservation of trees is as important as the home. That was one of the things that came up in one of the scenarios at that meeting. The mock commission was trying to give them some ideas of how to protect those trees without having to take them down.

Mr. Allen stated a lot of times during the year people will come to the railroad track and take pictures on the railroad track and train station. I will come outside and they will be sitting in the yard in front of the magnolia tree taking pictures which is great.

Mrs. Hubbard stated it is a gorgeous tree. Mr. Allen stated it is beautiful and I just want to do whatever I can to preserve what I can of Oxford. When our kids were younger, I don't know if anyone remembers but if you had ever been to the old Library before we got our new one, there used to be a picture that was in the foyer. That picture was of my house. I have been to the Library trying to find this picture but we still haven't found it so I don't know if somebody liked it better than we did. I just felt like when we go the house it had a lot of historical significance to me and to a lot of people who like those projects.

Mrs. Hubbard stated thank you. Mr. Waits stated thank you Mr. Allen.

Mr. Sherrell Dorsey of Main Street stated yesterday I spent most of the day riding Mountain Avenue and most of downtown. The downtown area of any City is the best investment. I left Oxford and went to look at other places. I am familiar with Homewood, Alabama and I am familiar with Oxford. I drove to Homewood and went five blocks into Mountain Brook and the homes that would have been the antebellum homes are \$120,000.00 to \$130,000.00 because of the neglect not only from the homeowners but by the City. We are not going to agree on everything but we have to do what is best for Oxford.

James Boulemet of 119 Main Street stated I am definitely excited about this and what this can do. I think more about what the alternative is and Main Street in particular if we don't do something. Nobody likes to be told what to do with their property and I don't either but collectively the alternative is what I would be afraid of for all of Main Street and other properties. If we don't do something like this we stand a lot more to lose.

Don Hudson of 1226 Valleywood Road stated I have property at 426 Main Street, 428 Main Street, 430 Main Street, 17 A Choccolocco Street, 17 B Choccolocco Street, 226 Choccolocco Street, 230 Choccolocco Street, 219 Snow Street and 229 Snow Street. I am concerned. I love Oxford. Nobody loves Oxford not even Pat Wayne Shaddix loves Oxford more than I do. I rode my bicycle to Butenschon Drug Store. I am really concerned. I would love to have my property in a historical district but what I am concerned about an ordinance passed creating the commission telling me what I can do with my property. Before the commission is established I would like to know what the restrictions are. I understand if the commission is established it then sets the criteria that we abide by.

Mrs. Hubbard stated I think we will use what the State sets and that is we would keep the authenticity of the house. Just like I was saying if it is a craftsman style house we don't want to try to make it into an A frame on Main Street. We want to keep the integrity of the neighborhood through the fencing. It doesn't matter what you do inside because the Historic Commission at the State and National level realizes that you have to live in that house and you want to have running water. You don't want to live like in the 1800's or whenever your house or property might have been there. That we just preserve the integrity of the property and the look of the property.

Mr. Hudson stated I know in this ordinance that I have and it was a trial ordinance. It also stated that the Secretary of Interior that we would abide by their guidelines.

Mrs. Hubbard stated that is referring to the National Historic Commission but again the ordinance is as we write it. That is the beauty of a historic commission that the State allows you to do and still be eligible for those tax incentives. It is just another level of zoning. So that if you get ready to do something at one of your properties there where the so universal lady is and you have to have a building permit. You would go to Mike Roberts and he would say Don you live in and that property is in the historic district so you have to go to the historic commission and show then your plan. You show us your plan. The scenarios I was in, in Montgomery I was in a group and Montgomery has been in a historic district for a long time. Luckily that was the group that I got in with was two guys on their commission. They were telling me only one time had they ever had anyone that didn't go away very happy with their results. It is almost like a free decorator and a person to help you make your property even better than you wanted it to be because they have all these good ideas since this is their area of expertise. The people that would be on the commission, if you are asked if this ever comes to fruition and I hope it does, it is a lot of work. So I would not take on that role of being on a commission like that without knowing that you are going to have to study and be aware of the kinds of things you would need to know. One thing I didn't mention but since Don is here and I know one day Don and I were talking about paint. That was a question that several people had that there were only three colors you could use. Again, not being Williamsburg. If you go to and I just went to a local paint store and asked for the historical colors, I got two different ones. I would ask our local hardware store to get some as well. But look at all the colors to choose from. It is not like you can only choose from three colors. That's what most of us want to do is paint our house.

