

5/24/2022

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: May 24, 2022  
TIME: 6:27 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 City Council of the City of Oxford, Alabama, met in Regular Session in the Oxford City Hall of the City of Oxford, Alabama, on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at approximately 6:27 o'clock p.m. Council President Spurlin called the meeting to order.

Ron Allen, City Attorney, was present.

Alan Atkinson, City Clerk, was present.

Greg Ford, Grace Baptist Church, prayed the Invocation.

Council President Spurlin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Spurlin stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the May 10, 2022 meeting. Council Member Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gardner.

Council President Spurlin called for any comments or questions; there being none, on roll call the votes of the Council were as follows: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits, and Henderson; nays: none; abstentions: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried.

Council Member Gardner made a motion to table Resolution No. 2022-52, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with KPS Group, Inc. to update the City's Zoning Ordinance in the total amount of \$21,505.00 and remove from the agenda Resolution No. 2022-53, a resolution authorizing a tax abatement agreement for FabArc Steel Supply, Inc. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hubbard; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits, Henderson and Spurlin; nays: none. The motion carried.

Council President Spurlin stated the next item on the agenda was the Consent Agenda.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 2022- 49 – Resolution granting a one time lump sum payment for eligible City retirees and beneficiaries under the provisions of Section 2 of Act No. 2022-229.

Resolution No. 2022- 50 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an easement at 355 Turner Road with Alabama Power Company.

Resolution No. 2022- 51 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an easement at 355 Turner Road with Alabama Power Company.

Resolution No. 2022 – 54 – Resolution authorizing an amended tax abatement agreement for Bridgewater Interiors LLC

Resolution No. 2022- 55 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Real Estate Purchase/Sales Contract with Carol Frederick and/or ULTIPRFEF LLC for the purchase of certain real property.

Resolution No. 2022- 56 – Resolution appointing Don Hopper to the Oxford Board of Education.

Resolution No. 2022- 57 – Resolution authorizing and ratifying a Facility/Meeting Space Rental Agreement between the City and the Talladega Superspeedway in the total amount of \$8,000.00

Resolution No. 2022- 58 – Resolution amending an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Warrants, Series 2022A not to exceed \$30,000,000.00

Resolution No. 2022- 59 – Resolution amending the approximate amount of the tax abatement for Kronospan PB LLC.

Council Member Henderson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2022-49, 2022-50, 2022-51, 2022-54, 2022-55, 2022-56, 2022-57, 2022-58 and 2022-59. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hubbard; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits, Henderson and Spurlin; nays: none. The motion carried and the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2022-49, 2022-50, 2022-51, 2022-54, 2022-55, 2022-56, 2022-57, 2022-58 and 2022-59, were approved.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits thanked Don Hopper for being willing to serve on the Board of Education.

Council Member Henderson stated that this weekend was Memorial Day and they wanted to remember and honor all the veterans.

Council President Spurlin congratulated the Oxford School System and the Green Power Team on winning the National Championship this year.

Mayor Craft presented the following proclamation to Pat Wayne Shaddix.

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Proclamation – Pat Wayne Shaddix

Pat Wayne Shaddix stated that his work with the Oxford School System was one of his proudest accomplishments.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits stated that Mr. Shaddix served on the Oxford City Council that created the Oxford City School system.

Mayor Craft stated he had heard many compliments about the friendliness of our citizens during the recent baseball and softball state tournaments and the junior college softball tournament.

Council President Spurlin stated he appreciated the effort put forth by the department heads and the staff representing our city.

Council President Spurlin stated they needed to set public hearings for June 14, 2022 to consider a condemnation at 380 Lane Road, a condemnation at 1603 Beck Road and a condemnation at 1001 Church Street.

Council President Spurlin stated they needed to set public hearings for June 14, 2022 to consider the following requests which were approved by the Oxford Planning Commission at their May 3, 2022 meeting:

Zoning request from GC Group Holdings to rezone property located on Carterton Heights from Agricultural District (AG) to Planned Development District (PD-1)

Zoning request from Hau Le and Hoan Nguyen to rezone property located at 1831 U. S. Highway 78 East from Manufactured Home District (MH) to Central Business District (CBD)

Council President Spurlin stated they needed to set a public hearing for June 14, 2022 to consider the following requests which were not approved by the Oxford Planning Commission at their May 3, 2022 meeting:

Zoning request from Danny Burrows to rezone property located at 0 U. S. Highway 78 West (Parcel# 2207350004039000) from Residential 1 District (R-1) to Residential 2 District (R-2)

Council President Spurlin asked that the public comments be orderly and addressed to the Chair.

