A virtual meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Smith on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Members participating were Jason Bracken, Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, Chantel Raghu, William Snavely and Edna Southard.

Staff members participating were Doug Elliott, City Manager, Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager, Mike Dreisbach, Service Director, Joe Newlin, Finance Director, Sam Perry, Community Development Director, John Jones, Police Chief, Geoff Robinson, Police Lieutenant, John Detherage, Fire Chief, Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director, Chris Conard, Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Snavely moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) and (4) for the purpose of discussing Appointments to Boards and Commissions and Collective Bargaining matters. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Snavely moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Snavely moved to appoint Justin Fain to the Environmental Commission for a four-year term, Eugene Scharf and Scott Webb to the Housing Advisory Commission for four-year terms and David Prytherch to the Planning Commission for a temporary appointment. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following e-comment was received prior to the meeting:

Comments submitted on Friday, January 22, 2021 - 2:07pm:

- Name: Dr. Mandy Gloyeske
- Address: 3871 Oxford Millville Rd.
- Email Address: drmandyg@gmail.com
- Meeting Date: Tue, 02/02/2021
- Agenda Item: 5G deployment
- Comments:

I am asking that the City of Oxford council members take action to stop the installation of cell towers, antennas, 5G, and other wireless radiation-emitting infrastructure within close-proximity to homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses. I am asking again that you immediately appeal to our state and federal lawmakers and regulators and ask that outdated legislation and regulations be changed. The new presidential administration presents an excellent opportunity for you to do this.

Included with my comments is a link where you can also sign a letter asking that President Biden and Vice President Harris stop 5G deployment: https://www.5gcrisis.com/post/take-action-sign-the-5g-letter-to-biden-and-harris

Included with my comments is a link where you can also sign a petition asking that 5G deployment be stopped in Ohio and that state legislators overturn Ohio HB 478 which severely reduced municipal control over wireless infrastructure including 4G and 5G small cell technology. https://www.change.org/p/ohio-federal-and-state-lawmakers-stop-5g-deployment-in-ohio-until-independent-studies-prove-it-s-safe

You may also be interested in this reference material about Ohio HB 478 written by Elizabeth Fields AICP: A look into Small Cell Facilities and how communities can regulate them http://www.bceo.org/departments/engineering/Traffic/Traffic-TEW2018_1030b-SmallWhat-ppt.pdf

You all have the ability to ask that outdated legislation and regulations be changed to better protect our community. Other American legislators are already doing this. The health of our families and children are at stake.

I am happy to provide more information about these health dangers if needed, so feel free to reach out to me. Thank you.

Ms. Emily McClary, introduced herself noting she was a Miami University student and recently elected to serve as the Associated Student Government's Secretary for Off-Campus Affairs. Ms. McClary advised she sits on the Student Community Relations Commission, has already met with Councilor Ellerbe and has done some work for the commission. Ms. McClary noted she was passionate about making sure that renter's rights education is more accessible to off-campus students and that they are able to access Miami's health and wellness programs more easily.

Mayor Smith thanked Ms. McClary for the introduction.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the January 19, 2021 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the January 19, 2021 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Report regarding the January 12, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 13, 2021 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 14, 2021 Joint Recreation Board/TRI Board Meeting. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Report regarding the January 20, 2021 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 25, 2021 Housing Advisory Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Mr. Snavely moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF ARTSAKH

A Resolution No. 7255 of the City Council of the City of Oxford, Ohio, to recognize the Republic of Artsakh. (Glenn Ellerbe, Councilor)

Mr. Ellerbe advised this Resolution came about through a discussion at the Student Community Relations Commission meeting noting a presentation was made there by two individuals who are attending the meeting this evening, Teresa and Andrew. Mr. Ellerbe advised they described the plight of the Artsakh residents noting he would like to have them provide that presentation.

Mr. Andrew Devedjian, noted his colleague was Teresa and thanked Council for the opportunity to speak on something he and Teresa are very passionate about. Mr. Devedjian advised they represent Oxford community members and Miami students who are part of a movement known as the Armenians for Student Rights. Mr. Devedjian noted his hope for this presentation is that 4 questions are answered with all of Council. 1. Where is Artsakh, what is it, what is its relationship to Armenia 2. What are some key dates 3. What happened in 2020 that prompted this discussion and bring this Resolution to City Council and 4. Why does any of this matter.

Ms. Teresa Aniev, provided a slide showing where Artsakh is located in the Middle East/Eastern Europe. Ms. Aniev advised in 1915 there was an Armenian genocide, which began when Turkish troops orchestrated mass killings of Armenian people and displaced 1.5 million Armenians. Ms. Aniev noted the USSR fell and Armenia finds itself at odds with Turkey and also Azerbaijani, its neighbor. Ms. Aniev advised when the USSR fell Artsakh voted for sovereignty to decide where it should become a part of and they favored Armenia, which led once again to mass killings of Armenians. Ms. Aniev noted there was a long history of Armenians falling at the hands of their neighbors.