Mr. Hudson stated I have two more questions. Number one, I think I have the same question that First Baptist had. Is everyone in this district and I didn't see a map. Mrs. Hubbard stated there is not one. This is just something that Kristi and I made up. We used the old part of our City because that is the historic piece. Like I was saying if someone is in Dearmanville and they can certainly be a part of it. This is just the area. If we just started with a core, say we started with Main Street and that is declared as the district. It is not going to keep the commission from approving you. Say you lived on Spring Street and you wanted to be a part of it you can come and the Council would just approve you to be a part of the historic district. Once it is set we can add to it.

Mr. Hudson stated his second question is as the Parks and Recreation Director I am also responsible for the Senior Citizens Center, the park across the street, the Performing Arts Center, I have a half interest in the Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts Hall and both parks that lie within that district. Are we coming under the same restrictions as the commission?

Mrs. Hubbard stated yes. Mr. Hudson stated I have to go ask Leon Smith if, you have to ask the commission what color to paint that. Mrs. Hubbard stated but look at all the colors you have to choose from.

Mr. Waits stated she will go to Mayor Smith. Mrs. Hubbard stated I will handle it. All of the buildings even Mr. Dorsey's. We are not going to tell him to make it look like an old grocery store because it is not. Dorsey's is Dorsey's and we want it to look authentic to the period it was built. If it was built in 1945 then we want it to look like it was built in 1945. If it was built in 1890 then we would want it to look like that. That protects the integrity of the neighborhood.

Mr. Hudson stated last thing. My concern is the commission because this group of seven people will determine what I can and can't do. I think the property owners should have some input.

Mrs. Hubbard stated definitely. We will have a majority and we do need to have an architect. I learned that at the meeting I went to because there were some technical questions that just a lay person is not going to know, if we can find somebody with that level of expertise to be on the commission. Because it is not going to be just walk into the meeting. You are going to have to be knowledgeable to be on the commission.

Mr. Hudson stated I am for cameras in the downtown area, I'm for landscaping, I'm for putting the utilities underground and I am for new trash cans but just don't take it out of the Parks and Recreation budget. Take it out of somebody else's.

Mr. Waits stated I am sorry Don we didn't hear that.

Gena Sparks of 300 and 308 Snow Street stated she has three questions. Since part of that area has been zoned commercial for some time, how will this impact if we try to sell the property? In other words is it going to be commercial property that we are trying to sell as historic and what kind of impact?

Mrs. Hubbard stated it can't do anything but improve the property in that area rather it is a residence or whether it is a business. I think if you list in the historic district on your listing it isn't going to do anything but improve the value of that property.

Mr. Waits stated it will not change your zone.

Ms. Sparks stated it will still be in commercial zoning and in the historic district.

Mrs. Hubbard stated so you are still in R-1 if you live there on the corner. That is still residential. I am not sure what the zone line is through there.

Ms. Sparks stated at some point I plan on selling my property because it is too overwhelming and I will go bankrupt trying to restore everything. I bought the property to restore it.

Mrs. Hubbard stated what we are hoping is that someone would buy your house and hopefully restore it. It is going to help you have more clients who would be interested in your property. If they know that the whole street and all the area is going to be protected and other people aren't going to be allowed to let their houses just run down.

Mr. Henderson stated you said your property is zoned commercial now. Ms. Sparks stated yes. Mr. Henderson stated it can be rezoned to residential which would be better for you selling it. Mrs. Hubbard stated you would just have to go to the zoning board.

Ms. Sparks asked how are we going to market the property is I guess what I am saying. Can we sell to a business?

Mr. Henderson stated it depends on how you want to sell it. If you think you want to sell it as a business and make more money off of it as a business. If you want to sell it as a residence you need to go back through the process and have it rezoned as a residence.

Mrs. Hubbard stated the way to do that is to go to Ms. Henson and get on the zoning board meeting night agenda if you are interested in doing that.

Ms. Sparks asked will there be any exemptions like if people need to paint or change a door or do whatever. Will there be any exemptions?

Mrs. Hubbard stated there could be some hardship cases but normally in a little City like ours there will probably be someone on the commission or somebody who knew somebody on that commission that could find you a door that you needed. It is like a neighborhood association. Mr. Henderson stated a homeowners association.

Ms. Sparks stated are we talking a homeowners association. Mrs. Hubbard stated it is sort of like that but it is the historic homeowners group and we become a group of people that are passionate about preserving that part of the City. You are going to have people in there that will be an avenue for you to know somebody that can help you find what you need to do that. It is not like no you can't do that it's let's see if we can help you find a way to do it. There are some clauses in there about, like if you had to pay \$3,000.00 to cut down a tree because it was falling. Again you are with this group of people that may know how to cut down a tree. I don't know all of the things that could come up. That is probably the best answer I could give you right now.

