



OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

The September 21, 2021 City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor, Mike Smith at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Jason Bracken, Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, Chantel Raghu, William Snavelly and Edna Southard.

Staff members were Doug Elliott, City Manager; Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager, Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Geoff Robinson, Police Lieutenant; Joe Newlin, Finance Director, Sam Perry, Community Development Director; Ben Mazer, Assistant Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Snavelly moved to amend the agenda by removing Agenda item 5. Resolution and adding a substituted Ordinance as agenda item 6.A.1. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Public Participation.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARIANNE MARCONI

Proclamation

Mayor Smith read the Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Marianne Marconi of the Coalition for a Healthy Community.

PRESENTATION COALITION FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY AMY MACECHKO

Ms. Amy Macechko, Coalition for a Healthy Community, provided slides and discussed the coalition's priorities including substance abuse/misuse prevention, mental health, active living and healthy eating. Ms. Macechko noted the coalition serves residents of all ages who live in the Talawanda School District. Ms. Macechko discussed the coalition's membership and advised the membership was made up of individuals who represent the major sectors of the Oxford area community. Ms. Macechko noted the coalition seeks to create community level changes by providing information, building skills, providing support, enhancing access/reducing barriers,

changing consequences, changing physical design and changing policy. Ms. Macechko discussed the coalition's highlights and accomplishments and the outcomes of those highlights and accomplishments. Ms. Macechko thanked Council for the opportunity to share and Mayor Smith thanked Ms. Macechko for making her presentation.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Report

Mayor Smith asked for a motion to appoint Heather Barrett as the Environmental Commission's representative to the Climate Action Steering Committee, and Travis Robinson to the McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital Foundation for a term ending July 1, 2026.

Ms. Southard moved and Mr. Snavelly seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Brooks - trail, OPTAB meeting. Talked about CSX crossing for the trail. Doug Day and Terry Hughes have retained attorneys. Chris Skogland HAPC - talked about extended Historic District. Design Guidelines need to be updated. Give them resources and funding to update the Design guidelines. Terry Use, very upset, has requested meetings with Councilors and got brushed off. JG said she liked idea of Urban Trail. Project needs to be paused. Take a hard look at bike path extend the path a short ways. Skip _____, Brown Road spoke in opposition. 6375 Hester Road - spoke in opposition. Not going to stand still for this project. Numerous instances with homeless issues.

Mr. Doug Brooks, 227 Country Club Drive, read the following into the record "Team Trail accumulated over 250 homeowner petition signatures across 8 neighborhoods, the petition objected to OATS trail in neighborhoods. This uniform homeowner unhappiness triggered a second round of planning and advised on August 11 the planning committee presented two preferred trails, continued negative feedback from homeowners and landowners then produced a reconsideration of the two preferred trails and the City Planning Committee is now in it's third round of planning. The Parking and Transportation Advisory Board will consider the recommendations. City Council will then consider the recommendations of this advisory board, hold the public hearing and vote on the Parking and Transportation Advisory Board's recommendation, this feels a little hurried. Our neighborhood lawyer has already contacted the City through Doug Elliott's office. The second round of preferred trails northwest OATS extension relies on roughly 23 parcels of Oxford Township land, remember these township land owners did not get to vote on the OATS Trail extension levy. The people designing the trail were not elected, some of this land has been in the same family for generations. Team Trail estimates that the preferred trails will be opposed by at least 18 of the landowners most of whom are longstanding and affluent members of the Oxford community. These people have considerable resources, Terry Hughes has already hired one lawyer to protect his 80 acres. Landowner willingness to engage individual counsel is something they are probably very comfortable with and know how to do. Then there is the matter of the crossing of the CSX tracks. I've been in email contact with Amanda DeCesare, the CSX Regional Project Manager for over a month, the crossing rules are on the CSX website. Amanda tells me she has advised members Planning Committee on the expectations and steps required to have a recreational path crossing approved anywhere but where there is a current grade level gated crossing. This crossing plan must be submitted by the City of Oxford, reviewed by the CSX Engineers at the City's expense and approved by her. Any bridge must be 23' high from the top of the rails, the supports must be at least 20' on each side from the center of the railbed. The ramps must be ADA compliant, this is 12' of ramp for every 1' of height. This is almost 100 yards of ramp to get off the bridge. Any underpass anywhere between Contreras and Ringwood will simply fill up with water. No path can run parallel to the rails on railroad property so Doug Day has engaged his lawyer to make sure the ramp does not go through his yard. A multi-use path does not have to mean every recreational use on every section an "0" is hard to create when land and roads are mapped in rectangles. The northwest part of the path may be more attractive to cyclists than walkers, we have demonstrated that trail planners can use existing roads with grade level crossings, the cost of these extensions would be road stencils and trail signs. Team

