SCRC Meeting Minutes

December 5th, 2008

In Attendance:

Members: Carole Katz, Alysia Fischer, Bobbe Burke, Ashley Perry, Thad Boggs, Kendall McCune, Lane Clegg (incoming), Matt Frazier (incoming), McLean Beto (incoming), and Jim Squance.

Non-members: Amy Numrich, Laura Esch, and Rachel Eck.

Public Comment:

On behalf of Dori Behir, Thad Boggs announced to the commission that Dori and Lauren Selena would be making a presentation to the Parking and Transportation Board regarding Bike Paths in Oxford. This presentation will be held December 8th at 12:30pm in the LCNB Community Room.

Approval of Minutes:

There were several amendments to the November 21st meeting minutes. Stew Meeker should have been in the non-member category, and all ex-officio members should be in the member category. Also, Jen House attended the meeting and was left off of the non-member list. Valerie Elliot's presentation should have been titled 'Oxford and the High Street Corridor' not 'Oxford and the Mile Square.' In the section about snow and parking, it should have been stated that along with clearing streets, both sidewalks and stairs also need to be cleared of all ice and snow. Alysia Fischer told the commission that there are still some issues with getting the minutes on City Council's agenda, but she feels that this will be resolved soon. Bobbe Burke said she would talk to Kim Newton regarding when the minutes need to be available to the City for them to be included. The minutes were then approved with these revisions.

Patterson Avenue Speeding:

Thad Boggs spoke to the group about an email that was forwarded to him and Bobbe Burke regarding speeding cars on Patterson Avenue. Stephanie Acheson, from the Symmes Community Council, sent this message hoping that a permanent cross walk and speed sign go up on Patterson Ave. Jim Squance suggested running radar, but OPD would need more detailed times of when this is a problem to do that. Alysia Fischer mentioned that there is a possibility that 27 will be rerouted, moving more people down Chestnut, which might alleviate some of the Patterson Ave. traffic. Bobbe Burke thought some of this problem may have to do with the

construction/construction drivers that are working near Symmes Hall. Carole Katz asked if SCRC should/was planning on taking any action to help resolve this issue and Bobbe responded that perhaps what SCRC could do was to determine how exactly SCRC should be involved or what steps SCRC could take to help. Carole Katz suggested sending this information along to Jung Han-Chen, as he is the City liaison for SCRC. Alysia Fischer brought up the fact that SCRC can make suggestions to City Council, and that perhaps the commission could do that, as this is a useful and valid issue. She said that if a representative from SCRC went to a City Council meeting and requested a crosswalk and/or speed sign at the end of the meeting that said request would be passed along to the appropriate person for review.

2008 Holiday Food and Gift Programs:

Bobbe Burke told the commission about a Holiday Gift program through the Family Resource Center where people could donate money instead of gifts, so parents could buy presents for their children. This program is done so that parents can choose for their children and be the gift giver. She wondered if the word had been spread about this in the community. Kendall McCune said that the Greeks had recently done a Holiday party at FRC, with different chapters buying gifts for different age groups. There were about 50 gifts donated, they did cookie decorating, had a Santa, and The Misfits preformed. Carole Katz asked Bobbe and the group if information about the Holiday Gift program had gone out to the student population. Bobbe said that it did go out on Fraternity and Sorority list serves. Ashley Perry and Matt Frazier said that they did not receive any information about this program. Carole Katz thought that perhaps more circulation about the Holiday Gift program would be beneficial, as many students are very giving. Bobbe asked Ashley Perry if she thought it was too late to spread the word about this, and Ashley said that as of now RHA was donating to Cincinnati Children's Hospital, but she would try. Kendall McCune offered to send the information out again via list serve, and Matt Frazier said that perhaps the surplus funding he had access to could be used to donate, but he would have to consult with the rest of his group.

People to People Inauguration Trip:

Thad Boggs told the commission that he has been in contact with the President of the College Democrats, and although he hasn't had confirmation yet, he thinks that they are going to donate to the students from Talawanda Middle School. He also confirmed that the College Republicans are going to be able to donate. Bobbe told the group that a fund cannot be created at the school because it is a fund for specific children, but she spoke to one of the children's mothers who said any help would be appreciated. Alysia Fischer also has information on the 1st child that SCRC spoke about so funds can be passed along to help her. Kendall McCune said that the Greek Project has money to donate; she just needs to know how much is reasonable. Carole Katz asked if the children were going regardless of if they make their donation goals, and

Alysia Fischer said yes, that they are going and they had already put deposits down. This means that even if the donated funds are not available before the trip, they could be reimbursed to the students afterwards.

