

A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Bob Blackburn, John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Bob Holzworth, Police Chief; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Ms. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. Steve McHugh, 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)(2) and (G)(3) for the purpose of discussing property acquisition and pending/eminant court action. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Snyder moved to return from Executive Session at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. David Brown, Butler County Auditor's Office, noted he was present as part of the Auditor's Outreach Program to Local Governments. Mr. Brown encouraged those turning 65 years of age or older to apply for a homestead exemption which was an opportunity to shield the first \$25,000 in value from a person's homestead. Mr. Brown advised the filing deadline for the homestead exemption was June 3, 2013. Mr. Brown noted the Board of Revision filing deadline was April 1, 2013 for those wished to contest their property value. Mr. Brown advised this was the second year of a triennial period and those who filed last year could not file again until the 2014 revaluation.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 18, 2012 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the December 18, 2012 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORT

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

Mr. Snyder moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION **CLG GRANT**

A Resolution No. 4722 authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Ohio Historical Preservation Office for a Certified Local Government Grant. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen addressed his staff report as presented on page 15 of the agenda noting the last time the City applied for a Certified Local Government Grant was in 1998. Mr. Chen advised if awarded, a portion of the grant funds would be used to restore the portico at the Oxford Community Arts Center (OCAC) with the state providing 60% of the cost and the OCAC providing the 40% matching funds. Mr. Chen advised the remaining grant funds would be used to develop an Education/Outreach program to allow experts in various building elements to come to Oxford to share their knowledge with contractors and property owners of how to properly repair and maintain historic structures. Mr. Chen advised the cost of the project would be approximately \$10,000 and the state grant portion would be \$5,000 with the City providing the matching funds in the form of an in kind contribution.

Mayor Keebler noted the City would not expend any funds for these projects. Mayor Keebler advised the City would be the vehicle to expend the grant funds, if awarded.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if the OCAC offered to provide the matching funds for the Education/Outreach Program and Mr. Chen advised no, the City would provide an in kind contribution for that project.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Resolution No. 4722. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCE
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3190. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2013. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on pages 32 and 33 of the agenda noting these were accounting issues that would not affect the bottom line.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised he was serving again on the Butler County 9-1-1 Planning Committee. Mr. Elliott noted the membership was stipulated by state law and included a County Commissioner, the City Manager from the largest City in Butler County, a Township Trustee from the most populous township, another Township Trustee and City Manager. Mr. Elliott advised there were 6 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in the county including Butler County, the City of Hamilton, the City of Middletown, the City of Fairfield, the City of Oxford and West Chester Township. Mr. Elliott noted several years ago a system was devised whereby Middletown, Fairfield and Oxford would rotate the position on this board as a City and this was his second time to serve. Mr. Elliott noted in December the legislature passed Amended Substitute House Bill 360 which made permanent the 9-1-1 charge for all wireless subscribers and the monthly charge was reduced from \$.28 per month to \$.25 per month. Mr. Elliott advised the bill also included a charge for prepaid wireless service subscribers. Mr. Elliott noted a portion of the money collected by the state would be dispersed to the 9-1-1 Planning Committees and the state would also set aside money for what was called the 'next generation'. Mr. Elliott advised another item included in Amended Substitute House Bill 360 would progressively reduce the number of PSAPs funded in each county which would provide opportunities for the 9-1-1 Planning Committees to discuss dispatching options.

Mr. Elliott noted the Talawanda School Board would hold a Community Engagement Meeting on January 22, 2013 at Kramer School to discuss funding proposals for a new Kramer Elementary School. Mr. Elliott advised he planned to attend the meeting and encouraged others to attend as well.

Mr. Kyger advised Charisma closed on High Street and the Ball of Oxford moved from Stewart Square to that location and had changed their name to Paisley on High. Mr. Kyger noted Thanksgiving Day closed on High Street and another lease was close to being signed for that location. Mr. Kyger advised TJ Maxx at the former Big Lots location should be open within the next two months. Mr. Kyger noted the Butler County Visitors Bureau's Wayfinding Program signs were installed in Oxford and Council members may receive comments from the public regarding them. Mr. Kyger advised the purpose of the signs was to direct visitors to Butler County to places of interest such as the Oxford Community Park and the Oxford Community Arts Center.

Ms. Rousmaniere thanked Mr. Dreisbach for his presentation regarding the US-27 South Safety Improvement Project noting she had received questions from community members regarding it.

Ms. Rousmaniere noted she was concerned about the economic and cultural health of Oxford with the closing of the Princess Theatre as was the City Manager. Ms. Rousmaniere advised Council and staff worked as hard as they could but seemed to be at an impasse with the owner. Ms. Rousmaniere encouraged citizens to share their ideas for saving the theater with Council members.

Mr. McKeehan noted he asked Mr. Kyger to discuss the Wayfinding signs and noted someone told him they felt like they were at Disney World when they saw one of the signs.

Mr. McKeehan thanked everyone who supported the Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale noting they had another successful year.

Mr. McKeehan advised he recently spent a couple of nights at McCullough-Hyde Hospital and thanked Bryan Hehemann and his staff for their services.

Mayor Keebler noted City Offices would be closed on Monday, January 21st to observe the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday.

Mayor Keebler advised the next City Council meeting would be Tuesday, February 5, 2013.

ADJOURN

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.