Trail is not going away, the noise from homeowners, landowners and their lawyers will only get louder and louder. The media will become more engaged in this dispute. In closing, my suggestion is that anyone interested in this trail extension drive to Reagh's Way, be careful as you turn because 27N. is Oxford's busiest highway. Park your car in the Merry Day Park parking lot and walk across the park to the chain length fence that currently restricts mobile home park children from playing on the CSX tracks, then ask yourself if this trail route is going to be something safe and appealing. I have a feeling that the homeowners in the Stone Creek development and the homeowners on the east side of the Knolls will be the next ones to wake up to what has been happening.

Mr. Chris Skoglund, 211 Ryan Drive, advised he would provide an update on the Historic & Architectural Preservation Commission (HAPC). Mr. Skoglund noted a Council and HAPC Work Session took place almost 24 months ago where the HAPC shared some ideas in terms of additional areas for possible consideration as a Historic District. Mr. Skoglund advised HAPC members valued Council's feedback and talked about their next steps when Covid hit and the HAPC hit the pause button. Mr. Skoglund noted the HAPC continued their work although they could not be as aggressive as they wanted to be over this time period. Mr. Skoglund advised the HAPC is looking at a few areas as candidates which are primarily residential in nature. Mr. Skoglund noted they have created a list and were working with the Smith Library to research the houses and other structures in the potential candidate areas. Mr. Skoglund advised their plan was to meet with the homeowners or property owners within the potential district to gauge how they feel about it and answer any questions. Mr. Skoglund noted the HAPC Design Guidelines in place right now are very dated and do not necessarily cover the potential areas. Mr. Skoglund asked Council to give the HAPC support in terms of funding and resources to get the guidelines updated and include those in the 2022 budget. Mr. Skoglund advised if the HAPC can get the Design Guidelines updated in early 2022 they can resume meeting with the homeowners and property owners and be able to answer their questions and put them to ease and then move forward.

Mr. Terry Hughes, 6141 Hester Road, noted he lived in the township. Mr. Hughes noted he spoke at the last Council meeting and since that time he has become very upset, has tried to focus his energy and not seem hostile. Mr. Hughes advised a speaker at the last meeting stated that Council seemed to have their mind made up on issues before the public gives their feedback. Mr. Hughes noted in the last two weeks he has requested meetings with members of Council, anywhere in public, at their home or at his home to discuss the OATS project. Mr. Hughes advised some did not get back to him, some politely declined and some used the Sunshine Act. Mr. Hughes referred to the Sunshine Laws and noted he felt Councilors could meet in public or privately as long as a majority of Council was not present. Mr. Hughes advised he felt like he got brushed off noting he helped organize all of the groups in the neighborhoods and in the township where this trail would affect the property owners. Mr. Hughes advised he helped make the petitions and spent 2 1/2 weeks of his life giving counter proposals, alternate trails that could be considered, went to meetings with Jessica Greene and Sam Perry and none of that seems to have mattered. Mr. Hughes noted Ms. Greene liked his idea and Dr. Brooks idea of the urban trail and was going to ask that it be given serious consideration and an in-depth look but that did not happen. Mr. Hughes advised in several meetings it was suggested that the bike trail because of timing and financing would be shelved and that has not happened. Mr. Hughes noted he received a call from a City representative that told him the two plans are going to go to the Oxford Transportation Advisory Board for recommendations. Mr. Hughes noted one trail is proposed to be in the back of houses instead of in the front and he and his neighbors do not want that. Mr. Hughes advised there were 23 parcels of property in the township and 18 of the owners were a definite "no" to the plans. Mr. Hughes noted he felt it was a waste of energy and money to move forward with this project in its current form, it needs to be paused or totally re-evaluated. Mr. Hughes noted he was not against a bicycle path, he was against someone forcing it onto his property.

