A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, December 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Bob Blackburn and Kevin McKeehan. Greig Rutherford arrived at 7:24 p.m. and John Harman was excused.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Mr Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development 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.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blackburn moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4) for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategies and Section 121.22(G)(3) for the purpose of discussing imminent court action. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Keebler (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blackburn moved to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Mr. Blackburn, Ms. Currie, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Keebler (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bogard moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Ms. Currie moved to amend the agenda by placing items 6.B. 1 through 4 ahead of the consent agenda. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PRESENTATION
FARMER'S MARKET

Mr. Larry Slocum, played the guitar and sang a Farmer's Market tune for Council and the audience. Mr. Slocum noted the Oxford Farmer's Market Uptown had enjoyed its 7th season and held a Winter Market last Saturday with the temperature of 11 degrees. Mr. Slocum introduced Mr. Ray Arlinghous.

Mr. Ray Arlinghous, advised he was a farmer who had participated in the Oxford Farmer's Market Uptown for two years and it had been wonderful. Mr. Arlinghous noted in the past, 30% of customers drove three or more miles to the Oxford Farmer's Market Uptown, and this year 13% of customers drove 10 or more miles and came from West Chester, Hamilton, Harrison, Cincinnati and Richmond. Mr. Arlinghous noted he felt the market made Oxford a destination for people from the surrounding area. Mr. Arlinghous advised the market continued to grow with $250,000 in sales last year and close to $300,000 this year. Mr. Arlinghous noted the farmers needed a place to sell and they appreciated having the Oxford Farmer's Market Uptown and the hospitality of the City of Oxford. Mr. Arlinghous presented a check to the City on behalf of the Farmer's Market.

Mr. Larry Slocum, advised the owners of Arabian Nights Authentic Lebanese Cuisine got their customer base started at the Farmer's Market Uptown and now were planning to open a restaurant in Uptown Oxford. Mr. Slocum noted he would like to have free parking at the market until noon and advised the vendors parked at the doctor's office on Church Street and not at meters.

Mr. Bogard thanked Mr. Slocum and Mr. Arlinghous for their efforts and encouraged them to keep up the good work.

Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling Oxford should think of itself as a center for regional commerce and needed to give people a reason to come here instead of to the malls, or Cincinnati or Dayton. Mr. Rutherford noted he appreciated the efforts of Mr. Arlinghous and the other farmers who participated in the Oxford Farmer's Market Uptown.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
ANNEXATION

An Ordinance No. 3134 Authorizing The Annexation Of 47.069 Acres Of Contiguous Territory And Directing The City Attorney To Prosecute The Proceedings Necessary To Effect Said Annexation. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised he had no new information to present and Mayor Keebler noted the matter was discussed at the last meeting.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3134. Ms. Currie seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
REPEAL CHAPTER 919

An Ordinance No. 3135 Repealing Oxford Code Of Ordinances Chapter 919, Advisory Utilities Commission. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott noted the Advisory Utilities Commission had been inactive for three years and its purpose was to advise Council on public utility matters. Mr. Elliott advised the City utilized an independent consultant for natural gas utility matters and the state eliminated the ability for local governments to negotiate cable franchise agreements. Mr. Elliott advised he felt the commission was no longer required.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3135. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
REFUNDING BONDS

An Ordinance No. 3136 Providing For The Issuance Of Not To Exceed $3,460,000 Water Supply System Refunding Bonds And Declaring An Emergency. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin thanked his staff and various department heads for assisting him in obtaining the information to get the official statement done in an orderly fashion to get this out into the market.

Mayor Keebler advised the re-issuance would save the City approximately $100,000 and the Ordinance was being passed as an emergency for the purpose of taking advantage of favorable market conditions.

Mr. Rutherford moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3136. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3137Amending Ordinance No. 3089. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 8 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2010. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed the changes from the first reading as presented on pages 71 through 75 of the agenda.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3137. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

Mayor Keebler thanked Mr. Rutherford for attending the meeting even though he was under the weather. Mr. Rutherford wished everyone a Merry Christmas and excused himself from the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 7, 2010 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the December 7, 2010 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the December 1, 2010 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION
WINTER FARMER'S MARKET

A Resolution No. 4577 authorizing the City Manager to close Lot 52 on Saturday, January 15, 2011, Saturday, February 19, 2011, Saturday, March 19, 2011, Saturday, April 16, 2011 and Saturday, December 17, 2011 from 5:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., to permit the operation of the Winter Farmer's Market within Lot 52 during said time. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

RESOLUTION
FARMER'S MARKET

A Resolution No. 4578 authorizing the City Manager to close Lot 52 on Saturdays, from 5:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from May 7, 2011 through November 26, 2011, to permit the operation of the Farmer's Market within Lot 52 during said time. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Ms. Currie moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
REVOLVING LOAN FUND

A Resolution No. 4579 amending Resolution No. 4546 to approve the Oxford Community Improvement Corporation's recommendation to loan $20,000.00 to Arabian Nights Authentic Lebanese Cuisine, Inc. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger advised Council approved this loan in June of 2010. Mr. Kyger noted this was a re-application as a lease could not be secured at the original location of 19 W. High Street. Mr. Kyger advised the applicant found a new location at 36 W. High Street and the new application was identical to the original one. Mr. Kyger referred to page 23 of the agenda and noted conditions a. and b. of the resolution had been met. Mr. Kyger noted the owners were in attendance to answer any questions.

