A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Greig Rutherford, Bob Blackburn, John Harman and Kevin McKeehan.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bogard to approve the agenda. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEK

Mayor Keebler advised Vice Mayor Bogard read and presented the Proclamation at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. event yesterday.

PROCLAMATION
OXFORD SENIORS

Mayor Keebler advised he would read and present the Proclamation at an event scheduled for next Monday, January 25, 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Matt Ciccone, Secretary, Off Campus Affairs, advised Council he had a List-Serve which consisted of approximately 8,200 students who commuted to Oxford if Council ever needed the list. Mr. Ciccone noted the North Campus parking garage was now open to everyone and required an hourly fee. Mr. Ciccone noted the Green bus stop at Sycamore and College was moved to Sycamore and Lincoln.

CONSENT AGENDA

MI NUTES

Minutes of the December 15, 2009 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the December 15, 2009 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the December 16, 2009 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 6, 2010 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

**RESOLUTION
THERMAL IMAGING
CAMERAS**

A Resolution No. 4504 authorizing the city Manager and Fire Chief to enter into an agreement with Trudo/Albert Fire Equipment LLC for the purchase of three (3) thermal imaging cameras with truck mounts and chargers at a cost not to exceed $25,000.00 utilizing funds in the amount of $15,000.00 awarded from the 2008 Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the balance from budgeted capital improvement ('CIP') funds. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Mr. McKeehan moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT
WITH ODOT**

A Resolution No. 4505 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation and to deposit funds in an amount not to exceed $1,460,166.00 with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the US-27 North improvements. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach addressed his staff report as presented on page 28 of the agenda. Mr. Dreisbach noted Mr. Bogard and Mr. Elliott worked with the Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky Regional Council of Governments to secure earmarked funding necessary to complete this project.

Mr. Bogard referred to paragraph 3 of the staff report on page 28 of the agenda and noted concern that the City would be responsible for change orders initiated by ODOT. Mr. Dreisbach noted ODOT was typically willing to pay for the majority of a change order depending on what classification it fell under.

Mr. Bogard noted he and Mr. Elliott attended an OKI meeting last Thursday and OKI approved the change of funds from the City's earmark for improvements to US-27 South to cover the remainder of the US-27 North improvements.

Mr. Rutherford asked Mr. Dreisbach to speak to the original earmark. Mr. Dreisbach advised there were three separate earmarks granted from the federal government totaling over twenty million dollars which included projects outside of the City limits. Mr. Dreisbach noted any overages on those projects would detract from funding available for the US-27 South improvements. Mr. Dreisbach advised a meeting was scheduled with ODOT tomorrow to discuss the issues.

Mr. Elliott advised 1.5 million dollars would be used from earlier earmarks for the US-27 North improvements. Mr. Elliott noted the US-27 South improvement project had increased in cost by 10 million dollars with no change in the scope of the project and whether or not funds were transferred to the US-27 North project the City would still be short by approximately 8 million dollars for the US-27 South project. Mr. Elliott noted additional funding would have to be acquired or the scope of the US-27 South project would have to be reduced.

Mr. Harman inquired if the project would be delayed if the three remaining right-of-way cases were not settled and Mr. Dreisbach advised no.

<u>Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4505. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.</u>

**<u>RESOLUTION
SUPPORT OF THE
2010 CENSUS</u>**

A Resolution No. 4506 affirming the City of Oxford's support of and partnership with the 2010 Census. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised Census questionnaires would be sent to households in February and March with Census day being April 1, 2010. Mr. Elliott noted questionnaires should be completed representing the household as it existed on that day. Mr. Elliott advised the Resolution was on the agenda to show the City's support and partnership with the government and other entities regarding the Census. Mr. Elliott advised the City was working with the university on Census issues and Jung-Han Chen was the 'go to' person on City staff.

Mayor Keebler noted the importance of the Resolution and the importance of working with the university to make sure the Census forms were filled out correctly.

<u>Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution No. 4506. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.</u>

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
AMENDING
SECTION 1159.09

An Ordinance amending Section 1159.09 Of The Codified Ordinance Of The City Of Oxford, Ohio Entitled Definitions (Beginning With The Letter H). (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised in November Council adopted Section 505.17 which allowed the keeping of chickens in residential districts. Mr. Chen noted the adoption of this section created conflicting language among other chapters of the Codified Ordinance which needed to be reconciled. Mr. Chen advised the Planning Commission felt it was appropriate for Council to adopt the proposed amendment.

Mr. Bogard asked for comments from Council representatives on the Planning Commission regarding the rationale for the proposed amendment.

Mayor Keebler referred to page 47 of the agenda and noted chickens did not seem like Household Pets and the Planning Commission felt changing Pets to Animals would reconcile the conflict.

