

**NORTH CAROLINA
GRANVILLE COUNTY
CITY OF OXFORD**

**OXFORD CITY HALL, BOARD MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Oxford met in Regular Session at City Hall, 300 Williamsboro Street at the above-mentioned time and place.

Present: Mayor Alvin Woodlief, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Howard G. Herring, Sr.
Commissioner Stephen C. Powell
Commissioner Paul F. Kiesow
Commissioner A. Chance Wilkinson
Commissioner Robert B. Williford, Sr.
Commissioner Walter Cantley

Absent: Commissioner Robert Shope

Present also were City Attorney J. Thomas Burnette, City Manager Mark Donham and City Clerk Tanya S. Weary.

All members of the board and local news media were notified of the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

Mayor Al Woodlief, Jr. called the meeting to order.

Reverend Phillip Betts gave the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Thomas of 417 Sycamore Street noted there is a basketball goal in the middle of her street and during Thanksgiving there were 40 people in the street playing basketball. She added the ordinance prohibits this and noted she had called the police department eighteen times. She added they have vandalized and taken the furniture off the porch of her grandmother's house and put it in the street. She asked that this be

removed from the street. Mayor Woodlief directed this concern to the Manager and Police Chief.

Constance Lue of 104 Greenfield Circle noted she enjoys coming to the commissioners meeting and added Oxford is a pretty town with kind and accommodating citizens. She called Oxford a picture perfect town with parades, holiday celebrations, decorations and events for all. She noted she was pleased to be a citizen of Oxford and Granville County.

Joe Lyle of Millridge Companies, 818 S. White Street, Wake Forest, requested an official agenda item to discuss the recently adopted policy to require annexation for industrial properties outside the city limits. He added he had discussed this with the Mayor and indicated there were others in the business industry to comment on this matter. Mayor Woodlief suggested discussing this matter at the retreat to be scheduled towards the end of February. The Commissioners agreed. He asked Commissioner Powell to get with the City Clerk on a date he would be available.

MAYOR'S YARD OF THE MONTH AWARD – ETHEL L. ROYSTER

Mayor Woodlief recognized January's Mayor's Yard of the Month winner, Ethel L. Royster. Mayor Woodlief read the certificate, which recognizes her for the outstanding job of landscaping maintenance and overall attractiveness of 207 Wilmington Avenue. He added a sign would be placed in the yard recognizing her as the winner for Mayor's Yard of the Month and that a picture would be taken for the *Oxford Public Ledger*. Ms. Royster was not in attendance.

GREENWAY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Greenway Technical Coordinating Committee Chairman Michael McFadden noted City Commissioner Bob Shope was elected as Chairman of the Granville Greenways Advisory Committee. This committee supports the Safe Routes to School program. He noted a ninth member is needed in the event of a tie. He added the Council would like to present an educational PowerPoint presentation to the Board and others that may be involved with greenways.

GREENWAY ADVISORY COUNCIL NINTH MEMBER APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Herring motioned to approve Granville County Economic Development Director Jay Tilley as the ninth member to the Granville Greenways Advisory Council. The motion passed unanimously.

GREENWAY EDUCATION PRESENTATION

A consensus was taken and it was agreed that the Greenway Education Outreach presentation be presented at the Board's Retreat to be held in February.

ZONING PUBLIC HEARING – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS

Mayor Woodlief declared the public hearing open and invited comment. The purpose of this hearing was to consider a request from Families Living Violence Free for an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance in order to locate their office and shelter in a structure that is zoned B-1. Currently, the Zoning Ordinance allows domestic violence shelters in the O-I (Office-Institutional) and B-3 (General Business) zoning districts. The Planning Board recommends amending the zoning ordinance to allow domestic violence shelters in the B-1 zoning district as a special use permit.

Lauren Rene of 2615 Bode Currin Road and Executive Director of Families Living Violence Free distributed a handout discussing the history, need, challenges, what the agency wants and needs from Oxford. She noted their shelter closed in 2008 due to their address being published by Embarq. Ms. Rene indicated that moving the agency back to Oxford would be beneficial to house citizens in need of services and the agency. The combined agency would allow them to reduce overhead and personnel expenses. The shelter will house a maximum of 12, which includes children.