Mr. Skip Benamati, 5387 Brown Road, noted he was one of landowners that would be impacted by the proposed trail. Mr. Benamati advised he felt the urban route was not looked at as in depth as promised and he stepped back to wait for that to happen and now that it has not happened he will retain an attorney and fight this matter. Mr. Benamati noted he would have over 2,000 feet of proposed bike trail on his property and he did not ask for that.

Mr. Raymond Richards, 6375 Hester Road, advised he had 10 acres of land next to the Church of God. Mr. Richards noted he agreed with Mr. Hughes and Mr. Hughes has kept him abreast of what is going on with the bike paths. Mr. Richards advised he and his wife are not going to stand still for this bike path cutting through the middle of their property. Mr. Richards noted they have already had a problem with homeless people building camps in the area and he is worried about needles being dropped on his property. Mr. Richards advised he did not want to be inconvenienced with a bike path across his 10 acres. Mr. Richards noted he has a lawyer and will do what it takes to keep this off of his property.

Presentation – Coalition for a Healthy Community - Amy Macechko.

Amy presented her PowerPoint about the work the Coalition has done this year.

Appointments to Boards & Commissions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the August 30, 2021 City Council Special Meeting (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes

Minutes of the September 7, 2021 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes

Report regarding the August 10, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report

Report regarding the September 1, 2021 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Report

Report regarding the September 9, 2021 Recreation Board Meeting. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Report

Mr. Snavely moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

1. A Resolution authorizing the donation of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (150,000.00) to Community Development Professionals as a sub-recipient of American Rescue Plan Act funds to assist with the land acquisition for an Oxford Cottage Community. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager).

Staff Report/Resolution

1. A Resolution authorizing the donation of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (150,000.00) to Community Development Professionals as a sub-recipient of American Rescue Plan Act funds to assist with the land acquisition for an Oxford Cottage Community. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager).

Mindy from Community Development Professionals spoke about the project. Discussed timeline for the project. Terry Use talked about the Cottage Community. People are worried about property value around Hester Road. Who polices the restrictions for living there. Bruce Blankenship Hester Road - doesn't want it in his neighborhood. Already have Habitat Homes. Might move elsewhere - retirement community. Concerned about property values. Mindy addressed the concerns of community. Up to 6 people could live in a unit. Sam also addressed. Jason - higher density? Edna - where are other projects like this - Mindy addressed. Chantel - are they all transitional homes, Mindy addressed. Chantel this is one piece of the problem. David - is in favor of it. Thanked Mindy and staff its a piece of the puzzle.

Ordinances.

ORDINANCE **FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE **LAND ACQUISITION**

An Ordinance Authorizing The City Manager To Take All Steps Necessary To Purchase Approximately 2.1 Acres Located At 5234 Hester Road At A Cost Of \$150,000 For The Oxford Cottage Community Project. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Ms. Greene advised in February a Work Session was held to establish Council's goals and housing was one of Council's three top priorities. Ms. Greene noted since then Work Sessions have been held to determine how to use the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Ms. Greene advised for several years staff has worked with the Housing Advisory Commission and The Community Development Professionals on an idea called the Cottage Community Project which would be homes for low income seniors and individuals in transition with wrap around social services for those individuals. Ms. Greene noted with the availability of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds staff believes the City has the opportunity to assist with the implementation of this project which has been in the works for several years. Ms. Greene advised staff is proposing to use American Rescue Plan Funds to purchase 2.1 acres of land located at 5234 Hester Road to establish a long term annual lease with the Community Development Professionals for the implementation of the Cottage Community. Ms. Greene noted this was a change from the Resolution which would have donated the land directly to the Community Development Professionals and instead keeps ownership of the land by the City. Ms. Greene advised by acquiring the land as a City, the City can establish a relationship model with the housing program provider that ensures the future success of this transitional and affordable housing model. Ms. Greene noted staff will bring forward a purchase agreement from the seller and a proposed long term lease agreement with the Community Development Professionals at the next meeting. Ms. Greene advised the proposed development would include 12 small homes which are 364 square feet and staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinance.