Mr. Michael Tyree, thanked Council and advised City staff had been extremely good to him and Ms. Akkoub. Mr. Tyree noted they felt better about the new location and were happy with how everything was proceeding.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Resolution No. 4579. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

RESOLUTION
REVOLVING LOAN FUND

A Resolution No. 4580 approving the Oxford Community Improvement Corporation's recommendation to loan $245,000.00 to Moon Cooperative Services, Inc. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger noted the loan application process for this project began last summer. Mr. Kyger advised Moon Cooperative Services, Inc. originally asked for a ten year loan for the $245,000. Mr. Kyger noted Moon was a Cooperative and part of their source of funding was through membership loans. Mr. Kyger noted all other applicants had personally guaranteed a loan or provided collateral and that was not the case with this application. Mr. Kyger noted the Loan Review Committee worked with Moon to shorten the term of the loan to 5 years and move the membership loan payment back so the first loan to be paid off would be the Revolving Loan Fund loan. Mr. Kyger advised the project was a natural foods grocery store to be located at 513 S. Locust Street.

Ms. Bernadette Unger, thanked Mr. Kyger and the Community Improvement Corporation for all of their help. Ms. Unger advised Moon Cooperative was incorporated in 2004 and had a national reputation for being steadfast and conservative. Ms. Unger noted Moon had other equity partners in addition to members and they had 532 households in this region. Ms. Unger advised Chaco Credit Union was an equity partner and did not require a personal guarantee for a loan unless at least 20% of a business was owned by one person. Ms. Unger noted this was a unique economic model in this part of Ohio although it was a tried and true program across the nation. Ms. Unger advised the project would be very well capitalized by the members and they anticipated $400,000 of the startup cost to be member generated. Ms. Unger noted they were thrilled with the location which fit very well with Oxford's Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Jim Rubenstein, noted a building permit was issued for 513 S. Locust and a General Manager had been hired who started fulltime on December 15, 2010.

Mr. Kyger noted the loan was coming from a pool of money that could only be used for Revolving Loan Fund applications and there was a set of required standards which this applicant had met.

Ms. Currie noted she was on the CIC Board and they would be happy to see the funds working in the community the way they had hoped. Ms. Currie advised she would be glad to see the funds going to a great organization and she was excited to see them open for business.

Mr. Bogard inquired when the business would open and Ms. Unger advised in the spring of 2011.

Mr. Blackburn noted he was a member of Moon Cooperative and wanted them to be successful. Mr. Blackburn noted concern that the loan would not be guaranteed. Mr. Kyger advised that was why the loan committee worked with the applicant and shortened the loan to five years. Mr. Kyger noted the applicant was well funded and had a large amount of working capital.

Mayor Keebler advised he was impressed with the applicant's membership and noted they had a lot of incentive to make the project successful.

Mr. Blackburn advised all other loan applicants had to make a personal guarantee and inquired if the City would be discriminating against them. Mr. McHugh noted every loan was slightly different based on the nature of the business.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution No. 4580. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 4-1-0 with Mr. Blackburn voting nay.

RESOLUTION
IDENTITY THEFT POLICY

A Resolution No. 4581 repealing Resolution No. 4432, Identity Theft (Red Flag) Policy and adopting a new Identity Theft (Red Flag) Policy. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott addressed his staff report as presented on page 26 of the agenda noting the Resolution adopted in April of 2009 went beyond what was required by law and he would like to replace the earlier policy with the proposed new policy. Mayor Keebler asked Mr. Elliott to outline the major differences in the policies. Mr. Elliott advised there was discussion early on about encrypting all of the City's data which was extremely costly. Mr. Elliott noted a lot of clarification was available now as to what was required under the FTC regulation which focused on identity theft.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4581. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

None.

ANNOUNCMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised the City received a signed agreement with Milford Township for the provision of Emergency Medical Service to the western portion of Milford Township for one year. Mr. Elliott noted the intent was for Milford Township to work towards contributing $12,200 for Emergency Medical Service the next year.

Mr. Elliott advised a Resolution would be coming forward in January to implement the Tornado Siren Activation Policy which was the topic of Council's Work Session on December 7, 2010.

Chief Schwein encouraged everyone to take advantage of the free parking Uptown where certain meters would be bagged until January 1, 2011. Chief Schwein reminded citizens not to leave their cars parked on a City street for more than 72 hours. Chief Schwein encouraged those leaving town to take advantage of the free house check program offered by the Oxford Police Department.

Mr. Kyger noted 2010 was great with the success of the Job Ready Sites Program and 4 Revolving Loan Fund loans for new businesses. Mr. Kyger noted he was looking forward to 2011.

Mr. McKeehan wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Bogard complimented Eric Keebler and the Street Department for a fantastic snow removal job.

Mr. Bogard wished everyone Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and safe travels for those leaving town.

Ms. Currie encouraged citizens to shovel their sidewalks and get their winter exercise. Ms. Currie noted she was glad to see that snow was removed from the temporary sidewalk along US-27 South.

Mr. Blackburn noted the coolest Christmas tree in Oxford was at the Post Office as each ornament contained the name of an Oxford resident who served in the armed services.

Mr. Blackburn advised a child of lesser circumstances participated in the 'Shop with a Cop' program in Oxford and spent one third of his allotment and donated the purchases to Toys for Tots. Mr. Blackburn noted his feeling that was the day the boy became a man.

Mr. Blackburn thanked his fellow Council Members for a good year and thanked City staff for keeping Council informed and the town safe, clean and pretty. Mr. Blackburn thanked Mr. Elliott and Mr. Newlin for a budget that did not lay off any person employed by the City of Oxford.

Mr. Blackburn wished everyone Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and God bless.

Mayor Keebler noted he felt it was a good year and a lot had been accomplished. Mayor Keebler noted the City was in responsible financial condition and he took pleasure in the fact that everyone would remain employed. Mayor Keebler advised when looking at other cities and some of their conditions Oxford had a lot to be thankful for.

Mayor Keebler wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Currie moved to adjourn at 8:19 p.m. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.