Mr. Devedjian noted when the Soviet Union fell the people of Artsakh voted for sovereignty and wanted to be know as the Republic of Artsakh, not a part of Armenia or a part of Azerbaijani but as their own Republic. Mr. Devedjian advised from 1993 to 2020 Artsakh operated as a sovereign nation until September of 2020 when Azerbaijani decided to invade Artsakh with the help of Turkey in the midst of the pandemic and political crises all over the world. Mr. Devedjian noted for the next 6 weeks war crime after war crime was being committed with the Armenian and Artsakh militaries being pummeled which leads to the Armenian Prime Minister entering into an agreement with the President of Azerbaijani and the President of Russia to broker a deal that gives away 60% of Artsakh and the war crimes are unanswered. Mr. Devedjian advised now there are thousands of refugees from Artsakh fleeing to Armenia, burning their homes because they would rather burn their homes than give them to the Azerbaijani soldiers. Mr. Devedjian noted they dug up their dead because graves were being desecrated. Mr. Devedjian advised this matters because there are members of the Oxford community who are Armenian and are traumatized by these events. Mr. Devedjian noted they would like elected officials specifically on the local level to recognize this problem, condemn the actions of the Azerbaijani government and recognize the sovereignty of Artsakh. Mr. Devedjian advised this also matters because it is a question of democracy, sovereignty, self-determination and all of the values this country was founded on.

Mr. Snavely inquired what the US government's response was to this situation and if they have recognized Artsakh. Mr. Devedjian advised currently no UN member states have recognized Artsakh although cities around the world have done so.

Ms. Southard noted the Resolution as written does not condemn the genocide that we know occurred and advised she felt it was important that everyone understands that it is separable and that it is not part of the Resolution. Ms. Southard inquired why the City of Oxford would devote time to an international question when Council's mandate is for the local citizens. Ms. Southard noted people have asked her if Oxford has a list of other nations that the city formally recognizes and advised the city was not in the business of recognizing sovereign countries. Ms. Southard noted whatever is decided by this Council with regard to the Resolution she hoped Mr. Devedjian and Ms. Aniev will continue talking and continue working in many ways to let people know what the history is and what can happen.

Ms. Raghu advised she felt Oxford could help with education and help contribute to other cities, states, or countries taking heed. Ms. Raghu noted she felt it was unusual for Oxford to focus on an international front although she felt it was important and commended Mr. Ellerbe and the students for bringing it forward and helping to educate people.

Mr. Prytherch commended Mr. Devedjian and Ms. Aniev for their commitment to this issue and for educating everyone. Mr. Prytherch advised he would prefer to support the Resolution minus Section 1 "By the adoption of this Resolution, the Oxford City Council honors the Republic of Artsakh and its citizens, and recognizes its sovereignty." Mr. Prytherch noted he would be happy to stand in solidarity against the violence and recognize there are politics involved although he was not in a position to make a decision one way or another about recognizing Artsakh's sovereignty.

Mr. Ellerbe noted last year Council talked a lot about equity and justice and advised he felt it would be a disservice to himself if he did not make sure this issue was brought before Council to be acknowledged.

Mr. Prytherch moved to delete "and recognizes its sovereignty" from Section 1 of the proposed Resolution. Mr. Snavely seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Prytherch, Mayor Smith (4)

NAY: Ms. Raghu, Mr. Ellerbe (2)

ABS: Mr. Bracken (1)

Ms. Southard moved to delete "carried out by the Azerbaijani government" from Section 2 of the proposed Resolution. Mr. Prytherch seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: Mr. Ellerbe (1)

ABS: None (0)

Mr. Ellerbe moved to adopt Resolution No. 7255 as amended. Mr. Bracken seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
STRATEGIC PLANNING MODEL
OF GOVERNANCE

A Resolution No. 7256 committing the City of Oxford to a strategic planning model of governance promoting transparency and accountability in progress towards long-range community goals and strategic priorities. (David Prytherch, Councilor)

Mr. Prytherch advised Council discussed the proposed Resolution during a recent Work Session noting it is an attempt to translate long-term goals that Council might specify in the Comprehensive Plan or Capital Improvement Plan or other plans into the yearly work of Council and staff. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt Council and staff were doing a better job of that in terms of connecting Council's strategic planning to annual objectives which are communicated to the public.