Ms. Sparks stated it would be like a case by case basis as things arise and it is discussed at that point with the commission and reviewed. Mrs. Hubbard stated right. Ms. Sparks asked who is appointing the local preservation commission. Mrs. Hubbard stated that would be us, the Council. We would develop the ordinance. After we do the ordinance and the commission is named then that commission, the seven members if you use the State guide, then those people will determine where the district actually is. That is what their role would be. That is the next step. Then after they say here Council is the district that we are proposing, then we will say okay Ms. Henson's office needs to send out letters to all of these people that this commission has said is going to be in the zone. Sort of like we did this time. This is just informational, the same process. Then we will have another public hearing like this and that time you would actually be in the district that the commission had designated. Then you would get the real letter saying you are in the district and come and talk to us about your area.

Ms. Sparks stated I think my overall concern is just costs and renovation and things of that nature. Of course my house is just so large. It is just too big for me and that is my main concern and having restrictions and mandates. I know eventually I will be selling the property and hopefully as you said someone may want to take on a fixer upper. I personally can't do it. I don't have the strength or longevity to take it on.

Mr. Waits stated Mr. Hudson has about 300 other properties there. Ms. Sparks stated I have one for you.

Melissa Enzor of 508 Main Street stated I just wanted to address a little about the costs. I have done some research on how these commissions work. What the commission does when it sets up the historic district there was a mention of the registry of homes and how hard it is to get on that registry. If I am at 506 and I am doing a project, the fact that I am in a historic district that we designated I no longer have to get on the registry and am eligible for federal and state credit on my building project. So, I am automatically approved for applying for these credits. Say I have

a \$200,000.00 remodel I can get I believe it is 25 percent federal tax credit on that project and I believe but I may have my numbers wrong but I believe it is a 15 percent tax credit at the state level. You can get almost 50 percent off a building project just by the virtue of being in this historic district and starting an approved project.

Mr. Waits asked if there were any Council members who would like to ask questions.

Mr. Henderson asked the audience if they wouldn't mind showing by a show of hands who supports this. Then asked for a show of hands for those against it.

Mr. Waits stated what this is really about tonight is us getting feedback from you and what is on your mind as we talk about this. As new as this is to you, you have to remember it is totally new to us. Whether it is approved or not Mrs. Hubbard has put a tremendous amount of effort into this and has shown a huge amount of leadership. I appreciate you doing this and taking it on because it is a huge commitment but this is about us getting comfortable and listening to you and trying to find out what is important to you. We are not going to do this overnight. It will be something that is a process and like she said if we do go forward with it for those that are put into the district we will have another public hearing like this one to hear your input before we move forward to the next step. There will be a lot of talking going forward. Again, our process tonight was getting input from you and really hear what you had to say. Mr. Waits stated at this time I declare the public hearing closed. Yes, sir come on up we will keep it open.

Jim Justice addressed the Council. Mrs. Hubbard stated I think that is what we would talk about at the next meeting. Say if you were to get a letter and the commission called for the public hearing then the next time you might say you wanted to opt out before we actually voted on it. We can certainly do that. Again the more we talk about it the more we will understand about it.

Mr. Waits stated that is some things Mr. Justice that we are going to have to decide but to hear that is a concern of yours that puts it on us to try to figure out what we are going to do with that.

Felisha Brown stated her question is I am an heir of Mr. Wyatt Deramus and we all own this property and I was just wondering if our property is selected for this district what will we have to do.

Mr. Waits stated if you are selected and it is approved and goes forward on day one. Are you talking about on day one? Mrs. Brown stated yes. Mrs. Hubbard stated you don't have to do anything until you start until you make a change to the outside of your building. Say you wanted to put up new posts. Is the property on Main Street? Mrs. Brown stated the property is on 420 West Oak Street. That is going to be some of the older homes in the area. Until you need to do something to the outside of the house there isn't anything that you would be responsible for. There will be some clauses in there if we follow the State guidelines about you can't just leave your property and not keep it repaired. Mrs. Brown stated somebody lives there. Mr. Waits stated so nothing on day one.

Mr. Waits declared the public hearing closed. Again, I appreciate everybody being here tonight. I am going to give everyone who is not staying for the rest of the meeting, if you want to leave you are more than welcome. Thank you for taking the time in being here tonight.