Commissioner Cantley questioned the security due to the close proximity of the school to which Ms. Rene noted that they follow the guidelines required by the grant funders for security issues. There is a security system already in place and grant monies could be available for upgrades.

Chris Juterbock of 310 Broad Street noted he did not have any objections to this and would consider it a good thing to have a shelter in the community.

Dana McKeithan of 304 19th Street, Butner, a community support specialist/provider for mental health, added she was a member of the Families Living Violence Free Board. She noted she works with members who have been engaged with violence in the home and many of these families work in your County and the children attend the schools. They must have a safe and livable environment. They are asking for the opportunity to engage in everyday activity safely. She requested the support of the commissioners.

Reverend Phillip Betts 123 Saddletree Road noted he appreciates this organization and their work. He added this was kin to the homeless shelter and recognized they had

had some domestic issues, but hadn't had any problems in over 12 years. He noted he supported this because the community needs this service.

Police Chief John Wolford stressed that it is critical to have this facility back in Oxford. The move hindered on the ability to have the immediacy of this facility. The office and shelter in Oxford will be helpful.

Jackie Sergeant of 114 High Street noted she was a new member to the Families Living Violence Free Board and noted that this is a great idea and location. She stressed that domestic violence hits everybody.

Commissioner Powell noted he had spoken with Ms. Rene and encouraged the Commissioners to be in favor of this request because it will help people who sometimes don't know how to help themselves.

Frank Strickland of 112 Planters Place agreed with everything that had been said, but he was concerned about the location because the Granville County Democratic Party moved due to a few break-ins and the volunteers felt unsafe; therefore they moved to Creedmoor.

David Vaughan of 601 Cherry Street noted he understands the need due to the fact he is a former law enforcement officer. He offered his services to the agency to outfit the home with a security surveillance that can be watched or looked at by the police department. He noted he could sit at his office in Raleigh and monitor his home.

No one else wished to speak.

Mayor Woodlief noted he supported this and noted he had discussed the issue with Planning Director Cheryl Hart and she has had only encouragement and no negativity. Conditions around the site have changed.

Mayor Woodlief closed the public hearing.

ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDED – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS

Commissioner Powell motioned to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow domestic violence shelters in the B-1 Zoning District as a special use. The motion carried unanimously.

GRANVILLE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Granville County Economic Development Director Jay Tilley noted this past quarter is reflective of the slow economy. Revlon's \$50 million expansion continues. CertainTeed's second road has been completed, but cannot be connected until improvements are done. They are back in full production this week. Progress on Wal-Mart and Walgreens continues. He added they had looked into burying the utility lines, but it is cost prohibited. He reported that an Israeli company has been looking at the area for sometime and have voted to do the project, but have scaled it back. The management team is back looking at a revised program and they are looking at the old Burlington plant. Jobs and investment are not that different and hopes to have an answer in March. The NBAF project was awarded to Manhattan, KS. Infrastructure is being laid at Triangle North and project EAGLE is still active and waiting for FDA approval. The EDC office submitted a very large request for information for a very large project which came the same week the city adopted the policy to voluntarily request annexation. Granville County was eliminated for this project, but it had nothing to do with tax rate. He stressed the economy is slowing and be thankful for those creating jobs.

NC HOT SAUCE DAY DECLARED

Commissioner Cantley motioned to adopt the resolution declaring the second Saturday in September henceforth as NC Hot Sauce Day. The motion passed unanimously.