Thanksgiving Break-Ins:

Thad Boggs spoke to the commission about the OPD reports of break-ins over Thanksgiving Break and wants to prevent these crimes from happening over Winter Break. There is a big push to encourage students to fill out Vacant House Cards, engrave their large appliances, and to write down serial numbers of large items. Jim Squance said that there were more break-ins than normal for such a short break. Thad added that this was also not a case of window or doors left unlocked, that most of these crimes were forced entry. Bobbe referred to the ad that the Office of Off-Campus Affairs put in the Miami Student regarding crime prevention. She said our office would pass the pdf along to the commission for further distribution. She reiterated that filling out the Vacant House Check cards and moving cars off the streets are the two most important things to remember to do before break. Only 48 Vacant House Check cards were filled out over Thanksgiving. She also told the commission that the Office of Off-Campus Affairs will send the ad on to Shriver and Marcum for distributions on their list serves. Carole Katz asked if there was a way to ask professors to mention this in their classes. Bobbe Burke said that we don't currently have access to any faculty list serves, but that is a good idea if they would be willing to do it. Matt Frazier asked in Fraternity Houses could sign up for Vacant House Checks and Jim Squance said yes, they could. Carole Katz asked Jim Squance if 48 was an unusual number of Vacant House Check cards for Thanksgiving Break. Jim Squance said that he was unsure, because there have never been so many crimes, so they don't usually count the cards over Thanksgiving Break. He also stated that these were crimes of opportunity, and to remind students to move any valuables or expensive items away from windows. Alysia Fischer asked if perhaps houses with house signs were being targeted, because she noticed that a house on Carole Katz's street was one of the ones broken into, and it is the only one on the street with a house sign (which was recently put up.) Jim Squance was unsure about that, but thought it was an interesting observation and something to think about and look into.

Walk About Survey Response:

Thad Boggs announced that the Walk About e-mail survey had been sent out and over 1,000 responses had come back. Carole Katz asked how many students were on the Off-Campus student list serve; Thad said 6,783. Alysia Fischer asked if this included graduate students, but Bobbe Burke said no, that this survey was really meant for the undergrad population, but that the survey could be changed to get different information from graduate students. She said that doing a graduate student survey would be a good idea to think about for the future. Bobbe reminded the commission

that the purpose of this survey was to see how much/what information students retained from the materials that were passed out in the Walk Abouts. The Walk Abouts are an expensive project, and it's important for the Office of Off-Campus Affairs to know what works and what doesn't. Carole Katz thought that doing a survey just for graduate students would be a good idea, Alysia Fischer pointed out that most graduate students live in apartments so that may skew the results. Bobbe agreed that the current survey would have to be changed almost entirely to work for the grad student population.

Membership:

Carole Katz wanted to thank all of the outgoing members of SCRC and said she was looking forward to our new members and next semester. She told the incoming members that she would send them some information about the history of SCRC. Carole also mentioned that there are 3 open positions in SCRC. Thad Boggs encouraged the current members of SCRC to think of people who might want to join and approach them in the next few weeks. Carole said that she has been pursuing a few people to join, but that GSA has not been very responsive to her. She spoke to Prue Dana about Lauren Salino, who is an interested grad student, and that she is going to get the ok from GSA to get her appointed. Kendall McCune suggested that for one of the Mile Square resident positions, a professor would be an interesting addition to SCRC. Carole Katz thought that was a good idea to consider, and that professors also need service hours, for which SCRC would count.

Announcements:

Matt Frazier told the group that some complaints about Phi Tau's trash have been reported. He has found out that they had many hay bales from a party/event and they are working to remove it over the weekend. Rumpke will not take them. Carole Katz suggested that if the hay is still useable maybe it can go to someone who needs hay.

Thad Boggs said he was going to send a message out to Off-Campus students to remember to bring their trash cans in and clean up outside before leaving for Winter Break.

Bobbe Burke wanted to tell the group how nice it's been that Matt Frazier has been attending Rumpke meetings with her regarding Fraternity Recycling. She is very impressed with his involvement and enthusiasm. She also reminded SCRC that there are 3 Fraternity members who are also members of ASG. They are elected to do work on behalf of Frats, so it may be a good idea to utilize them more in future endeavors.