Madison Scott, 291 Ponderosa Trail, addressed the Council and stated that on May 14<sup>th</sup> information was provided to the graduating seniors that graduation May 26 would be postponed till the next night if inclement weather did not allow an outside graduation. She stated she felt the subsequent information provided to the graduating seniors that graduation May 26 would be moved inside the sports arena if inclement weather did not allow an outside graduation sent the wrong message to the graduating seniors.

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Council President Spurlin stated the City Council appoints the School Board and has confidence that the Board will make the wisest decisions possible based on the information that they have. He stated the City Council is not involved in the decisions concerning the dates for graduation.

Dr. Shannon Stanley, Oxford City School System Superintendent, addressed the Council and stated the May 14 communication had sparked phone calls and emails stating that the policy in the past had always been for moving the graduation inside (instead of postponing) in the case of inclement weather so as to allow all the seniors to graduate together. She stated they had made a decision to follow that longstanding policy.

Jakela Matthews, 1909 Park Avenue, addressed the Council and stated she did not think it was fair to change the earlier decision for postponement due to the concerns of some students and their families. She stated if they moved the graduation inside she would be limited to four tickets and she had relatives coming from all across the country for this graduation.

Fallon Webb, Birmingham, addressed the Council and stated a plan was sent out on May 14 for the graduation process in the case of inclement weather and then the plan was rescinded which sent the wrong message to the students.

Lakisha Foster, 4206 Country Oaks Drive, addressed the Council and stated a plan was put in place over a week ago and then to change it suddenly did not give people a chance to make changes to their plans. She stated they have not considered the magnitude of this decision.

Dr. Shannon Stanley, Oxford City School System Superintendent, addressed the Council and stated that they did currently plan for the graduation to take place at the stadium. She stated the arena graduation is only a contingency plan.

Eugene Allen, 86 Victoria, addressed the Council and stated he still had a problem with the storm drain and flooding and he had met with City workers and the problem seemed to be concerning what was private property and public property. He stated the storm drain should not be the homeowners responsibility.

Council President Spurlin stated that he had spoken to the Mayor today concerning this storm drain and flooding problem. He stated the City is limited as to what they can and cannot do working on private property. He stated they were looking at possible ways to turn the water away from his residence.

Mr. Allen stated the storm drain pipe should be double the size of what it actually is. He stated homes were being flooded and land was eroding away.

Mayor Craft stated the Public Works Department is looking for ways to divert this water away from these homes. He stated that he would meet with Mr. Allen and the Public Works Department to see what kind of solution they could reach.

Amber Star addressed the Council and stated she felt the kids were telling them that they wanted to graduate and walk at the stadium. She stated perhaps there could be a graduation ceremony in

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the arena in the case of inclement weather on Thursday evening and one at the stadium on Friday evening.

Council President Spurlin stated the City Council and the Board of Education appreciated the comments tonight and the professional conduct of the citizens. He stated as he understood it the plan was still for the graduation to take place at the stadium and only move to the arena if the weather forces that action. He stated it is a tough decision and not all sides are always necessarily happy with the decision. He stated this is not a City Council decision.

Council President Spurlin stated the Council they would be adjourning into Executive Session to discuss a possible sale or purchase of real estate and asked Ron Allen, City Attorney, to certify said purpose of the Executive Session.

Ron Allen, City Attorney, stated he did certify that the Council was adjourning into Executive Session to discuss a possible sale or purchase of real estate.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Henderson made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss a possible sale or purchase of real estate. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waits; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits, Henderson and Spurlin; nays: none. The motion carried and the Council adjourned into Executive Session at approximately 7:08 o'clock p.m.

APPROVED  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
OXFORD, ALABAMA



Chris Spurlin, Council President

AUTHENTICATED:



Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk  
May 24, 2022: Regular Meeting