NC HOT SAUCE DAY DECLARED

WHEREAS, Granville County is home to the largest pepper producer/distributor on the eastern seaboard – Bailey Farms and home to “Spice It Up” Hot Sauce (2005 new product of the year and also the critics “Meet the Heat” award and People’s Choice Award for 2008), and

WHEREAS, our community was searching for a “Smoking Hot Event” to bring people to downtown Oxford; hence the conception of the NC Hot Sauce Contest, and

WHEREAS, producers from across the state come together for a fun-filled day, showcasing North Carolina products: hot sauces, microbreweries, wines, barbeque sauces, and fiery food, and

WHEREAS, on Main Street you can enjoy an antique mall heritage street festival, capture the history of Oxford by visiting the Granville County Historical Museum and their September Sensations Bazaar, as well as the Harris Exhibit Hall, and

WHEREAS, enjoy vendors selling arts and crafts, antique appraisals, the Granville Gardeners Plant Sale, the Granville County Library Book Sale, visit downtown retail shops and restaurants and take a complimentary carriage ride to see the charming historic character of Oxford.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oxford Board of Commissioners and the Mayor hereby request that the second Saturday of September henceforth be declared as NC HOT SAUCE DAY.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2009.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL DISCUSSED

Commissioner Powell reported that he is waiting for all the names to come back to him and asked that this be put on February’s agenda.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - PUBLIC SAFETY ANALYSIS FUNDING
APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Herring, Public Safety Committee Chairman, placed this item on the agenda.

Frank Strickland of 112 Planters Place requested that the decision to hire an outside consultant to study public safety be delayed, so the City can use its expertise to do a self-study. It is a waste of taxpayer's money to spend \$40,000. He informed the Board has been aware of problems for several years and allowed the former city manager to take no action. He asked if the Board decides to spend \$40,000 to do it the right way. There is a serious problem at the Police and Fire Departments; problems were originated from the top. Any study should include a survey on both departments to include employees and citizens' input on the effectiveness of leadership abilities of both chiefs. The City of Charlottesville did the same type survey and they solved their problems. He asked the Board to save the \$40,000 of taxpayer's money.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring informed the need for the study is based upon the growth of Oxford with the annexation of Rollingwood, Oxford Park and the new Super Wal-Mart and the need for fire and police safety at Triangle North and for the future growth of the City. This growth requires that the City include fire and police services, including local industries within the jurisdiction. The location and the cost of a new fire facility, police and fire staffing, and additional fire and police equipment indicate there is a need for a professional evaluation of the City's needs and how it is to provide for the public safety needs. The budget and future revenues may not be available to do the increases. He reported the Commissioners with the exception of Commissioner Cantley met with the Director of ICMA to discuss the public safety needs for Oxford.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring motioned for the ICMA to conduct a comprehensive study of the City's Police and Fire services in order to see how the City can meet the needs of the services that are required as the City continues to grow within our projected revenues and adopt a budget amendment in the amount of \$40,000.00 made payable from the General Fund in order to conduct this study.

Commissioner Cantley noted he had a strong conviction to conserve city funds by not approving excessive spending unless it is absolutely necessary to protect the safety and welfare of the city. He reported 25,000 jobs were lost last month in Wake County and in the nation 250,000 jobs are being lost per month, with as much as 10% in some areas of the country. He noted most cities are exercising spending restrictions and making budgetary adjustments accordingly. He suggested that the City Manager conduct this study and temporarily delegate some of his work to staff. Commissioner Cantley noted that he does not see how any citizen in the City can stand to have their taxes or services increased. He mentioned the economic situation could last until 2012-2013. Currently the City is in a fairly good position financially and recognized revenues would be dropping with the rest of the country. He noted there are citizens that can barely survive on their income and the City must set an example of conserving. Serious conditions warrant serious cuts on our overall budget and asked the Board to consider the facts before approving \$40,000 for the study.

Commissioner Kiesow agreed with Commissioner Cantley, however he feels an outside agency should conduct the study.

Commissioner Wilkinson shared Commissioner Cantley’s concerns, but believes the study is necessary after he met with ICMA and the City Manager. This study is being done to look at saving money in the future.

Commissioners Powell, Kiesow, Herring, Wilkinson and Williford voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Cantley voted against. The motion passed 5-1.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

ACCOUNT NO.	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
010410339	Outside Services	\$40,000.00	
010399000	Approp. Fund Balance	\$40,000.00	

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE LICENSE METHODOLOGY DISCUSSED

Commissioner Wilkinson, Finance Committee Chairman, noted the Committee had discussed this and added if a business in Oxford makes \$500,000 or less, the business will not pay over \$50. He believes this will not affect the small business. The Committee asked the City Manager and Finance Director to develop an ordinance to bring back to the February or March meeting. Commissioner Wilkinson added there would be an exemption for industries so that it would be a minimum amount not over \$200.