Carole Katz talked to the commission about recycling Christmas Trees. If students decorate and put up Christmas trees before they leave for break, it would be nice if they sat them by the curb instead of leaving them up in their homes. This way less

fortunate people who can't afford a Christmas tree can pick them up and re-use them, and students won't have to deal with taking the tree down when the return to Oxford in January. She asked the commission to pass that information along.

The commission is still trying to determine a meeting day and time for Spring Semester 2009. All students are supposed to email their class schedules to Carole in order to come up with a time that works for everyone. When this is decided an email will be sent out.

Adjourn

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Doug Ross, Richard Keebler and Greig Rutherford. Alysia Fischer was excused.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dana requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION 'MICHAEL ALLEN TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE DAY'

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation and congratulated Mr. Allen for being selected to participate in the National Honor Band who would perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California on January 1, 2009.

Mr. Michael Allen, Country Club Drive, advised he was leaving for Pasadena on December 27th to begin rehearsing for the parade. Mr. Allen provided the itinerary scheduled for students participating in the band.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Dana requested removal of items F., G., and H., Resolutions regarding the Farmer's Market.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 2, 2008 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the November 19, 2008 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Accepting the minutes of the November 21, 2008 Student Community Relations Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the November 25, 2008 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION
RELEASE BOND

A Resolution No. 4397 authorizing the release of a performance bond for Western Knolls Subdivision, Section 7 in the amount of $25,500.00. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Bogard moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
FARMER'S MARKET

A Resolution No. 4398 authorizing the City Manager to close Lot 52 on Saturdays, from 5:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from May 2, 2009 through November 21, 2009, to permit the operation of the Farmer's Market within Lot 52 during said time. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Larry Slocum, Market Manager, addressed Council by way of playing a song on the guitar regarding the Farmer's Market Uptown. Mr. Slocum noted it was the Market's job to grow farmers to participate in the market. Mr. Slocum noted 11 additional parking spaces would be available in 2009 due to Bella Place construction being complete. Mr. Slocum presented Council with a check in the amount of $225.00 to off-set the use of metered parking spaces.

Mr. Bogard noted appreciation for the Market's extension later into the month of November.

Mr. Ross inquired if the City Manager had received any complaints with regard to the market and Mr. Elliott advised no. Mr. Ross inquired if $225.00 covered the entire use of the meters or if it was a token sum of money. Mr. Bogard noted his feeling it would cover the entire use of the meters.

Mr. Rutherford inquired how many new venders had applied for 2009 and if there was enough room. Mr. Slocum advised three new vendors had applied so far and he anticipated more. Mr. Slocum noted with the addition of 11 parking spaces there should be ample room for all of the vendors.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4398. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
FARMER'S MARKET

A Resolution No. 4399 authorizing the City Manager to close Lot 52 on Saturday, January 17, 2009, Saturday, February 21, 2009, Saturday, March 21, 2009, Saturday, April 18, 2009 and Saturday, December 19, 2009 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. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised Lot 52 was the incorrect lot number to refer to this location and in the future it would be referred to as the 'municipal lot'.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4399. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
FARMER'S MARKET

A Resolution No. 4400 authorizing the use of the Memorial Park on Tuesdays from May 5, 2009 to November 17, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., to permit the operation of the Tuesday Mini Market within the Memorial Park during said time. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4400. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
ODOT LEGISLATION

A Resolution No. 4401 authorizing the City Manager to sign Preliminary Legislation and other contracts with the Ohio Department of Transportation in connection with the rehabilitation of a portion of US-27 from High Street to Chestnut Street. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach summarized the staff report as listed on page 34 of the agenda noting final legislation for the project would come forward in the next couple of months.

Mr. Rutherford inquired how this construction would be coordinated with the anticipated intersection improvements which Mr. Dreisbach addressed noting the ODOT project would stop short of those areas.