Ms. Mindy Muller, President/CEO, Community Development Professionals, advised she was excited to see some movement of the proposed project. Ms. Muller noted her first meeting in Oxford was in 2018 as she was looking to do a creative housing project to help fill some of the housing gap in Butler County. Ms. Muller advised she has met with a number of key stakeholders over 3 years to talk about the needs, what people wanted to see and how this resonates with the stakeholders. Ms. Muller noted she was looking at building 12 cottages for families and seniors living together in community. Ms. Muller advised the non-profit partner that would own and manage these cottages is the Center for Community Revitalization which is a 501C3. Ms. Muller noted the project would be a Planned Development which would go through the Planning Commission and Council process. Ms. Muller advised the cottages would be one bedroom models, completely furnished, with a kitchen, stackable washer and dryer, great room, bathroom and front porch. Ms. Muller noted the cottages would meet HUD standards and would be rented at or below fair market rate. Ms. Muller discussed the other partners involved with the project as detailed on page 50 of Council's packet. Ms. Muller advised they had the support of the Oxford Family Resource Center to provide some other wrap around services and housing stability services that families might need. Ms. Muller provided slides of the proposed cottage community and noted her hope the cottages would be built one

year from now.

Mr. Terry Hughes, 6141 Hester Road, advised he knew nothing about this project until a couple of days ago noting he thought it was a great project and he was all about helping people who need help. Mr. Hughes advised concerns were brought to his attention as residents of the Hester Subdivision feel like they are getting picked on and they are worried about their property values. Mr. Hughes noted he was told these homes were not maintained very well so he looked at one and did not see that. Mr. Hughes advised he promised neighbors he would ask Council if it was feasible to put 12 homes on 2 acres, how many people are permitted to live in the homes and who polices the restrictions for living in the homes.

Mr. Bruce Blankenship, 5280 Hester Road, advised he has lived there for over 60 years. Mr. Blankenship noted to him the proposed project was unacceptable and advised there were already 20 Habitat houses close by. Mr. Blankenship advised he did not see why everything had to be crammed into his neighborhood just because it is poorer. Mr. Blankenship noted he might move to a retirement community. Mr. Blankenship advised he was not for the proposed project.

Ms. Muller noted she appreciated the concerns and noted their goal was to raise the neighborhood not lower it. Ms. Muller advised the project had to be done with excellence and noted some continued work to talk to people in the neighborhood was warranted. Ms. Muller advised she expected there to be 1,2 or 3 people in each cottage although she expected there would be some families with children and up to 6 people could stay there. Ms. Muller noted the cottages would be furnished in such a way that up to 6 people could live in a unit.

Mr. Prytherch advised the zoning was R2 and density is controlled by the underlying zoning. Mr. Prytherch noted a project like this would go through the PUD process. Mr. Perry advised the zoning was R1B and 12 units would be permitted on 2 acres. Mr. Perry noted there would be a process for the neighborhood to be involved and contribute to how the design might take shape.

Mr. Bracken inquired if at market value or lower was based on square footage and if it was codified into the plan. Ms. Muller advised it is codified and the units have to be affordable according to HUD standards of affordability.

Ms. Southard asked Ms. Muller to speak about other cottage communities she has developed, what kinds of issues she has encountered and where those were located. Ms. Muller advised this was her first cottage community noting when the process was started close to 5 years ago they asked the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (who keeps a pulse on affordable housing in the State of Ohio) how many tiny home communities or small cottage type communities there are in Ohio and there were none at that time. Ms. Muller advised the proposed cottage community was an innovative model noting her hope we can learn from it and duplicate it in other communities because housing was a huge crisis. Ms. Muller advised Community Development Professionals has developed two multi-family properties in Hamilton.