Commissioner Kiesow questioned about the brochure that was sent out about the privilege tax to which Finance Director Steve McNally replied the brochure has not been sent out. Commissioner Kiesow noted he had a lot of questions about it. He asked if the schedule was on top of the old schedule to which it was replied no.

HIX FIELD BATHROOM FACILITY PROPOSAL UPDATE

Commissioner Williford placed this item on the agenda.

Commissioner Williford commented this was brought up last June and thought it was appropriate to bring up due to the fact it is on the agenda to approve a replacement fence at Hix Field.

Commissioner Powell noted that the drafting class was eliminated from Webb High School, but the teacher, Glenn Forysthe relocated to South Granville. He will be rendering a new draft by the February meeting. The masonry students will still be able to do the facility. City Engineer Thomas noted a location for the facility has not been selected.

**CLEAN WATER MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION ADOPTED FOR GRANT –
REHABILITATION OF SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM**

Commissioner Kiesow motioned to adopt the Clean Water Management Trust Fund resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and file an application on behalf of the City of Oxford with the Clean Water Management Trust Fun for a grant to fund the rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer system. The motion passed unanimously.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA**

Clean Water Management Trust Fund

WHEREAS, The 1996 Clean Water Management Trust Fund Act authorized the making of grants to aid eligible units of local governments, state agencies and conservation non-profit groups in financing projects to protect and restore surface water quality.

WHEREAS, The City of Oxford has a critical need to rehabilitate certain portions of its sanitary sewer system to help control excess infiltration and inflow; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oxford intends to request grant assistance from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund for the rehabilitation of its sanitary sewer system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE CITY OF OXFORD:

THAT The City of Oxford will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a grant.

THAT The City of Oxford will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

THAT Alvin Woodlief, Jr., Mayor, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the City of Oxford with the Clean Water Management Trust Fund for a grant to fund the project described above.

THAT Alvin Woodlief, Jr., Mayor, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the Clean Water Management Trust Fund may request in connection with such application for the project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

THAT The City of Oxford has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

ADOPTED this the 13th day of January, 2009 at Oxford, North Carolina.

**FENCE AT HIX FIELD TO BE REPLACED & NAME OF PARK
CHANGED TO OXFORD CIVIC CLUB PARK**

Commissioner Kiesow motioned to accept donation from the Rotary Club and other local civic clubs to replace the fence at Hix Field and change the name of the park to Oxford Civic Club Park. The motion passed unanimously.

DRAINAGE ISSUE – 106 LEAKE AVENUE

Mayor Pro Tem Herring placed this item on the agenda.

Jean Overby of 106 Leake Avenue noted she had lived at this location since 1976 and when the street was paved, drainage was put in and it stops in her backyard. She noted she had complained to the city manager but to no avail. It is a nuisance to her family and her neighbor. The City does not clean it out and added you cannot sit outside during certain times of the year because of the insects due to the standing water.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring noted the City did some street improvement on Leake Street in 1977. He informed as you turn off of Raleigh Street onto Leake Street the water drainage from both sides of the street meets at drainage collection point at 106 Leake Street. From this collection point, the City extended a water drainage pipe along the property on the right side of the right-of-way of Leake Street and parallel to the house and end the pipe in the yard of 106 Leake Street. When it rains, it tends to flood and remain in the yard. Ms. Overby has requested that this problem be corrected over the last 30 years by extending the drainage pipe to the rear of the property line and covering the pipe with dirt. The City Manager, City Engineer and the majority of the Commissioners met at this location and observed the situation. With the City doing the labor, the City Engineer has estimated the cost of the materials and tipping fee at the landfill to be \$1,386.68.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring motioned for the City Engineering Department within 90 days extend and cover the drainage pipes located on the property of 106 Leake Street.

Commissioner Cantley asked would we do the same thing for the other 30-40 requests the City has received to which Commissioner Williford stated the City should fix this problem and then adopt a policy.

