A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 7:06 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder. Bob Blackburn was excused.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Bob Holzworth, Interim Police Chief; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Ms. Amy Blankenship, Acting Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of discussing appointments to Boards and Commissions. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Snyder,
Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bogard moved to return from Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McKeehan moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
MCCULLOUGH-HYDE HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Bogard noted Mr. Rusty Richardson moved away from the community and the Hospital Board needed someone to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Bogard moved to appoint Mr. Ralph Gutowski to the McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees for a term ending June 30, 2012. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Notice to Legislative Authority – Transfer permit from Fisher, Lundgren & Slaughenhaupt Inc. 10 E. Walnut Street 1st Floor Oxford, Ohio 45056 to Blazin Wings Inc. DBA Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar 10 E. Walnut Street 1st Floor Oxford, Ohio 45056.

Mr. Bogard moved to accept the notice without comment. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. David Brown, Butler County Auditor's Office, reminded dog owners to purchase their dog licenses by January 31, 2012 noting the cost was $14.00 per dog. Mr. Brown noted the licenses could be purchased through the auditor's office, at the City Building and at the Whistle Stop on Elm Street in Oxford.

Mr. Brown noted the Auditor's Office recently announced its Triennial Update and Butler County property owners would receive a mailer showing their 2011 property value. Mr. Brown noted the total taxable property value in Oxford was 294.86 million dollars. Mr. Brown advised if citizens were concerned about their property value they could request a hearing by the Board of Revision through the Auditor's Office. Mr. Brown also discussed the Homestead Exemption that was available for those 65 or older or those who were disabled.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Keebler requested removal of item F. (A Resolution approving the purchase of two police vehicles).

Mr. Chen noted a correction to the BZA report on page 19 of the agenda.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 6, 2011 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the December 7, 2011 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Report regarding the December 13, 2011 Planning Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the December 14, 2011 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
UTILITY SERVICE AND SUPPLY, INC.

A Resolution No. 4654 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Utility Service and Supply, Inc. for the purchase of materials to replace an existing ten inch water main under High Street between Main Street and Campus Avenue at a cost of $143,553.85 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the contract price or $14,355.00 for a total cost not to exceed $157,908.85. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Snyder moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
GREVE CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE

A Resolution No. 4655 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Greve Chrysler Jeep Dodge for the purchase of two (2) 2012 Dodge Chargers at State Contract pricing at a cost not to exceed $43,020.00. (Bob Holzworth, Interim Police Chief)

Mayor Keebler advised there were no police vehicles budgeted for 2012 and inquired where the funds would come from. Mr. Elliott advised in 2011 the City budgeted for two police cruisers out of the Enforcement and Education Fund and the Capital Equipment Fund. Mr. Elliott noted he and former Chief Schwein decided to wait until later in 2011to pursue the purchase. Mr. Elliott advised after discussing the issue with Interim Chief Holzworth, he decided to request the purchase at the first meeting in January of 2012. Mr. Elliott reiterated that the funds had been encumbered.

Mr. Bogard inquired if equipment for the new vehicles would be transferred from the old vehicles or if the new vehicles would be fit with new equipment. Mr. Elliott advised grant money would be utilized to purchase new equipment for the new vehicles.

Mr. McKeehan inquired what other vehicle models were considered and Mr. Elliott advised none, as the Dodge Charger was on the state bid list. Interim Chief Holzworth noted other local agencies used the Dodge Charger and were quite satisfied with their performance and durability.

Mr. Harman advised no new police cars had been purchased since 2009 and commended the Police Department for keeping the older vehicles running well.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4655. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION RESIDENTIAL PERMITTED PARKING AREA

A Resolution No. 4656 establishing E. Rose Avenue from S. Poplar Street to S. Campus Avenue and the 500 and 600 blocks of S. Poplar Street as Residential Permitted Parking Areas twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. (Bob Holzworth, Interim Police Chief)

Interim Chief Holzworth advised the Residential Parking Permit petition was submitted on October 7, 2011 and the required studies were done and included in the report on pages 30-37 of the agenda. Interim Chief Holzworth noted the Residential Parking Permit areas were recommended based on the data collected by the employees of the parking unit and he urged Council to move forward with the initiative. Interim Chief Holzworth advised the petitioner was in attendance if Council wished to speak to her.

Mr. Elliott referred to pages 34 to 37 of the agenda and advised duplicate signatures were struck-out as only one signature per dwelling unit was allowed.

Mr. Snyder noted this was a very thorough process based on the documentation provided. Interim Chief Holzworth advised it was an intensive effort conducted primarily by the parking unit who surveyed the areas, took counts of available parking spaces and held a public hearing. Interim Chief Holzworth noted there had been no resistance to the initiative and he felt it would be a nice addition to the Residential Parking Permit program.