Mr. Rutherford moved to adopt Resolution No. 4401. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Dana 96)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
AUDIT

A Resolution No. 4402 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Plattenburg & Associates to complete the audit of the annual statements for each year ending December 31, 2008 through December 31, 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin outlined the staff report on page 40 of the agenda noting the State Auditors office awarded the bid to Plattenburg & Associates in the amount of $117,110 over the next 5 years.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4402. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
CAFR

A Resolution No. 4403 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett and Co. to prepare the conversion of its financial statements from cash-basis to accrual-basis, assist with the preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and GASB 34 infrastructure services for the City of Oxford, for each of the six years ending December 31, 2008 through December 31, 2013. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin outlined the staff report on page 41 of the agenda noting staff recommended that Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. prepare the conversion of financial statements and assist in the preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the next 6 years.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution no. 4403. Mr. Keebler seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
ADVANCED PAYMENT
OF PROPERTY TAX

A Resolution No. 4404 authorizing the City Manager to request advanced payment of property taxes to the City in 2009 from Butler County. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin outlined the staff report on page 44 of the agenda noting the County Auditor required the passage of this Resolution to advance the property tax payment.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4404. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZED
CHECK SIGNERS

A Resolution No. 4405 authorizing the City Manager, Finance Director, Police Chief, and Accounting Manager to be authorized check signers on US Bank accounts. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised the City currently had two accounts with US Bank who held the City's investments. Mr. Newlin noted one of the accounts dealt with the landfill and each year some of the money from the proceeds was used to off-set the cost of refuse pick-up throughout the City. Mr. Newlin advised the proposed Resolution would update the authorized personnel who could make the transfer of approximately $195,000.00. Mr. Newlin noted US Bank required two check signers for transactions over $50,000.00.

Mr. Rutherford inquired if the $50,000.00 ceiling was set by US Bank and Mr. Newlin advised yes. Mr. Newlin noted the City's own policy required two check signers for amounts over $50,000.00. Mr. Rutherford questioned the checks and balances of these procedures which Mr. Newlin, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Keebler and Mr. McHugh addressed.

Mr. Rutherford moved to adopt Resolution No. 4405. Mr. Keebler seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
AMEND SALARY
ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending Salary Ordinance No. 3035, Section 3. Part-Time Positions. (Donna Heck, Human Resources Director)

Ms. Heck outlined the staff report on page 48 of the agenda noting the proposed Ordinance would correct the pay rate for Firefighter and EMT personnel based on the various certifications and licenses each one possessed.

There were no comments or questions for Ms. Heck.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL
BUDGET

An Ordinance No.3039 Amending Ordinance No. 2990. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 6 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2008. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin outlined the staff report on pages 51 and 52 of the agenda and noted he would like to appropriate an additional $20,000.00 to the Health Insurance Fund to have a cushion for any unexpected bills that may come in over the next couple of weeks. Mr. Newlin noted if the funds were not spent they would transfer to the 2009 budget.

Ms. Currie moved to amend the proposed Ordinance to increase the appropriation to the Health Insurance Fund from $76,000.00 to $96,000.00. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3039 as amended. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
CONDITIONAL USE

An Ordinance No. 3040 Approving A Conditional Use Permit For Residential Land Use In The Basement Of A Proposed Mixed Use Building In The Uptown Zoning District At 18 South Poplar Street. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the amendment Council made to condition b. at the last meeting was incorporated in the proposed Ordinance on page 55 of the agenda as follows: 'A clear trash collection facility must be designed into the building and approved by the Community Development Director.'

Mr. Ken Bowerman, Architect, advised he was in attendance with the applicant, Kathy Albrecht to answer any questions.

Mr. Rutherford noted concern with accessibility to the trash collection facility from the interior of the building. Mr. Rutherford advised his feeling 'the ground floor window wells shall remain free from obstructions and refuse' should be a separate item 'c' and the current 'c' would become 'd' and the current 'd' would become 'e'.

Mr. Ken Bowerman, Architect, advised access to the trash collection facility had to be from the inside of the building since the building would be built on the north and south property lines.

Mr. McHugh suggested amending 'A clear trash collection facility' to 'A designated trash collection facility'.

Ms. Currie noted concern with keeping the window wells free from obstructions and refuse and inquired how that condition would be enforced. Mr. Chen advised it was a code enforcement issue and the property owner would be notified if obstructions or trash were found in the window wells.

Mr. Rutherford moved to amend condition b to read: 'A designated trash collection must be designed into the building and must be accessible to all tenants from the building interior. The trash collection facility shall be approved by the Community Development Director prior to the building permit being issued. And condition c becomes 'The ground floor window wells shall remain free from obstructions and refuse.' Condition c becomes d in its entirety and condition d becomes condition e in its entirety. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling there was a procedural problem with regard to conditional uses and variances. Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling Council was passing an Ordinance which would become null and void if the variance was not granted. Mr. Rutherford advised his feeling zoning variances should be acquired prior to legislation coming before Council.

