A Work Joint Session of the Oxford City Council and Planning Commission was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 17, 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. The Planning Commission members present were, David Prytherch, Chair, Rich Daniels, Ted Wong, Bob Benson, Richard Keebler, Vice Chair and Kate Rousmaniere.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Bob Holzworth, Interim Police Chief; Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Steve McHugh, Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council and the Planning Commission to discuss the Planning Commission's goals and objectives for 2012 and beyond.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Mr. Prytherch provided a PowerPoint presentation with regard to planning for alternative modes of transportation, commercial zoning, neighborhood preservation and certain difficulties related to the zoning code. Mr. Prytherch discussed current transportation issues including public safety, congestion and the need for the City of Oxford and Miami University to coordinate efforts with regard to the Miami Campus Circulation Master Plan. Mr. Prytherch noted the need to integrate transportation strategies from existing plans including the City's 2008 Comprehensive Plan and the 2007 Thoroughfare Plan. Mr. Prytherch discussed various objectives which included identifying incentives to encourage safe and convenient modes of transportation, reviewing existing roadways for improvements within the current right-of-way to accommodate pedestrian and bike traffic, a review of the Zoning Code to require adequate pedestrian and bike connection and facilities, researching the Best Practices/Benchmarking from other town-gown communities and developing bike/pedestrian improvement plans for future grant opportunities.

Mr. Snyder inquired who would 'own' the proposed initiative and Mr. Prytherch advised the Planning Commission in collaboration with Miami University and various City departments. Mayor Keebler and Vice Mayor Bogard both commented that the City Manager would have to help drive the proposed initiative. Mr. Daniels noted the Oxford Parking and Transportation Advisory Board could be involved as well.

Mr. Prytherch discussed issues related to commercial zoning and noted the need to analyze and review the distinct commercial areas and consider different types of commercial zoning/overlay districts. Mr. Prytherch noted the need to revisit the Locust Street Overlay concept and address parking, signage and nonconformity issues, review existing zoning regulations and recommend changes to signage, mounding and parking requirements and explore incentives and design standards for appropriate redevelopment of underutilized parcels.

Mr. Bogard inquired what types of zoning investors were looking for. Mr. Kyger advised investors wanted to know what the rules were and did not want to deal with the Board of Zoning Appeals or submit an application for a Conditional Use permit.

Mr. Prytherch discussed issues related to neighborhood preservation noting there were a few pockets of owner-occupied homes remaining in the Mile Square including Chestnut Street, Silvoor Lane, Cedar Drive and Oberlin Court. Mr. Prytherch noted other neighborhood issues including the continued conversion to rentals in and beyond the Mile Square and the market uncertainty which inhibited neighborhood stability. Mr. Prytherch noted the need to identify areas in and around the Mile Square that still had a strong presence of owner and family occupancy and the need to explore best practices and develop methods of preserving neighborhoods to remain predominately owner and family occupied. Mr. Prytherch noted many of the preservation efforts should be neighborhood generated and driven. Mr. McKeehan noted the Housing Advisory Board was working on an overlay district that would be resident driven.

Mr. Prytherch also discussed difficulty with redevelopment within the City due to the language in Zoning Code Chapter 1137, Nonconformities. Mayor Keebler advised a re-write of the nonconforming language relative to redevelopment was a high priority for the Planning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:30 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; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