Ms. Raghu inquired if all 12 of the units are meant to be for transitional housing. Ms. Muller advised for some it will be a permanent home. Ms. Muller advised a family struggling with housing stability would not live there very long because of it being such a small space. Ms. Raghu noted her concern with centralized poverty although she sees the need for this type of housing in Oxford.

Mayor Smith advised if the project moves forward he would expect Community Development Professionals to work closely with the Family Resource Center with community needs.

Mr. Prytherch discussed his support for the project noting he felt it would be one of the most meaningful steps Council could take with regard to affordable housing. Mr. Prytherch advised the City would be just one of a number of partners in the project noting he looked forward to the planning and development process which was a public process. Mr. Prytherch thanked Ms. Muller and staff for getting the City to this point with the proposed project.

Mayor Smith advised Council would consider the proposal again on October 5, 2021.

Second Reading.

ORDINANCE
EASEMENT AGREEMENT

An Ordinance Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into An Easement Agreement As Set Forth In Exhibit "A" Attached Hereto With The Talawanda City School District Board Of Education And Accepting Said Easement As Set Forth On Exhibits "B" And "C" Attached Hereto To Allow The Construction Of A Segment Of The Oxford Area Trail System From Pepper Park To The Talawanda High School. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director).

Staff Report/Ordinance

Mr. Dreisbach advised he had nothing new to report since the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance.

There were no comments from the public or from Council.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3636. Mr. Snavelly seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

An Ordinance No. 3637 Approving A Conditional Use Permit Application To Allow A School Facility To Be Located At 5158 College Corner Pike Oxford, Ohio With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director).

Staff Report/Ordinance

John Bayer

Mr. Perry advised he had nothing new to report regarding the Conditional Use Permit application for the McGuffey Montessori School.

There were no comments from the public or from Council.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3637. Mr. Snavelly seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
FINAL SUBDIVISION APPLICATION

An Ordinance No. 3638 Approving The Final Subdivision Application And Plat For South Forest Edge Section 1 With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Staff Report/Ordinance

Mr. Perry advised the proposed Ordinance was for 36-unit landominium development noting the land needed to be divided so the units can be sold. Mr. Perry advised the application was consistent with the previous approvals and there were no changes since the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance.

Mr. John Bayer, Bayer Becker, 110 S. College Avenue, advised he was in attendance on behalf of the applicant and offered to answer any questions. Mr. Bayer noted he was also in attendance to answer any questions on the next proposed Ordinance.

There were no comments or questions from Council.

Mr. Snavelly moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3638. Ms. Southard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
R-O-W DEDICATION PLAT

An Ordinance No. 3639 Approving The Right Of Way Dedication Plat For U.S. 27 (Oxford-Millville Road) In The City Of Oxford. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Staff Report/Ordinance

Mr. Perry advised the proposed Ordinance was for the 30 feet of additional right-of-way which is consistent with both previous approvals for the South Forest Edge development along 27 S. Mr. Perry noted there were no changes since the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance.

There were no comments from the public or from Council.

Mr. Snavelly moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3639. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remarks from City Council and City staff. The comments expressed by individual members of Council or City staff during this portion of a City Council meeting do not necessarily reflect the views of the City of Oxford, The Oxford City Council, or the City staff.

Future Meetings.

Bill - Hester Road Area people are anxious. Wants Work Session prior to next meeting. Edna - Historic Tours and Walk About Jason - get vaccinated and wear mask David - Trail and how the process will go Mike - Council will continue to lister

Mr. Elliott provided an update on the City's Deer Management Program noting the dates for the program are September 25 to February 6, 2022.

Mr. Elliott provided an update on Covid-19 cases in the 45045 zip code and in Butler County. Mr. Elliott encouraged everyone to listen to their health professionals and get vaccinated.

Mr. Elliott noted a lease agreement for the proposed Cottage Community would be coming forward and advised the City does not want to negatively impact the neighborhood. Mr. Elliott advised there are people who need assistance and he felt it reflected well on the community to try to do it. Mr. Elliott noted he understood it may look like the City is concentrating these individuals in a certain neighborhood although Oxford has that now with some of the larger projects in town. Mr. Elliott suggested a certain percentage of the units should be for transitional living as opposed to permanent living. Mr. Elliott noted he felt this could be done right ensuring the neighborhoods are happy with it.