Willie Darby of 110 Ridley Street, former neighbor of Ms. Overby, stated the drainage problem was caused by city improvements and noted if the city did not approve this he was inclined to take the issue to the ministerial alliance to see if she can get some help for this problem.

Commissioner Powell commented he did not know why the issue was being debated because they are supposed to serve people.

Commissioner Kiesow noted he was not in favor of doing this because the City would have other locations turning up. He questioned the \$3400 cost which was different than what the Mayor Pro Tem had said. Mayor Pro Tem noted this included labor and equipment; the City already owns both; therefore this was not included in his figure given.

Mayor Woodlief called for a vote on the motion. Commissioners Powell, Herring, Wilkinson and Williford voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Kiesow and Cantley voted against. The motion passed 4-2.

PUBLIC HEARING SET – RESIDENTIAL STORMWATER DRAINAGE POLICY

Commissioner Kiesow, Public Works Committee Chairman, motioned to call for a public hearing in conjunction with the February Regular Session scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2009 beginning at 7:00 PM in the 3rd Floor Board Room to consider adopting residential stormwater drainage policy. The motion passed unanimously.

STREET RESURFACING LIST APPROVED

Commissioner Cantley questioned why High Street was not on the list to which City Engineer Thomas noted he was unaware that the committee had made a change and added this street could wait another year.

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to approve the street resurfacing list for FY 2008-2009 which includes: Church Street, Harris Street from Hillsboro Street to Cherry Street, Saddletree Road from the end of project last year to the end of Saddletree and West Front Street from Granville Street to Orange Street. The motion passed unanimously.

QUARTERLY REPORT – CDBG PROJECT GARDEN PARK VILLAS

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to approve the quarterly report submitted by Traci Dusenbury of Halcon Properties & Consulting for the CDBG project Garden Park Villas. The motion passed unanimously.

ADDENDUM TO PROVISION OF TECHNICAL SERVICES/PLANNING CONTRACT APPROVED - CDBG PROJECT GARDEN PARK VILLAS

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to approve the addendum to Contract with Halcon Properties & Consulting, LLC for the Provision of Technical Services/Planning Contract for the Community Development Block Grant – Housing Development Project, Garden Park Villas. The motion passed unanimously.

ADDENDUM TO PROVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT APPROVED - CDBG PROJECT GARDEN PARK VILLAS

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to approve the addendum to Contract with Halcon Properties & Consulting, LLC for the Provision of Administrative Services for the Community Development Block Grant – Housing Development Project, Garden Park Villas. The motion passed unanimously.

CODE OF CONDUCT ADOPTED FOR CDBG PROJECT GARDEN PARK VILLAS

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to adopt the Code of Conduct for the Community Development Block Grant – Housing Development Project, Garden Park Villas. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT APPROVED – AD SPONSORSHIP IN LETS ALL WORK TO FIGHT DRUG ABUSE MAGAZINE

Commissioner Wilkinson placed this item on the agenda.

Police Chief Wolford briefed the Commissioners on the National Child Safety Council.

Commissioner Wilkinson motioned to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$489.00 made payable from the General Fund to sponsor an ad in the Let's All Work to Fight Drug Abuse Magazine. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

ACCOUNT NO.	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
010510275	Supplies	\$489.00	
010399000	Approp. Fund Balance	\$489.00	

At 8:29 PM Commissioner Wilkinson left the meeting with prior approval of the Board even though no vote on him leaving was taken, and after he left, his vote was deemed to be in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CARD CHECK BILL ADOPTED

City Manager Donham explained the bill going through Congress is that if a union wants to organize in a business they would have to have individuals sign a card (collecting over 50%) and the business would be unionized. He added this goes against a long-standing policy where secret ballots may be required before a plant can be unionized. He noted that there are no industries in the immediate area unionized. Opposing this bill will help our local industry.

Mark Averette, Plant Manager of Bandag, informed that they had a union for 30 years and teammates wanted to decertify the union and this took about three years. If this goes through Congress, a union could be in a plant in 10 minutes. In any election, a

secret ballot is a way to get things passed. He gave the example of just signing cards could implement a birthday party.