Mayor Keebler noted the absence of Councilor Blackburn and advised Councilor Blackburn was hit by a car in a parking lot in the Cincinnati area right before Christmas. Mayor Keebler noted Councilor Blackburn suffered a broken leg and currently he was at the Knolls of Oxford recuperating. Mayor Keebler advised he was remiss in mentioning this at the last meeting and wished Councilor Blackburn the best recovery. Mayor Keebler noted his hope Councilor Blackburn would return sometime in February.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PRESENTATION
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mr. Wright Gwyn, Vice Chair, Environmental Commission, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the make-up of the commission, their mission, history, responsibility, most recent achievements and current projects. Mr. Gwyn advised the commission dedicated itself in 2012 to researching methods for better storm water control and management within the City. Mr. Gwyn discussed storm water management locally and regionally noting Oxford was a headwater community being at the top of the Four Mile Creek watershed so any impact Oxford made to the watershed affected downstream communities. Mr. Gwyn discussed the Environmental Commission's goals with regard to storm water management which included developing partnerships to enhance the community's storm water management efforts, researching other communities' efforts regarding storm water management, interviewing local residents and businesses to better understand various storm water management perspectives, identifying areas where Best Management Practices could be tested and evaluated and connecting the storm water management plan to planning and zoning codes and subdivision regulations. Mr. Gwyn also discussed future projects the commission was interested in working on such as alternative transportation, energy efficiency and improving solid waste and recycling efforts. The other Environmental Commission members in attendance were Vince Hand, Charlie Ford, Ted Wong and Kate Rousmaniere. David Treleaven, staff liaison was also present.

Mr. Gwyn recognized Mr. Hand for his work on the Storm Water Management sub-committee.

Mr. Gwyn advised the Environmental Commission wanted to introduce themselves to Council and they felt storm water management was a great project for them to work on this year. Mr. Gwyn noted if Council did not feel storm water management was a priority, or if there was something else Council wanted them to do, they would like to know.

Mayor Keebler advised he felt the Environmental Commission was going in the right direction and noted storm water management and creek erosion were important issues. Mayor Keebler advised he felt the Environmental Commission had the collaboration they needed.

Mr. Snyder inquired if the Environmental Commission was going to involve the local townships in their 'Best Practices' research and Mr. Gwyn advised yes. Mr. Snyder noted the Environmental Commission should work with the Planning Commission regarding any transportation matters.

Mr. Bogard noted the Environmental Commission could contact OKI and the Army Corps of Engineers as another resource with regard to storm water issues.

Mayor Keebler thanked Mr. Gwyn and the Environmental Commission for making the presentation.

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Notice to Legislative Authority – New Permit for La Posada 3 Inc. DBA La Pinata Mexican Grill & Bar 33 & 45 E. Church Street Oxford, Ohio 45056.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 3, 2012 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the January 3, 2012 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the January 4, 2012 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Report regarding the January 4, 2012 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

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

RESOLUTIONS

None.

ORDINANCES SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NEW CHAPTER 1133

An Ordinance No. 3165 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 noted he had no new information since the first reading. Mr. Chen reminded Council that the proposed Ordinance and the next proposed Ordinance went together to establish the Agricultural Open Space District.

Mr. Snyder advised he felt the legislation was well discussed at the last meeting.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3165. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1143

An Ordinance No. 3166 Amending Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1143, Districts, To Add New Section 1143.15, Agricultural Open Space District. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Council and staff had no further comments regarding the proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3166. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
NEW CHAPTER 1141

An Ordinance No. 3167 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 referred to item 1141.04(f)(4) on page 51 of the agenda and noted a spelling correction.

Mr. McKeehan thanked staff and the Planning Commission for clarifying the language in Chapter 1141. Mayor Keebler noted the Planning Commission and staff spent about a year working on this chapter and noted Ms. Dale spent a lot of time rewriting and reorganizing the language.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3167. Mr. Snyder seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 1159

An Ordinance No. 3168 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 beginning with the letter "C" were redefined to match the state code.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3168. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

COMMUNICATIONS

DISCUSSION ITEM
TERM LIMITS

Mayor Keebler noted Council held a Work Session prior to the last meeting regarding term limits for Board and Commission members. Mayor Keebler advised Council was furnished with a draft Ordinance and it was his intent to place the item on the next agenda for a first reading. Mayor Keebler inquired if Council felt the draft Ordinance reflected their discussion at the Work Session.