Mayor Keebler noted he understood the need for Residential Parking Permit areas although it was annoying in some cases when you couldn't park on an almost empty street for a short visit. Mayor Keebler noted there were problems particularly in areas surrounding the campus where people were trying to store their cars in residential areas.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No. 4656. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION CONTRACT WITH FINE LINE PRODUCTS

A Resolution No. 4657 accepting the bid submitted by Fine Line Products and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Fine Line Products for the purchase of 4,400 Photoelectric Smoke Alarms at a cost of $54,780.00. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Chief Detherage noted after advertising the bid for a second time, Fine Line Products found a device that would meet the Fire Department's needs and the bid price was under the grant amount he had to work with. Chief Detherage noted other local Fire Departments used the same product and were very satisfied with it.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Resolution No. 4657. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
GRANT APPLICATION

A Resolution No. 4658 of Council approving an application for a Transportation, Community and System Preservation grant on behalf of Miami University, in the amount of $507,000 with a matching fund commitment of $169,000 from Miami University, to the Federal Highway Administration for a project titled "Campus Life-Safety Improvements". (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach noted Miami University recently completed a Campus Circulation Master Plan which identified several areas where improvements could be made for vehicular and pedestrian access and safety particularly around US-27. Mr. Dreisbach noted Miami had been diligent in trying to obtain financing for the improvements and it recently came to their attention that a grant was available through the Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Dreisbach advised Miami would pay the entire local match and there would be no financial obligation on the part of the City. Mr. Dreisbach noted the proposed improvements were mainly sidewalk and crosswalk improvements on High Street and Patterson Avenue, a 3 way stop at Maple and Spring Streets and a raised traffic table. Mr. Dreisbach noted Ms. Yvette Kline and Mr. John Seibert from Miami University were in attendance. Mr. Dreisbach advised the grant would mostly benefit Miami and the campus area but the municipality was required to apply for it. Mr. Dreisbach noted letters of support for the project from OKI and McCullough-Hyde Hospital were included on pages 49 and 50 of the agenda.

Mayor Keebler noted his concern that the 'cart was before the horse'.

Mr. John Seibert, Senior Project Architect and Manager, Miami University, advised members of Miami's staff worked with Mr. Chen, Mr. Dreisbach, Interim Chief Holzworth and Mr. Popescu on the proposed grant application. Mr. Seibert noted preparations were being made for public outreach sessions to share information about the proposal with the community and campus. Mr. Seibert advised just before the holiday break a student was struck and air-cared off of the campus. Mr. Seibert noted Miami was made aware of the grant and looked at the Campus Circulation Master Plan and picked components of it to enhance pedestrian safety which included reconfiguring sidewalks and crossings to help students get across US-27 safely.

Mayor Keebler noted he understood the desire to improve safety and at the same time Council was committed to the community as a whole. Mayor Keebler advised he was concerned with the installation of traffic calming tables on a major thoroughfare such as Spring Street. Mayor Keebler noted concern that Council did not have a detailed plan yet they were being asked to make a major commitment on the part of the City. Mayor Keebler inquired when Council would be able to look at the project and decide what was best for the community as a whole.

Mr. Seibert advised the grant allowed a design process once the grant was awarded and there would be a planning and review period.

Mr. Seibert noted as an example, the university would like to reduce the existing crossings on High Street from 5 to 3 and that proposal would be reviewed with the proper entities before the project would go out for bid. Mr. Seibert referred to page 46 of the agenda which outlined the process which included Stakeholder meetings.

Mayor Keebler noted if Council had the opportunity to provide input he would be in favor of the proposed grant application.

Mr. Bogard advised a visual presentation of the proposed improvements would be in order as well as detailed drawings.

Mayor Keebler noted this needed to be a joint City/Miami University decision and project and should not be based on just what the university and their consultant felt was best.

Mr. Snyder inquired if drawings would be available at the public meetings and Mr. Seibert advised yes. Mr. Snyder inquired who would conduct the public meetings and Mr. Seibert advised ODOT was the sponsoring entity. Mr. Snyder inquired if City staff was in favor of going forward with the project.

Mr. Elliott advised staff was in favor of many of the improvements listed but wanted to see more detail and bring that information forward to the public. Mr. Elliott noted he felt Council should hold meetings regarding the project and involve the Planning Commission.

Mayor Keebler noted he felt all of Council was in favor of the project with the full understanding that they expected to be involved in the final planning, design and implementation of the grant and exactly what it funded.

Ms. Rousmaniere echoed Mayor Keebler's comments. Ms. Rousmaniere noted she read the university's master plan and it was very ambitious. Ms. Rousmaniere advised she looked forward to regular communications regarding the project.

Ms. Rousmaniere moved to adopt Resolution No. 4658. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE
NEW CHAPTER 1133

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1133, Provisions For Zoning Districts, And Adopting New Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1133, Provisions For Zoning Districts, To Add The Agricultural Open Space District. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the first two proposed Ordinances went hand in hand noting the first one created the Agricultural Open Space District (AOS) and the second one detailed the regulations of the district.

Mr. Chen advised the proposed AOS district would allow agricultural use to continue when property was annexed into the City. Mr. Chen noted the proposed district would also be used as a holding zone when land was not under development pressure. Mr. Chen advised one objective in the Comprehensive Plan was to create a comparable land use category with the township and county. Mr. Chen noted the proposed new district would alleviate future nonconformities.