Commissioner Powell asked Mr. Averette if he was opposed to unions to which Mr. Averette replied yes because he believes in doing the right thing as an employer. He recognized the need years ago, but business has progressed. He recognized NC is a union free, right to work state. Unionization is declining. Commissioner Powell recognized NC is one of two states that have no collective bargaining power; businesses have the right to abuse their employees because there is no unionization. Commissioner Kiesow did not agree. Commissioner Powell noted that every business does not have fair leadership and employees get abused; unionization is a way to protect employees. Human Resources Director Don Jenkins informed Embarq is the only unionized business in Oxford that he is aware of. Commissioner Williford clarified that this bill does not mean that you cannot have a union. Commissioner Kiesow commented the card check bill is un-American, and noted he is in favor of secret ballots.

Mayor Woodlief noted the Chamber had asked for the Commissioners to consider adopting the resolution opposing the check card bill and added the Chamber had voted unanimously to oppose the bill.

Human Resources Director Jenkins added that the bill is the most insidious, wrong and potentially devastating thing he has seen in 46 years. He recognized George McGovern had been in a union all his life and he even states that this law is wrong. It takes away the democratic process. He asked the Commissioners to say no to this law. There is no election or process with this law.

Curtis Gatewood of 413 Kingsbury Street asked the Board to give more feedback and asked them to serve the people and not necessarily corporations. He recognized the problem with a plant in Tarheel. He hears the bill is an easier way to form a union and not that the card will cause an undemocratic process. He asked to get as much input as you can and not just from the people who are heads of industries.

Constance Lue recognized that there are two sides to this and if the one side says it is good and the other says it is so bad; what is the problem? Mayor Woodlief noted he has asked to keep it a secret ballot as it is today and not allow the signing of a card to have a union to step in. It is non-participants voting for something they will have nothing to do with. Ms. Lue feels it does not need to be sold if it is good.

Commissioner Powell commented that he does not feel that they have enough information; need to talk to employees and other people who have information that merits how this would affect people's lives. The wording is slick. He asked what this wouldn't allow?

Commissioner Kiesow motioned to adopt resolution opposing the "Card Check Bill" in Congress, which would allow unions to organize in local industries without a secret ballot. Commissioners Kiesow, Herring, Williford and Cantley voted in favor of the motion. Even though Commissioner Wilkinson was not present, his vote was deemed to be in the affirmative. Commissioner Powell voted against. The motion passed 5-1.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CARD CHECK BILL

WHEREAS, card check is fundamentally un-American because it throws out secret-ballot elections in making a choice about representation and replaces it with a system that is not private and will likely subject employees to increased harassment and coercion by

unions. The right to vote by secret ballot is sacred. Too many North Carolinians and other Americans fought too long and hard to obtain this right to throw it away, and

WHEREAS, card check will cost North Carolina jobs. Between 1992 and 2002, the less-unionized states, such as North Carolina, generated twice as many non-farm jobs with better benefits than more unionized states, and

WHEREAS, card check would eliminate a significant competitive advantage that North Carolina has in attracting and retaining good jobs. Our nation is experiencing the worst economic crisis in 70 years. Many businesses, both large and small, are simply struggling to stay alive and make payroll. Now is the worst possible time to enact any laws that raise the cost of doing business and make it more difficult to attract, create and retain jobs, and

WHEREAS, the current card check legislation would destroy any incentive for unions to negotiate reasonably with employers in workplaces that are or become unionized because it would impose government arbiters when a settlement is not reached within 120 days. If the unions and employers fail to reach an agreement within this timeframe, the federal government would step in and take away employers' right to make important, far-reaching decisions about their businesses, and

WHEREAS, current card check legislation is one-sided - to say the least. It increases penalties on employers for what is deemed "unfair labor practices," but does NOT increase penalties for unions for the same.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oxford Board of Commissioners and Mayor hereby oppose the Unions' Card Check Bill in Congress, which would allow unions to organize in local industries without a secret ballot.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2009.

FUNDING FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT APPROVED

Commissioner Powell placed this item on the agenda.

