

STATE OF ALABAMA)
CITY OF ONEONTA, ALABAMA, SEPTEMBER 23, 2014
COUNTY OF BLOUNT)

The Mayor and Council met in regular session on September 23, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Norris, Councilmen: Gargus, Rogers, McNair and Robinson. Also present were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Mitch Latta, Scott Evans, Chief Willis, Kevin Nicodemus, Chief Chapman, Jacob McMinn, Crystal Estrada, Mackenzie Moody, Jadey Walker, Desiree Stockdale, Brittany Street, Brook Street, Cynthia Lopez, Amber Frey, Trey Gilliland, Caleb Shotts, Blake Price, Savannah Owen, Edward Arreguia, Salvador Zavala, Gerardo Vargas, Brooke Barnett, Courtney Owen, Orlando Zavala, Noah Cheak, Grace Coefield, Sara Higginbotham, Aimee Wilson, Kay Butts, Juan Diego, Jose Sanchez, Aaron Smith, Ryan Campbell, Justin Price, Tayler Humphrey, Jaelyn Latta, Kalle Killough, Fabian Nunez, Lupita Chacon, Ricky L. Stathann, Jr., Marilyn Oden, Michael Oden, Andrew Maynor, Alexander Thomas, Justin Mchan, Jamie Jones, Clara Tibbs, Connor Walker, Breanna Nix, Christina Chavez, Don Maples, Jim Kilgore, Zane Womack, Selena Bangston, Savannah Price, Emily Robertson, Bella Shores, Jacquelin Alfaro, Alesha Triputt, Arlen Gonzalez, Barbara Andersen, Diana Venegas, Andrea Tafolla, Rebecca Sierra, Rebekah Wood, Tammie Noland, Jim Kilgore and several members of his Government Class. Council member Blackwood was not present at the meeting.

Councilman Robinson gave the invocation.

Councilman Gargus moved to approve the minutes of September 9, 2014 council meeting as written. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the work session held September 9, 2014. Councilman Gargus seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McNair moved to approve the minutes of the work session held September 22, 2014. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Rogers read the following Fire Prevention Proclamation:
PROCLAMATION
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 5 -11, 2014

WHEREAS, The City of Oneonta, Alabama is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Oneonta; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,300 people in the United States in 2012, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 365,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported homes fires in half; and

WHEREAS, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; and

WHEREAS, when smoke alarms should have operated but did not do so it was usually because batteries were missing, disconnected, or dead; and

WHEREAS, Oneonta's residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home; and

WHEREAS, Oneonta's residents should install smoke alarms and alert devices that meet the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, Oneonta's residents who have planned and practiced home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Oneonta's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Oneonta's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 National Fire Prevention Week Theme, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month;" effectively serves to remind us that we need working smoke alarms to give us the time to get out safely.

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs and the office of the State Fire Marshal met to address the alarming increase in fire fatalities, and have invited all fire service and injury prevention organizations to join with them; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 State Fire Prevention Theme, "Turn Your Attention To Fire Prevention!" effectively serves to remind us all of the simple actions we can take to keep our home and families safe from fire.

THEREFORE, I Ross L. Norris, Mayor of Oneonta do hereby proclaim October 5 – 11, 2014, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this city, and I urge all the people of Oneonta to test their smoke alarms at least every month by pushing the test button, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Oneonta's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2014.

Councilman Robinson moved to approve the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation.
Councilman McNair seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson expounded on the 2014 – 2015 Budget:

BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUES: \$6,906,300.00

EXPENDITURES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	1,694,000.00
BUILDING INSPECTION:	192,000.00
LIBRARY:	268,000.00
POLICE:	1,365,500.00
FIRE:	1,076,700.00
STREET:	817,009.00
SANITATION:	245,000.00
PARK & RECREATION:	397,500.00

TOTAL DEBT SERVICE:	641,450.00
APPROPRIATIONS & OTHER:	208,250.00

TOTAL	<u>\$6,905,409.00</u>
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The budget includes an across the board progressive 4% pay raise, with 1% effective October 1, 2014. One percent per quarter will be given after consideration of each department's budget. Also, a .25 cent Per Diem added to each full-time firefighter that have paramedic certification and are licensed in the State of Alabama to work as a paramedic. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the 2014/2015 budget. Councilman McNair seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to hire Ricky Statham for the full time library circulation clerk. Councilman Gargus seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to advertise for a part-time library circulation clerk. Councilman McNair seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Don Maples addressed the mayor and council, thanking them for their calibration and cooperation with the school system. Don introduced the new Oneonta City School superintendent, Dr. Michael Douglas. Dr. Douglas spoke briefly, stating how excited he is to be the new superintendent and that he looks forward to working together.

Mayor Norris read the following Certificate of Election:

The undersigned hereby certify that the official canvass of the votes cast in the municipal school board election held in the City of Oneonta, Alabama, on August 26, 2014, shows that Steve Anderton was duly elected to the office of Oneonta City School Board Place 2 of the City of Oneonta, Alabama, for the term commencing on the first Monday of October, 2014.

Given under our hands pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-46-20 et seq. of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, this 23rd day of September, 2014.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to issue the certificate of election to Steve Anderton. Councilman Gargus seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Norris administered the Oath of Office to Steve Anderton, School Board Member, Place 2.

The Beautification Board was not present at the meeting.

The Oneonta Business Association was not present at the meeting.

Ed Lowe announced that Standards and Poor reported that the City of Oneonta's bond rating improved from an A to an A+.

Councilman Robinson called on Rebekah Wood, who gave the Library report for the month of September. Councilman Robinson thanked Ricky Statham for applying and accepting the full time position at the library; and he expressed appreciation to Dr. Michael Douglas and Don Maples.

Councilwoman Rogers stated that it is wonderful to have the Oneonta High School students at the meeting. She stated that the city works very hard on the budget that looks out for the citizens. Councilwoman Rogers welcomed Dr. Michael Douglas and congratulated Steve Anderton; and stated that we are looking forward to having him on the Board of Education. She congratulated Ricky Statham for joining the library staff full-time. Councilwoman Rogers announced that the fire department had a large donation of smoke detectors. Fire Chief Willis invited anyone in need of a smoke detector to go by or call their local fire department to get one and learn how to install them properly. Also, Chief Willis announced that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the fire department has tee-shirts for sale at City Hall.

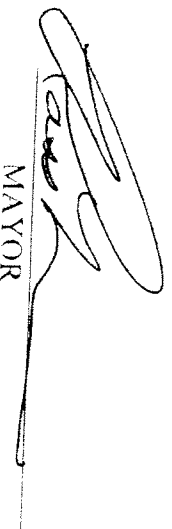
Councilman Gargus reported on some upcoming park and recreation events. Councilman Gargus congratulated Ricky Statham and Steve; also he reiterated what Chief Willis had said to be aware of fire prevention.

Councilman McNair spoke on the seriousness of fire alarms and fire prevention week. He expressed appreciation to Ricky Statham and to Dr. Michael Douglas, and that Oneonta is a great community in which to live. Councilman McNair stated that Airnee is doing an excellent job at the Chamber. Also, he expressed that he is proud of Oneonta High School and glad to have Mr. Kilgore and his government students attend the meeting.

Mayor Norris stated that he is proud to have Ricky Statham full-time at the library. He welcomed Dr. Michael Douglas and he congratulated Steve Anderton.

There being no further business, Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Robinson made a motion to adjourn. Councilman McNair seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.


CITY CLERK


MAYOR