Mayor Keebler advised the Planning Commission had discussed this issue for quite some time and noted right now newly annexed property came into the City as R1 which was not compatible with agricultural use. Mayor Keebler advised the proposed new district would provide the opportunity to zone newly annexed property as agricultural immediately and change portions of it as necessary if it developed. Mayor Keebler noted this would remove some contention about bringing land into the City and destroying its agricultural use. Mayor Keebler advised there was no down side to the new district and it would recognize the Comprehensive Plan's objective with regard to open space.

ORDINANCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 1143

An Ordinance Amending Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1143, Districts, To Add New Section 1143.15, Agricultural Open Space District. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mayor Keebler noted the proposed Ordinance had already been addressed.

ORDINANCE
NEW CHAPTER 1141

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1141, Accessory, Temporary, Supplemental and Environmental Regulations, And Adopting New Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1141, Accessory, Temporary, Supplemental and Environmental Regulations. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed changes were printed in red and items that were removed or relocated were struck through. Mr. Chen noted much of the Chapter was retained and several items were added under temporary uses. Mr. Chen advised the language pertaining to the Farmers Market was clarified and the regulations pertaining to tent sales and roadside sales were better defined. Mr. Chen noted the Home Occupation section was clarified and prohibitions related to Home Occupations were added. Mr. Chen advised regulations for alternative energy apparatuses such as wind turbines and solar panels were added. Mr. Chen noted the Planning Commission spent six months working on this Chapter and reorganized many of the sections to make it easier to follow.

Mr. Snyder inquired how adopting this Ordinance would affect the rest of the zoning code. Mr. Chen advised this Chapter had little to do with the rest of the code. Mayor Keebler advised there may be some practices in other Chapters that would need to be adjusted. Mayor Keebler noted the intent was to clarify the Chapter and no major new restrictions were proposed.

Mr. Bogard noted he liked the positive spin that was incorporated in the proposed language and Mr. McKeehan advised a lot of the vagueness was clarified.

ORDINANCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 1159

An Ordinance Amending Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1159.04, Definitions (Beginning With The Letter "C") and Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1159.07, Definitions (Beginning With The Letter "F"). (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen noted the definitions for Child Day Care centers and Family Day Care Home Type-A and Type-B were amended to be in sync with the Ohio Administrative Code and noted the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services was the authorizing agency for those services. Mr. Chen advised the 'good-standing' clause was removed from the definition of Fraternity/Sorority House as it related to a behavioral issue not a land use issue.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott noted he provided an update to Council regarding the Miami Heritage Tech Park on December 6, 2011. Mr. Elliott advised the County Commissioners approved the annexation at their December 15, 2011 meeting and Council would need to adopt an Ordinance accepting the annexation after 60 days. Mr. Elliott noted under this type of annexation the township would receive the same amount of property tax. Mr. Elliott updated Council regarding the proposed Bonham Road annexation and advised he wanted to set-up a meeting with the township trustees, the Mayor, and members of Council to try to move the project forward.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised she was the Council representative on the Environmental Commission and they wanted to make a presentation to Council at the next meeting. Ms. Rousmaniere noted the Environmental Commission's focus this year was on storm water management and they would be developing some proposals to help the community address the issue.

Mr. Bogard announced the yard waste pick-up program was on the winter schedule and yard waste would be picked up the first full week of January, February and March on the normal trash pick-up day.

Mr. McKeehan noted he chaired the Lions Club annual Christmas Tree sale which was very successful and thanked everyone for their support.

ADJOURN

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

A Work Session of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. The Council members present were, Ken Bogard John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder. Bob Blackburn was excused.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; Amy Blankenship, Acting Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Harman moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council to discuss the issue of establishing term limits for members of various City Boards and Commissions.

TERM LIMITS

Mayor Keebler noted he wanted Council's feedback on the possibility of establishing term limits for board and commission members. Mayor Keebler referred to a report that showed each board or commission member, how long they had served and when their current term ended and noted it was important to make sure all the terms didn't end at the same time. Mayor Keebler advised the Clerk surveyed other cities and some had term limits and some did not. Mayor Keebler noted the City of Middletown had a policy which limited the service of a citizen on a board or commission to two-full terms with the provision that if no candidates were available, Council could reappoint a citizen to additional terms. Mayor Keebler noted establishing term limits would not affect the City Charter.

Mr. Bogard inquired if citizens would fulfill their current terms and Mayor Keebler advised yes. Mr. Bogard noted it had been difficult to fill vacancies in the past and suggested a person could be reappointed after a year off of the board or commission.

Mr. Harman noted he served as the Council representative on the HAPC and they were in favor of establishing term limits.

Mr. Snyder suggested the term limit should be established based on the complexity of the particular board or commission's duties.

Council discussed the notion of limiting 3 year terms to 3 consecutive terms and 4 or 5 year terms to 2 consecutive terms. Council also requested a copy of the City of Middletown's policy.

Mayor Keebler inquired if there was any difficulty with establishing a policy rather than adopting an Ordinance and Ms. Blankenship advised that Mr. McHugh felt the issue of term limits should be codified.

Mr. Elliott advised staff would provide draft legislation for Council to review at a future meeting with an 'out' that persons could be reappointed under certain circumstances.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.