Commissioner Powell suggested providing \$10,000 for summer youth employment by exposing them to various city career opportunities (other than those hired to do physical and recreational tasks). If the City is concerned about young people, then the City should back it up with money.

Commissioner Williford noted the City spends \$46,000 a year for temporary help and asked if Commissioner Powell wanted to add the \$10,000. Commissioner Powell

replied yes because it would place children in fields that would give them the opportunity to identify a career path.

Commissioner Cantley asked how they would be selected to which Commissioner Powell noted he did not have the full process and would like to involve other people in the selection process. He noted the criteria could range from various things. Commissioner Cantley noted he would like to know more about this, such as the selection process and how it will interface with the recreational program. Commissioner Williford suggested sending this to the Board retreat to look at.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring noted he did not have a problem with the funding part, but asked Commissioner Powell to develop a program in hard copy as to who would do what, when and how, so the Board can understand. Commissioner Powell commented it is not a problem of understanding; it is hesitation. He stated he would not jump through hoops because no one has said anything based on his prior concept papers submitted.

Commissioner Williford asked when the children would be put to work to which Commissioner Powell noted graduation is on June 13 and suggested implementing the program the next week.

Commissioner Powell motioned to include in the budget the amount of \$10,000.00 for a summer youth employment program. Commissioners Powell, Herring and Williford voted in favor of the motion. Even though Commissioner Wilkinson was not present, his vote was deemed to be in the affirmative. Commissioners Kiesow and Cantley voted against. The motion passed 4-2.

OUTDOOR POOL DISCUSSED

Commissioner Powell placed this item on the agenda.

Willie Darby, Spokesperson for the Interdenominational Ministerial Conference, reiterated the request of getting a pool within the city limits of Oxford. He recognized the economy is terrible, but it is time to bite the bullet on this issue. He noted a list of concerns was given to the Commissioners 2 ½ years ago and commented the only thing that had happened on the list was the naming of Martin Luther King Blvd. The list involves homeless, second chances for people with criminal records, shelters, the hunger situation, and the lack of drug treatment facilities in Oxford. He submitted six reasons of why the pool is needed and suggested seven sites for a pool. He suggested borrowing the money like was done at Oxford Park or a bond issue. He hopes by the summer of 2010 that there will be a swimming pool in the heart of Oxford.

Mayor Woodlief asked about the comment in the handout, which was that they are exploring the possibility of the City partnering with another entity to make the pool a reality to which Mr. Darby noted he has been talking with another entity about making a one time grant towards the cost of the pool. Mayor Woodlief asked Mr. Darby if his organization would ask Granville County to partner in this endeavor to which Mr. Darby stated he did not feel that he needs to, but would. Mr. Darby elaborated that this is a city issue and they are taxpayers and the Commissioners are elected to represent them and provide services. Mayor Woodlief informed that 70% non-residents participate in the recreational program; he feels it will be the same for the pool complex. Mr. Darby clarified that they were asking for a pool and not a recreational complex. Mayor Woodlief recognized that the City had done more on the list than was given credit and noted the City would like their corporation with some people they may have to jump through hoops. Mayor Woodlief recognized the County Manager and a County

Commissioner in the audience and stated that they would not be willing to give the City anything. Mr. Darby noted they would help in anyway that they could. Mayor Woodlief suggested discussing this at the board retreat.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring recognized \$10,000 was set aside in the budget last year to be put towards a pool and hopes to shoot towards this again. Commissioner Powell noted the prolonging of the process and Oxford Park are not sitting well. He noted this does not address the needs of inner city kids not being able to get to a rural area. Mayor Pro Tem Herring suggested that the Recreation Committee look at the recommended sites and identify one and make a recommendation at the retreat.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR INNER CITY LOCATIONS DISCUSSED

Commissioner Powell placed this item on the agenda.

Commissioner Powell reported that the Recreation Department had provided nature walks for children and the Director's eyes were open to the fact that children who live in the inner city area did not know bugs or were they exposed to things of nature. He added that some children cannot get to the Hix complex and suggested the Recreation Department and the Recreation Committee study the feasibility of how the City can take recreational programs to various neighborhoods.

