

3/12/2020

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: March 12, 2020
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 Council Chamber in the City Hall of the City of Oxford, Alabama, on Thursday, March 12, 2020, 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.

Tom Hodges, Oxford First Baptist Church, prayed the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Spurlin stated tonight we have Aamari Ward to lead us in our pledge. Aamari is a 6th grader at C. E. Hanna Elementary School. Her parents are Rico and Pamela English and Anthony Ward. Aamari enjoys reading, writing, baking, cheer, singing and playing her clarinet. At school, Aamari is a 6th grade student ambassador, member of the C. E. Hanna Beginner Band, Jacket Sing-Sations and JUNA. Her favorite subject is social studies and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Hendrix. When Aamari grows up, she wants to be an Anesthesiologist or a Supreme Court Judge.

Aamari Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council President Spurlin thanked Aamari Ward for leading the Pledge of Allegiance and thanked her for being an outstanding student.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Spurlin stated each member of the Council had previously received a copy of the minutes of the February 23rd and February 25th, 2020 meetings. Council Member Henderson made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hubbard.

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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.

Council President Spurlin announced that was the time for the public hearing appealing the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street, declared the public hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street.

Wren Green, 25 Main Street, addressed the Council in opposition to the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street. She stated that when she received the proposed notice of condemnation from the City, she was told by the City Inspections Department not to do any further work on the home. She stated the roof was the main issue that needed to be repaired and water had been going into the house since she could not currently make repairs at the house. She stated that three contractors had been to the home and told her what they could do and two of the contractors went under the home. She stated the contractors told her home should not be condemned.

Council President Spurlin asked Ms. Green if she had any documentation from the contractors stating her home should not be condemned.

Ms. Green stated she did not have any documentation from the contractors stating her home should not be condemned.

Council President Spurlin stated that the Council had seen a video of the inside of the home and he had concerns that the home was unsafe for occupation. He stated that looking at the time line the Council had before them that the City Inspections Department contacted Ms. Green on January 31st and there had been no progress on repairing the home or any documentation of proposed repairs from contractors.

Ms. Green stated she had cleaned up the inside of the house. She stated they told her not to do anything to the roof. She stated the house has been damaged because there had been 22 days of rain when she could not repair the roof.

Council President Spurlin stated the home was already damaged when she received the notice of the proposed condemnation. He stated that tonight they were deciding whether to continue with condemnation procedure but that the Council would not be voting tonight on whether to actually condemn the house.

Ms. Green stated the City Inspections Department told her not to do anything to the home.

Mike Roberts, Inspections Department, stated they had advised Ms. Green not to do anything to home because the structure was damaged to the point of not being safe. He stated they were afraid that the rotted material in home could cave in on her and so for her safety they had advised her not to do any work on the house. He stated there was also mold and mildew in the home.

Ms. Green stated she had the home tested for mold and there was no black mold in the home.

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Council President Spurlin stated he appreciated Ms. Green being at the meeting and making her case against the condemnation procedure continuing. He stated the Council did rely on the reports and statements from their Inspections Department and had to also consider the safety of Ms. Green and her family members.

Ms. Green presented her documentation to the Council.

Council President Spurlin asked if Ms. Green had gotten any estimates on the repairs to her home.

Ms. Green stated she had received estimates ranging from \$8,000 to \$22,000 on the repairs to her home. She stated she did not have any estimates in the documentation she had given to the Council.

Council President Spurlin stated to Ms. Green that tonight they were going to vote whether to go forward with the condemnation procedure. He stated if they vote to proceed with the condemnation procedure then this item would come to the Council on a future agenda and if at that time she could show she could afford the repairs and have a valid licensed contractor to make the repairs.

Mike Roberts, Inspections Department, stated they would also like for her to have a plan and time line for the repairs at that time of what is going to be repaired and by whom.

Ms. Green stated she should be able to provide that information at that time.

Council President Spurlin asked if anyone else wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street.

No one else addressed the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street.

Council President Spurlin declared the public hearing appealing the notice for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street, closed.

Council Member Henderson made a motion to allow the City Inspections Department to move forward with the procedure for the proposed condemnation of 25 Main Street. 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.

Mike Roberts, Inspections Department, stated that the condemnation notices must remain up on the structure at 25 Main Street at this time.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

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Resolution No. 2020 – 19 – Resolution to suspend the rule requiring the City Council to meet on the fourth Tuesday of March, 2020 and scheduling a Council Meeting for Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Resolution No. 2020- 20 – Resolution appointing a Voting Delegate and 1st Alternate Voting Delegate for the Business Session of the Annual Convention of the Alabama League of Municipalities on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 2020- 21 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 1772 Ponderosa Trail.

Resolution No. 2020- 22 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 1060 Turner Road.

Resolution No. 2020- 23 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 305 W. 5th Street.

Resolution No. 2020- 24 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 2894 U. S. Highway 78 W.

Resolution No. 2020- 25 – Resolution for the placement of a Municipal Lien on the property located at 2880 U. S. Highway 78 W.

Resolution No. 2020- 26 – Resolution to designate and name three streets of Circle Drive as Alexis Lane, Mollie Lane and Tiffany Lane.

Resolution No. 2020- 27 – Resolution to approve the submittal and execution of a grant application through ADECA for CDBG and ARC Funds for infrastructure improvements for economic development projects.

Council Member Gardner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Resolution Numbers 2020-19 through 2020-27. 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 2020-19 through 2020-27, were approved.

Council President Spurlin stated the Council would be adjourning into Executive Session to discuss the 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 the possible sale or purchase of real estate.

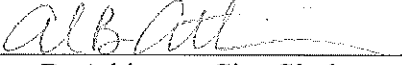
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There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Hubbard made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss the possible sale or purchase of real estate. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waits; and on call 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 6:51 o'clock p.m.

APPROVED
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
OXFORD, ALABAMA


Chris Spurlin, Council President

AUTHENTICATED:


Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk
March 12, 2020: Regular Meeting