Mr. Waits stated we will get started back in about two minutes. Mr. Waits stated we are going to call the meeting back to order.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2014-88 – Appointing Natalie Wilson to the Library Board for a term expiring October 27, 2017.

Mr. Waits recognized Amy Henderson, Librarian and stated that we appreciate what you do. We are blessed to have the Librarian and staff that we have and we have a fantastic facility. You show a tremendous amount of leadership and we appreciate what you do.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-88. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits recognized Mrs. Wilson for comments. Mr. Waits stated we appreciate you serving and it is amazing what goes on there. We appreciate you willing to serve and help Amy provide direction.

Mrs. Hubbard stated Mrs. Wilson is a media specialist with the City schools. Mr. Waits stated so she has some expertise.

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. Henderson “Yea” and Mr. Waits “Yea”. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2014-89 – Appointing Glenda Prestridge to the Library Board for a term expiring October 27, 2017.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-89. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Waits stated we appreciate her serving.

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. Henderson “Yea” and Mr. Waits “Yea”. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2014-90 – Re-appointing Linda Rinehart to the Library Board for a term expiring October 27, 2016.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-90. 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. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2014-91 – Re-appointing Robert Fulton to the Water Board for a term expiring November 21, 2020.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-91. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

Resolution No. 2014-92 – Re-appointing John Burdette to the Water Board for a term expiring November 21, 2020.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-92. 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. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2014-93 – Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for resurfacing Snow Street from SR-21 to SR-4 (US 78).

Mr. Waits stated essentially what this is it will allow them to start right of way acquisitions with a Federal match of 80 percent and the City will be responsible for 20 percent.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-93. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Waits called for comments or questions.

Mr. Waits stated we want to try to get this in because it will be next year before the paving actually starts and we want to try to get something done where Snow runs into Highway 78. Hopefully that will get us through until we get to resurfacing the rest of the road.

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

Resolution No. 2014-94 – Extending the contract with Shooter's Alley, LLC.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-94. 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. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2014-95 – Resolution declaring personal property as surplus property.

Mr. Waits stated this is phones that the City will surplus and then sell to a reseller.

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-95. 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. Henderson "Yea" and Mr. Waits "Yea". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Waits stated the next two items are meeting changes.

Mr. Waits stated the first item is calling a special meeting on Tuesday, November 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room to discuss the budget.

Mrs. Hubbard made a motion for a special called meeting on Tuesday, November 4th at 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

Change the November 11, 2014 meeting to Monday, November 10, 2014.

Mr. Henderson made a motion to change the November 11, 2014 meeting to November 10, 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Waits called for Council Comments.

Mr. Henderson asked for everyone to be careful Friday night not only with the ball game but with it being Halloween. There will be a lot of kids out so I encourage everyone to be careful so we can have a safe night that night.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Smith was absent.

Visitors

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

William Norton of 1030 West 9th Street addressed the Council about several complaints. Mr. Norton asked them to resurface West 9th Street. If you ever ride down that road you have to ride down the wrong side of the road or you will tear your car up. My wife broke her thigh bone and you have to ride real easy. If you don't resurface all of it how about doing parts of it. Especially from where Mr. Newman lived to where Pee Wee Turner lived and there are several other places. Next thing is we have some trashy people here in Oxford. Just ride down West 9th Street and see what I am talking about. Our ground and road crews do a great job of keeping it cut. If you go toward Skinners there are two houses that were torn down but if you ride on down West 9th Street and look in the ditch on the right hand side, you will see enough trash for a trash can full. I just think we could set up some cameras and catch some of these people because you are not going to catch them during the day. They will see a police car sitting there.

Mr. Waits stated you are not talking about an actual residence you are talking about people riding by and throwing trash out. Mr. Norton stated yes. The City picked it up here about three or four weeks ago. If you ride through there now you will see what I am talking about. I think they just chunk their trash out and they do it at my house because I am the first house past there on the right. There is nobody in my front and they chunk it in my yard and I get tired of picking it up. I think maybe if you set up some cameras or do something to catch them because they are doing it daily.

Mr. Waits asked do you know the address. Mr. Norton stated no, I just know about where it is at. We need to do something and the only way you are going to catch them is to set up cameras. The next thing is the railroad track on West 9th Street. I spoke with Mrs. Reaves and she said there was nothing the railroad could do. I would just pave over the railroad tracks next time they come through there. If you offer them something to fix it and they don't fix it then just pave over it.

Mr. Waits stated we will take that under advisement. Mr. Norton stated thank you and I would like to get West 9th Street paved. Mr. Waits stated we will definitely look at those three things.

Mr. Waits stated City Hall will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 for Veteran's Day.

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