Mr. Prytherch noted he felt Council was moving towards doing annual reporting where Council can discuss how much progress has been made on measurable objectives. Mr. Prytherch advised he appreciates the time and conversation on this matter during the Work Session and he appreciated everyone's work as a group to try to make this part of Council's decision-making DNA. Mr. Prytherch noted he believed these were part of the goals Council has been talking about in terms of communications and adopting a strategic planning model. Mr. Prytherch advised the proposed Resolution was not specifying exactly how staff is going to do their jobs noting it was spelling out Council's objectives as policy makers so staff can help Council work through that schedule.

There were no comments from the public or from Council.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 7256. Mr. Prytherch seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT WITH
CLARK, SCHAEFER, HACKETT & CO.

A Resolution No. 7257 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. to prepare the financial section of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted based on information provided by the City of Oxford's Finance Department at a cost not to exceed $20,200.00. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised staff was requesting approval to enter into an agreement with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. to prepare the CAFR for the financial statements for the year ending 2020. Mr. Newlin noted the City has worked with Clerk, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. for 12 years for this purpose, successfully earning excellence in financial reporting from the GFOA with combined efforts of both the City and the firm. Mr. Newlin advised the cost for the service is over $20,000 this time and therefore needs Council approval.

There were no comments from the public.

Ms. Raghu inquired if Clear-Gov or another type of software could be helpful in generating the CAFR , which would save money each time. Mr. Newlin advised he spoke with Clear-Gov and noted that was part of his goals for 2021 although he did not believe it would save the City money in generating the CAFR.

Mr. Prytherch clarified that this was a relationship the City already had noting this was not a change other than the cost is over $20,000 this year.

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Resolution No. 7257. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT WITH
UTILITY TRUCK EQUIPMENT

A Resolution No. 7258 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Utility Truck Equipment, Inc. for the purchase of a new 40-foot aerial platform, truck body, and Ford F-550 cab and chassis at state contract pricing at a cost not to exceed $122,862.00. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the City has $135,000 appropriated to replace the 21-year-old bucket truck noting the machine is used almost on a daily basis for managing the urban forest, traffic light, streetlight and flagpole maintenance as well as building maintenance. Mr. Dreisbach noted the existing machine has reached the end of its useful life and advised it was not feasible to invest what is needed to make it usable in the future. Mr. Dreisbach advised the proposed machine is on state contract, is slightly larger than the existing unit and will have significant safety features to help protect City staff.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Smith advised this machine is very important in putting up and taking down banners over High Street on a weekly basis.

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Resolution No. 7258. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

A Resolution No. 7259 declaring certain City property no longer needed for any municipal purpose as surplus upon the acceptance of new equipment and authorizing its advertisement and sale to the highest bidder by internet auction or by trade-in to Utility Truck Equipment, Inc. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the proposed Resolution would dispose of the 21 year old bucket truck noting it would be offered on an internet auction site with a reserve which will be whatever the City is offered by the manufacturer on the trade-in. Mr. Dreisbach advised the City would take the best offer to return the funds back to the City.

There were no comments from the public or from Council.

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Resolution No. 7259. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
PURCHASE OF
POLICE VEHICLES

A Resolution No. 7260 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Larkin Greenwood Ford for the purchase of two (2) Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles with specified manufacturer installed options at State Contract pricing at a cost not to exceed $71,768.00. (John Jones, Police Chief)

Chief Jones advised two new vehicles were approved in the Capital Improvement Budget for 2021 for the Police Division. Chief Jones noted the Ford Interceptor was commonly used by OPD as it was good to carry all of the necessary gear and OPD has been pleased with the vehicle. Chief Jones advised this year OPD was considering a hybrid model, which was more expensive although it would reduce engine idle time when the vehicles are parked and have a fuel savings. Chief Jones noted the Hybrid Engine Powertrain package is an additional $3,500 per vehicle.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Ellerbe inquired if the hybrid option contained battery packs and Chief Jones advised yes. Mr. Ellerbe inquired what the service life was on an average cruiser and Chief Jones advised approximately 12 years.

Mr. Ellerbe inquired what the average daily mileage was for a police vehicle. Lt. Robinson advised it varies although it averages out to be approximately 10,000 miles per year. Lt. Robinson noted OPD retires a car after approximately 12-13 years and 120,000-130,000 miles. Mr. Ellerbe advised he felt the hybrid option made sense.

Mr. Bracken inquired if the two vehicles being replaced would be sold and Chief Jones advised yes, noting a separate Resolution would come forward later. Chief Jones advised the new vehicles would not arrive until the fall. Mr. Bracken noted the hybrid and electric vehicles not only pay off environmentally but they will pay off financially as well.

Ms. Southard advised she was in favor of the hybrid noting she appreciated staff looking into it and doing the research. Ms. Southard inquired if staff was sure the hybrid had the appropriate pick-up and Chief Jones and Lt. Robinson advised yes.

