

7/28/2020

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: July 28, 2020
TIME: 6:29 P.M.
PLACE: Oxford Performing Arts Center
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 Performing Arts Center of the City of Oxford, Alabama, on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at approximately 6:29 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.

Council President Spurlin stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the July 14th, 2020 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, Henderson and Spurlin; nays: none. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

United Way representatives made a presentation of a check in the total amount of \$3,875.00 from proceeds from The Magic of Lights to Jay Borchard and Jordan Pilkington, A League Of Their Own,

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

7/28/2020

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution No. 2020 – 63 – Resolution appointing election officials for the various polling places for the Municipal Election to be conducted on August 25, 2020 and, if necessary, for the “Run-Off” Election on October 6, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020- 64 – Resolution appointing the City Clerk to perform all election duties for the Municipal Election to be conducted on August 25, 2020 and, if necessary, for the “Run-Off” Election on October 6, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020 – 65 – Resolution appointing a substitute absentee election manager in the event the election manager cannot perform his duties.

Resolution No. 2020 – 66 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Calhoun County for election equipment use and custodial services for the August 25, 2020, Municipal Election in the amount of \$9,972.32.

Resolution No. 2020 – 67 – Resolution declaring Alton L. Craft duly elected to the office of Mayor for the term of office commencing on the first Monday in November, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020 – 68 – Resolution declaring Charlotte Hubbard duly elected to the office of Council Member Place 2, Ronald Chris Spurlin duly elected to the office of Council Member Place 4, and Steven Waits duly elected to the office of Council Member Place 5 for the term of office commencing on the first Monday in November, 2020.

Resolution No. 2020- 69 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an application for CDBG funds in the amount of \$450,000.00 with a City match of \$278,850.00 for demolition and infrastructure upgrades.

Resolution No. 2020- 70 – Resolution transferring the existing cable franchise held by Cable One to Hargray of Alabama, Inc. and entitling Hargray to operate a cable television system in Oxford.

Resolution No. 2020- 71 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 1609 Joe Street.

Resolution No. 2020- 72 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 59 Ina Lane.

Resolution No. 2020- 73 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 3701 Valleyview Drive.

Resolution No. 2020- 74 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 37 Sunny Eve Road.

7/28/2020

Council Member Henderson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2020-63 through 2020-74. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gardner; 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 2020-63 through 2020-74, were approved.

Council Member Hubbard asked if the City could look at the animal control ordinance concerning tethered dogs. She stated that some dogs that were tethered had gotten loose in the downtown area.

Council Member Henderson addressed the Council concerning the need for a new field house at Oxford High School.

Mayor Craft thanked the staff and everyone involved for their work on the Green Power presentation. He also stated the school system had won many championships over the years and they were working on getting signage to that effect.

Council President Spurlin stated they needed to set public hearings for August 11, 2020, to consider condemnations at 216 Mountain Avenue and 2026 Airport Road.

Council President Spurlin stated the Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss pending or ongoing litigation 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 going into Executive Session to discuss pending or ongoing litigation.

Council Member Waites made a motion for the Council to go into Executive Session to discuss pending or ongoing litigation. 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 Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:47 o'clock p.m.

The Council reconvened at approximately 7:59 o'clock p.m. Council President Spurlin called the meeting back to order.

Tom Dixon, Interim Director, Oxford EMS, addressed the Council and stated that Oxford EMS had been experiencing financial difficulties in recent years and was also involved in litigation. He stated since he had become Interim Director that there had been a reduction in the work force at Oxford EMS and a trimming of non-necessary expenditures in order to insure that health care transportation and emergency medical services were available. He stated the Coronavirus had wreaked havoc on the nation's health system both financially and operationally. He stated that revenues had decreased considerably to Oxford EMS due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He stated call volume was down because of the lack of non-emergency transport that had been taking place during this pandemic. He stated they were still trying to determine practical solutions moving forward concerning the past due debt and the ongoing litigation. He stated they

7/28/2020

needed funding to continue to make payroll through the end of August. He stated they would continue to keep the Mayor and Council apprised of their situation and needs going forward.

Council President Spurlin thanked Mr. Dixon and the Oxford EMS Board for their hard work to try and make Oxford EMS financially viable.

Resolution No. 2020 – 75 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to make an appropriation to Oxford EMS in an amount not to exceed \$140,000.00

Council Member Waits made a motion to add to the agenda and approve Resolution No. 2020-75, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to make an appropriation to Oxford EMS up to \$140,000.00. 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 Resolution Number 2020-75 was approved.


Council Member Waits stated that he thought they had an incredible group of medics and care givers at Oxford EMS and the Council appreciated them. He stated this Council was committed to providing quality health care to the citizens of Oxford.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Henderson made a motion to adjourn. Council President Spurlin declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:07 o'clock p.m.

APPROVED
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
OXFORD, ALABAMA


Chris Spurlin, Council President

AUTHENTICATED:


Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk
July 28, 2020: Regular Meeting