Mr. Harman advised he felt the draft covered what Council discussed regarding term limits and he had no changes or additions. The rest of Council agreed and Mayor Keebler advised the proposed Ordinance would be placed on the next agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised Council passed a moratorium on the establishment of Sweepstakes/Internet Cafes which was set to expire on March 15, 2012. Mr. Elliott noted several communities in Ohio adopted regulations for these establishments although most communities still had moratoriums in place. Mr. Elliott advised HB195 was introduced in the legislature to regulate Sweepstakes/Internet Cafes and was proposed to be handled by the Ohio Casino Control Commission. Mr. Elliott suggested that Council extend the moratorium for an additional 6 months to see if HB195 moved forward and this would give staff time to review other municipality's ordinances. Mr. Elliott noted if HB195 did move forward the City may be pre-empted in regulating certain aspects of these establishments except for zoning. Mr. Elliott advised if Council preferred to adopt regulations staff would provide the proposed language.

Mayor Keebler advised a moratorium should not be in place indefinitely and noted if there was a ready-made ordinance that fit, Council should look at it, extend the moratorium for 6 months, and be prepared to adopt regulations which may need to be modified when the state adopted regulations.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired what the definition of Sweepstakes/Internet Café was. Mr. Elliott advised a person purchased a game card which entitled them to a phone card or a set amount of network access time to play online Vegas style computer games. Mr. Elliott noted in playing the games the purchaser could win more internet time and points that had no cash value, both of which were predetermined at the time the game card was purchased, but give them chances and sweepstakes where they could win money and/or prizes.

Mr. McHugh noted a loophole was being used to say this type of game was not gambling since the prizes were predetermined at the time the game card was purchased.

Mr. Kyger noted he may have had an inquiry from someone regarding opening this type of business in Oxford.

Mr. Kyger advised Moon Co-op scheduled their Grand Opening Week next week including a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony scheduled for Monday. Mr. Kyger noted the Annual Chamber Awards Ceremony was scheduled for Tuesday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Knolls of Oxford. Mr. Kyger advised Phil Cagwin and Steve Snyder would be recognized at the event as well as the 'Business of the Year' which was yet to be named.

Mr. Bogard noted the passing of Lucy Ewbank yesterday who was a resident of Southern Knolls and was 105 years old.

Mr. Bogard followed up on an inquiry he made several months ago regarding the City receiving yellow brackets for traffic lights from ODOT. Mr. Dreisbach advised ODOT was giving away the older type of traffic lights without the yellow boarders. Mr. Dreisbach advised any new or replacement traffic lights in Oxford would have the yellow boarder.

Ms. Rousmaniere thanked her colleagues on the Environmental Commission for making a great presentation noting storm water management was an important issue for everyone.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised David Orr, a renowned environmental speaker and professor at Oberlin College would be at McGuffey Hall in Oxford at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19th to talk about ecological literacy. Ms. Rousmaniere noted some Council members were meeting with Mr. Orr the next day since he developed a partnership between Oberlin College and the City of Oberlin to work on sustainability issues which could be a great model for Oxford.

Mr. Harman congratulated and welcomed Mr. John Kinne, newly elected Oxford Township Trustee, and noted he appreciated Mr. Kinne attending the Council Meeting. Mr. Harman advised he looked forward to working with the township on issues that benefited both entities.

Mr. Harman advised Oxford was number one in Butler County last quarter for its recycling efforts noting the citizens needed to know this was beneficial to everyone due to the grant the City could receive worth several thousand dollars to offset utility/refuse costs.

Mr. Snyder noted the discussion regarding the four Ordinances that Council voted on this evening was anti-climatic but Council was aware that a lot of work went into presenting them. Mr. Snyder thanked the Planning Commission and staff for their efforts.

Mr. McKeehan noted Council received a letter from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources once again designating Oxford as a Tree City USA. Mr. Elliott noted this was the 17th year running for the designation.

Mayor Keebler advised the Council Meeting was fairly quick this evening and noted a one hour Work Session with the Planning Commission took place before the regular meeting to discuss their goals and objectives for the next year.

Mayor Keebler advised he felt it was a very good Work Session and he appreciated the Planning Commission members attending as they worked together for the future of Oxford.

ADJOURN

Mr. Snyder moved to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.