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OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: October 13, 2020
TIME: 6:29 P.M.
PLACE: Oxford Performing Arts Center
PRESENT: Mayor Alton Craft
Mr. Steven Waits, Council President Pro Tempore
Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member
Mr. Phil Gardner, Council Member
Mr. Mike Henderson, Council Member

ABSENT: Mr. Chris Spurlin, Council President

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, October 13, 2020, at approximately 6:29 o'clock p.m. Council President Pro Tempore Waits called the meeting to order.

Ron Allen, City Attorney, was present.

Alan Atkinson, City Clerk, was present.

David Harmon, Meadowbrook Baptist Church, prayed the Invocation.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the September 22nd, 2020 meeting. Council Member Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hubbard.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits 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; absent: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President Pro Tempore Waits announced that was the time for the public hearing to consider a zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2), declared the public hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to said zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2).

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Mike Howard, 2068 Donna Drive, addressed the Council in favor of said zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2). He stated the traffic flow would not be a problem on that road. He stated the apartments that would be built there would match the brick on the library and fire station as closely as possible.

Mayor Craft asked Mr. Howard how many units they were planning to build.

Mr. Howard stated that they were going to build 10 units. Five on bottom and five on top.

Chief Sparks, Fire Department, addressed the Council in opposition to said zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2). He stated when the fire trucks come back to the station they have to take up the entire street because it is very narrow there. He stated they can stop the big fire trucks on a dime and he was concerned with them coming in and out there. He stated the school bus stop was on 6th Street, so the kids that live in the apartments have to walk up that street. He stated they were concerned about adding more traffic to that area.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits noted that Chief Sparks, Fire Department, had presented the Council a letter dated October 12, 2020, asking the Council to deny this rezoning request based on safety concerns.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits asked if anyone else wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to said zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2).

No one else addressed the Council either in favor of or in opposition to said zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2).

Council President Pro Tempore Waits declared the public hearing to consider a zoning request from Jigneshbhai Patel to rezone property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2), closed.

Ordinance No. 2020 – 22 – Ordinance rezoning property located at 1209 Humphries Street from Neighborhood Shopping Center (NSC) to Planned Development 2 (PD-2)

Council Member Henderson made a motion for the unanimous consent of the Council for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 2020-22. 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 and Henderson; nays: none; absent: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried.

Unanimous consent of the Council having been given for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 2020-22, Council President Pro Tempore Waits asked if there was a motion to

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approve Ordinance Number 2020-22. There was no motion to approve Ordinance Number 2020-22.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits stated that Ordinance Number 2020-22 was dead since there was no motion.

Ordinance No. 2020 – 23 – Ordinance amending the City Code, levying a Privilege License Tax against persons, firms or corporations engaged in the business of selling at retail alcoholic beverages in the city of Oxford.

Council Member Gardner made a motion for the unanimous consent of the Council for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 2020-23. The motion was seconded by Council Member Henderson; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits and Henderson; nays: none; absent: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried.

Unanimous consent of the Council having been given for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 2020-23, Council Member Henderson made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2020-23. 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 and Henderson; nays: none; absent: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried and Ordinance Number 2020-23 was approved.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits stated this was a two percent increase on alcoholic beverage sales with the two percent being directed toward public safety in the city.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution No. 2020 – 119 – Resolution authorizing a tax abatement agreement for Bridgewater Interiors LLC

Resolution No. 2020 – 120 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with the Economic Development Council of Calhoun County

Resolution No. 2020 – 121 – Resolution declaring certain vehicles/equipment surplus and authorizing their disposal.

Resolution No. 2020- 122 – Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to reimburse the City Attorney for expenses incurred to attend a municipal law conference

Resolution No. 2020- 123 – Resolution amending Resolution No. 2020-40 concerning eminent domain proceedings on Leon Smith Parkway for a bridge widening project.

Council Member Gardner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2020-119 through 2020-123. The motion was seconded by Council Member Henderson; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Hubbard, Gardner, Waits

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and Henderson; nays: none; absent: Council President Spurlin. The motion carried and the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2020-119 through 2020-123, were approved.

Council Member Hubbard stated that Oxford Fest this year had been well planned and was very organized. She stated the booth set up and the traffic flow was very business friendly. She stated that Hunter Gentry, Main Street Director, was doing an exceptional job and he had presented the Council with a Historic Main Street Oxford Year End Report for Fiscal Year 2020.

Mayor Craft stated there had been a meeting with Honours Golf and they were now working with the City staff to rectify some of the current problems. He stated that Don Hudson, Parks and Recreation Director, speaks with Honours Golf weekly about the progress and current work at the golf course. He stated they were trying to stay with the Bent grass at the golf course.

Council Member Hubbard asked about Terry Warren and the restaurant at Cider Ridge.

Mayor Craft stated they were still working on the details of an agreement for Terry Warren and the restaurant at Cider Ridge.

Terry Parker, 2067 Little John Drive, addressed the Council and stated that he gave Oxford Water and Sewer to place a sewer line on his property. He stated the ditch is becoming wider and causing erosion and there is danger of trees falling. He stated that he had discussed this with Rusty Gann, City Engineer, and that they agreed that probably at least 70% of Sherwood Forest drains through this ditch. He stated that trees had fallen on his sister's property at 4030 Forest Lane. He stated that some of the drainage ditches are on private property. He stated that some action needs to be taken even though some of the drainage ditches are on private property.

Mayor Craft asked Mr. Parker how long was the ditch.

Mr. Parker stated about 90 to 100 feet.

Mayor Craft asked Mr. Parker what was the diameter of the trees left.

Mr. Parker stated the diameter of the trees left we about 8 to 10 inches. He stated in the same ditch behind his house the trees were probably 24 inches in diameter.

Mayor Craft stated they would be out to look at the problem tomorrow.

Taylor Sloan, Marketing Department, stated that Festival of Lights tickets were now on sale for \$15.00 through October.

Council President Pro Tempore Waits stated that the City staff was doing a great amount of work setting up for Festival of Lights and the skating rink was much bigger this year.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Henderson made a motion to adjourn. Council President Pro Tempore Waits declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:54 o'clock p.m.

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APPROVED
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
OXFORD, ALABAMA



Steven Waits, Council President Pro Tempore

AUTHENTICATED:



Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk
October 13, 2020: Regular Meeting