Mr. McHugh advised due to timing, sometimes applications went before the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission prior to Council and otherwise allowances were made in the legislation such as condition a. in this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling the procedure needed to be addressed as it was an ongoing problem. Mr. Rutherford advised if the Board of Zoning appeals did not grant the variance the proposed building design would change dramatically.

Mr. McHugh advised the proposed Ordinance was conditioned upon the Board of Zoning Appeals granting the variance. Mr. McHugh noted the Ordinance would be invalid if the variance was not granted

Mr. Keebler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3040 as amended. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Dana (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Dana noted as Council closed the year 2008 she would like them to share one thing they felt particularly proud of as a Council member. Mayor Dana advised this Council had operated together a full year and she felt they had done well.

Mr. Elliott advised City Hall would be closed Christmas Day and the day after Christmas.
Mr. Elliott noted he and staff had formed a potential list of economic stimulus projects based on discussions being held with regard to a national Public Works Project.
Mr. Elliott advised the City now owned a portion of the Western Knolls property and Council may want to consider installing a for-sale sign on the property.
Mr. Elliott noted a retreat was scheduled for Council and staff on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at Hueston Woods from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Mr. Elliott advised he and staff met with representatives of the Talawanda School District today to discuss the new high school project.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the street crews were out today at the first sign of ice and the roads should be safe. Mr. Dreisbach noted the sidewalks were very slick and advised everyone to be careful.

Mr. Bogard wished Council members and the public happy holidays and safe travels. Mr. Bogard noted his feeling the important accomplishments this year were the development of Locust Street, the completion of US-27 North improvements and the improvements to High Street between Main and Beech Streets.

Mr. Rutherford noted with regard to economic stimulus projects he would like to see a west-side Fire Station, rail transit use, alternative fueling for the City's fleet vehicles and storm water improvements. Mr. Rutherford noted he was sure citizens had ideas as well and encouraged them to send those to the City Manager. Mr. Rutherford noted he was thankful for this Council and he believed they worked well together. Mr. Rutherford advised he was appreciative for the new City Manager and Finance Director and the contributions they were making. Mr. Rutherford noted he was thankful for the projects undertaken in the Uptown District and the investments local citizens were making.

Ms. Currie stated she was proud of the way this Council worked together noting her feeling they were a disparate group of individuals with very different viewpoints and kinds of experiences who came to the table and worked well to hear each other and have an open mind and fruitful conversations. Ms. Currie advised she was proud of Council and staff's commitment to being very responsible stewards of the City's finances noting it was difficult as there were so many projects Council and the citizens wanted to see accomplished.

Mr. Keebler noted he agreed with everything said so far. Mr. Keebler advised he was proud of the Uptown zoning regulation changes which were adopted this year. Mr. Keebler noted his hope the zoning changes would continue to have an effect on people reinvesting in the Uptown District and that they made it easier and financially rewarding for people to do so.

Mr. Ross noted it was good to see Steve Flee and Darrell Olthaus in the audience. Mr. Ross advised he was proud to be part of this disparate group and noted his feeling the Mayor had done an excellent job. Mr. Ross stated his feeling Council was blessed with the addition of Mr. Elliott and other new additions to Council.

Mayor Dana noted she agreed with everything said so far. Mayor Dana advised she was proud of the Comprehensive Plan Update and the connector road discussions. Mayor Dana thanked President Hodge for the Open House he recently hosted. Mayor Dana expressed sympathy on behalf of Council for the passing of Jim Squance's father. Mayor Dana thanked Ms. Brahier for coordinating the Holiday Festival and wished everyone happy holidays.

Mr. Rutherford advised he was grateful for the addition of Alan Kyger to City staff and for all of his contributions.

ADJOURN

Mr. Keebler moved to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

The Oxford City Council Strategic Planning Retreat was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 4:00 P.M. Those Council members present were: Doug Ross, Alysia Fischer, Kate Currie, Richard Keebler, Greig Rutherford and Ken Bogard.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; Steve McHugh, Law Director; Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Donna Heck, Human Resources Director; Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director and John Detherage, Fire Chief.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Fischer moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Retreat was to review the various factors that may impact the City in the near future and to discuss strategic initiatives and areas of emphasis for 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.