Mr. Rutherford advised Section 505.071 referred to 'Companion Animals' and noted the need for consistency throughout the code.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3101 Amending Ordinance No. 3089 Supplemental Budget Ordinance No. 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2010. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on page 57 of the agenda.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3101. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Keebler (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott recapped the Deer Management Program for 2009 noting the program was successful and the City planned to expand it this year.

Mr. Elliott advised the City received the signed contract from the Oxford Township Trustees for Fire/EMS Service. Mr. Elliott thanked the trustees for their support of the initiative.

Mr. Elliott noted information was provided to Council regarding utility account write offs and noted the percentage of write offs was less than ½ of 1%. Mr. Elliott noted he and Mr. Newlin were looking at options such as using a collection agency to address the issue.

Mr. Elliott advised a meeting with ODOT would take place tomorrow with the focus being on options for the US-27 South project. Mr. Elliott noted the City had partners on the project including the County Engineer, OKI and the ODOT District Office.

Mr. Kyger advised he attended the annual Chamber of Commerce Retreat last Thursday. Mr. Kyger noted last year their major goal was to fill retail spaces Uptown and now the occupancy rate was 90%. Mr. Kyger noted the Chamber's goals for 2010 included increasing their membership, improving government relations and securing additional funding sources for the Wine Tasting event.

Mr. Blackburn advised he spoke to Laurel at the Community Meal Center in Hamilton who was very appreciative of the venison from six deer donated from Oxford. Mr. Blackburn noted the Community Meal Center received venison from a total of 61 deer.

Mr. Blackburn noted he felt the Oxford Police Department did a good job of looking after properties during Miami's winter break.

Mr. Harman noted Council appreciated staff and congratulated Mr. Dreisbach on accomplishments in his divisions including the rehabilitation of water production well #2 near Four Mile Creek and the planting of 100 large shade trees throughout the Community Park and other areas from the City's tree farm. Mr. Harman noted the City water system earned a quality award from the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention for producing consistently optimal water fluoridation levels in the City's drinking water.

Mr. Harman thanked Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for a job well done.

Ms. Currie inquired if the City offered a Christmas tree recycling program this year and Mr. Dreisbach advised yes noting today was the last scheduled day for pick-up.

Ms. Currie advised the New Year's Eve Bicentennial event was a smashing success and thanked all of those who attended. Ms. Currie especially thanked Duke Energy for the grant they supplied, Gail Brahier and the Parks and Recreation staff for their hard work on the event, Carolyn Croswell from the Community Arts Center, JoNell Rowan from the Chamber of Commerce, and Chris Hensey from the Main Street Gourmet who ran the sparkling wine tasting during the event.

Mr. McKeehan thanked Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for their recent snow removal efforts.

Mr. McKeehan noted in light of the recent devastation in Haiti not to forget the local agencies that also needed assistance.

Mr. Rutherford advised a prescription discount card was available through the City in collaboration with the National League of Cities and citizens could save an average of 20% off the retail price of prescription drugs not covered by insurance. Mr. Rutherford advised there was an initiative among some pharmacies to offer prescription drugs at cost plus a flat fee. Mr. Rutherford encouraged any pharmacists interested in this initiative to contact the City's Economic Development Director.

Mr. Bogard congratulated Ms. Currie on the success of the New Year's Eve Bicentennial celebration noting it was a wonderful event and approximately 250 people attended.

Mr. Bogard advised he would serve on the OKI Executive Board representing cities with a population of 40,000 or less and would attend monthly meetings.

Mr. Bogard advised he presented a Proclamation at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. program yesterday. Mr. Bogard noted approximately 200 people attended the event.

Mr. Bogard inquired if Mr. Dreisbach had received any results from the Butler County Solid Waste District with regard to the recycling program. Mr. Dreisbach advised he expected last year's fourth quarter report any day.

Mayor Keebler advised he enjoyed the New Years Eve Bicentennial event and thanked the committee for their efforts as well as the attendees who supported the event. Mayor Keebler encouraged citizens to go to the City's website and click on the Bicentennial button which contained a link to a historical slide show provided by Ms. Valerie Elliott of the Smith Library of Regional History. Mayor Keebler thanked Ms. Elliott for her efforts in providing the slide show.

Mr. Bogard noted a correction to the meeting schedule on page 4 of the agenda.

Mr. Bogard advised he would provide Ms. Eaton with documents from OKI pertaining to the rail project which she could distribute to Council.

Mayor Keebler advised the next Council Meeting was scheduled for February 2, 2010 and a tentative Work Session with the Talawanda School Board was scheduled prior to the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.