Ms. Southard asked Mr. Elliott to remind the public how the Deer Management Program works. Mr. Elliott advised council authorized the City Manager to implement a Deer Management Program in 2009. Mr. Elliott noted the City requires the hunters to get qualified which allows them to hunt with bow and arrow from tree stands on large tracts of land. Mr. Elliott advised David Treleaven, the City's Environmental Specialist has managed the program since its inception and has done an excellent job. Mr. Elliott noted the hunters must demonstrate they are aware of the State of Ohio hunting laws, pass a proficiency test and then they are given a location to hunt. Mr. Elliott advised there six tracts of land, 4 are City owned and 2 are privately owned (the Oxford Cemetery and the Oxford Country Club). Mr. Elliott noted the bag limit is 3 deer of either sex and hunters have the option of donating the venison the the Community Meal Center in Hamilton.

Ms. Greene wished Talawanda High School good luck noting their Homecoming was this weekend.

Ms. Greene advised staff was planning Public Input Sessions for the new Comprehensive Plan noting two in person meetings would take place in October (20th and 25th) at a large venue so people can spread out. Ms. Greene advised she imagined tables would be set up for different chapters of the plan and people can share their ideas for the community. Ms. Greene noted she and Mr. Perry were working on an online survey and an interactive map.

Ms. Raghu asked for clarification of Sunshine Laws with regard to meeting with citizens and responding to emails. Mr. Mazer advised email should not be used for the deliberation of pertinent issues that are coming before Council. Mr. Mazer noted he and Mr. Conard would provide a further update as to meeting with members of the public as an individual or as a Councilor.

Mr. Snavely noted he the felt the residents of the Hester Road area have been through a lot of anxiety and concern regarding the proposed trail and some were hiring lawyers. Mr. Snavely advised he felt the sooner Council can put some of this to rest the better and noted his hope Council would have a Work Session prior to the next Council Meeting.

Ms. Southard advised the Historic Tours that were postponed from May occurred this September noting she lead the tour last Saturday on the east side of Wespiser Place. Ms. Southard advised the final tour this Saturday is a 10:30 a.m. starting on Pamela Drive lead by Steve Gordon. Ms. Southard noted the tours have been successful and advised 44 people participated in the last tour. Ms. Southard noted Historic Preservation is important and people are not going to preserve what they do not know about which is why the educational tours are so important for the local history and encouraging understanding of the community and the

contributions of people who have made the community rich.

Ms. Southard updated everyone on the annual "Walk-About" event noting community members are paired with students to welcome the students back to Oxford.

Mr. Bracken encouraged everyone to get vaccinated and to do their best to wear a mask in public buildings for their own health and others.

Mr. Prytherch noted he appreciated all of the neighbor concerns and urged people to have some patience and trust in the skills of City staff, the wisdom of the appointed boards and the people they elect. Mr. Prytherch advised the trail was a process and encouraged people to trust in the process for Council to make the best decision they can given difficult choices.

Mayor Smith advised Council was still listening and they were not going to approve a trail plan tomorrow or next month. Mayor Smith noted Council would continue to hear input from the public and advised he has received requests from Councilors to meet with the Oxford Parking and Transportation Advisory Board to see where they are coming from so everyone is on the same page.

THUR - Sept 23 Climate Action Steering Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Leonard Howell Shelter

TUES - Sept 28 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6:30 p.m.

FRI - Sept 24 Student Community Relations Commission Meeting 3:00 p.m. LCNB

TUES - Oct 5 City Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.

WED - Oct 6 Environmental Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m. Municipal Building

TUES - Oct 12 Public Arts Commission of Oxford Meeting 4:30 p.m. Municipal Building

TUES - Oct 12 Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

WED - Oct 13 Historic & Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting 6:15 p.m.

THUR - Oct 14 Recreation Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. Municipal Building

MON - Oct 18 Housing Advisory Commission Meeting 3:30 p.m. LCNB

FRI - Oct 22 Student Community Relations Commission Meeting 3:00 p.m. LCNB

TUES- Oct 26 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Snavelly moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

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