Mayor Woodlief asked that the Recreation Committee meet and bring to the February retreat.

RENT FREE SPACE DISCUSSED FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE THERAPY

Commissioner Powell placed this item on the agenda.

Michelle Covington of 201 Redbud Circle, Henderson, noted she ran a clinic for the uninsured and uninsurable people in New Jersey and added they were chosen to use

suboxone to treat opioid dependence on an outpatient basis. She noted they put a couple of ads in the paper and received a couple hundred responses for each ad; people want to be better. She briefed the Commissioners on suboxone. She noted if her services are not available in the community, the community would have gang activity, violence, etc.

Mayor Woodlief asked City Manager Donham if he could bring this request before the Kerr Tar Council of Governments' Board to see if they could provide assistance. Mayor Pro Tem Herring asked if they were requesting space to which Commissioner Powell replied yes and Ms. Covington elaborated that they would need an office set up with a couple of exam rooms and a place for counseling (3-4 rooms). Mayor Woodlief questioned the times to which Ms. Covington explained it might take 1-2 days per patient. She suggested starting at 2-3 days per week with hours in the evenings and on Saturdays. She recognized Lee Isley at Granville Medical Center had been very supportive, but the room there filled up quickly. Ms. Covington noted their program has not been setup yet because they do not know if they have community support at this time; therefore they have a doctor available to assist.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring asked the City Manager if the City had any space to which the City Manager replied he was not aware of any space available. The County Manager was in the audience and was asked the same question to which he replied the County did not have any space. Human Resources Director Jenkins asked if they were a faith-based organization to which Ms. Covington replied yes and stated they had an office in a couple of churches in NJ and added they were active in the community.

ANTI-DISPLACEMENT & RELOCATION PLAN
ADOPTED – GARDEN PARK VILLAS

City Attorney Burnette noted he had reviewed the proposed plan and recommended adopting it.

Mayor Pro Tem Herring motioned to the Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan for the Community Development Block Grant for the housing development project, Garden Park Villas. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

A. MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Williford motioned to approve meeting minutes of December 1, 9 and 16, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

B. TAX RELEASES

Mayor Pro Tem Herring motioned to approve the following tax releases. The motion passed unanimously.

NAME	AMOUNT	REASON
Cheshire H. Parker	\$48.22	Boat valued at \$8970; should be \$1000.
Howard & Leslie Mize	\$66.26	House at 502 Hillsboro St was torn down in 2007
Willie Thomas Harris, Jr.	\$7.67	Boat located outside of city limits – 1300 Goshen St.

C. FINANCIAL REPORT – DECEMBER 2008

Finance Officer Stephen McNally supplied the Board with a copy of the December 2008 financial report that included General Fund actual revenues of \$900,677 actual expenses of \$719,279; Water Fund actual revenues of \$275,547, and actual expenses of \$403,050 and Other actual revenues of \$282,851 and actual expenses of

\$219,779. The subtotals to date are General Fund actual revenues of \$4,064,202 and actual expenses of \$3,879,086; Water Fund actual revenues of \$2,030,595 and actual expenses of \$2,075,519; Other actual revenues of \$2,055,575 and actual expenses of \$1,525,699. Mayor Woodlief noted that if there were not any questions concerning the report, Finance Director McNally would be in his office tomorrow for any questions.

D. NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

The City Manager submitted a written staff report concerning the nuisance abatement program.

E. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT

Commissioner Williford motioned to commit to install sidewalks leading to Mary Potter, Webb High School and Credle School as part of the Safe Routes to School grant. The motion passed unanimously.

F. SURETY BOND ORDINANCE ELIMINATED

Commissioner Williford motioned to eliminate the Surety Bond Ordinance as part of Chapter 13: Licenses, Taxation and Business Regulations, Article II: Privilege Tax and remove from the fee schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE MEETING RECORDINGS

Mayor Pro Tem Herring asked if the Board could get a hard copy of all committee meetings to which Mayor Woodlief suggested that the City Clerk provide a copy of recording on CD to the Commissioners. The Commissioners agreed to receive a CD.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Woodlief adjourned the meeting.