Mr. Snavely advised he has had a hybrid for 10 years and it accelerates as well or better than the gasoline counterparts he sees on the road. Mr. Snavely noted he felt this was a good choice.

Mayor Smith thanked staff for doing the research on hybrids and noted he felt the state contract price was great for two vehicles.

Mr. Snavely move to adopt Resolution No. 7260. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu
Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING
PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

An Ordinance Accepting The Recommendation Of The Planning Commission And Approving The Preliminary Planned Development Application For Lake Forest Phase One (US 27 & Lake Forest Drive) With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Mr. Snavely recused himself.

Mr. Perry advised after a very thorough staff analysis and Planning Commission review the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Preliminary Planned Development application with conditions. Mr. Perry with Ms. Greene's assistance presented PowerPoint slides and Mr. Perry discussed the proposed development along Lake Forest Drive.

Mr. Perry advised Scott Webb was the applicant on behalf of 4-Leaf Development (Jim Clawson) and Etta Reed of Bayer Becker was the engineer. Mr. Perry noted the proposal was for 36 units to be built on 12 acres zoned R2A. Mr. Perry provided several slides of the area in question including the proposed site boundary. Mr. Perry noted the allowed density for the proposed development was 73 units and the proposal was for 36 units. Mr. Perry advised part of the reason for the Planned Development process was that some of the things being requested would not be allowed by right in a traditional subdivision. Mr. Perry noted a Planned Development is typical for a site like this that is challenging because of its orientation with the roadway and the stream, which allows the opportunity for more creative development. Mr. Perry advised actual lots are not being proposed because of the orientation and close proximity of the buildings to each other. Mr. Perry noted the buyer of the dwelling unit would only own the dwelling unit and the land would be owned in common with a Home Owner's Association. Mr. Perry provided slides showing renderings of the proposed dwelling units which were 2-3 bedrooms and 1 or 1 1/2 story. Mr. Perry advised the Planning Commission found the Preliminary Planned Development application met the requirements of Chapter 1145 of the Zoning Code (Planned Development Chapter) with conditions. Mr. Perry discussed the 12 proposed conditions as presented on pages 57-58 of Council's packet. Mr. Perry offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Prytherch inquired if now was the time for Council to make modifications as opposed to during the Final Planned Development discussion and Mr. Perry advised if it had to do with the layout or geometry of the proposal yes. Mr. Prytherch asked for clarification with regard to staff's original recommendation to table the proposal, which Mr. Perry addressed. Mr. Prytherch noted this was a phase of a Planned Development and inquired if cumulative traffic studies had been done which may require intersection improvements in the future. Mr. Perry advised a traffic impact study was done although he did not know if it anticipated the entire development. Mr. Prytherch noted if Council and staff anticipate future changes to an intersection they should plan around it now rather than at the final or subsequent review.

Mr. Scott Webb, Applicant, advised he appreciated Council's time to review the proposal for the new Lake Forest condominiums. Mr. Webb advised this was not phase one of a larger Planned Development, it was a stand-alone Planned Development which affects the 12 acres the application describes. Mr. Webb noted there would be future development on what began as 175 acres although this proposal was a stand-alone Planned Development. Mr. Webb noted he and the developer being longtime residents of Oxford have always admired the success and management of the Vereker Farms Condo development on Fairfield Road and have felt for a long time that this was an underserved market in the City for empty nesters, first time home buyers, and faculty. Mr. Webb provided slides and described the proposal in detail. Mr. Webb further addressed the issue of staff's original recommendation to table the proposed Preliminary Planned Development noting concerns such as location of the cul-de-sac, right-of-way for U.S. 27 and sidewalks were addressed prior to the Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Webb noted Ms. Reed reminded him the traffic study was done for the entire development for up to over 250 potential residents and that the stacking space required for the intersection of U.S. 27 and Lake Forest Drive was only one or two cars, and there was room for 5 cars. Mr. Webb advised the proposed Planned Development is internally focused with 3 access points rather than having 20 or 30 driveways along Lake Forest Drive.

Mr. Webb addressed the issue of sidewalk connectivity noting part of the design includes a pedestrian bridge. Mr. Webb referred to the 12 proposed conditions for approval and advised he and his client were happy to address them. Mr. Webb noted there was a lot of engineering to do before coming back with a Final Planned Development application and advised he and his client were looking for buy-in to the density and arrangement of the development as presented noting his hope Council would appreciate the work they have done with the Planning Commission.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Prytherch noted as a community which has a goal of finding more diverse housing options he feels people are happy to see that coming down the pike. Mr. Prytherch advised this developer were he to be the one to actually build these units he felt there was great respect for the quality of the product. Mr. Prytherch noted in general he supports that and the fact the developer owns the property and has the zoning by right for a subdivision at least. Mr. Prytherch advised Council's job was to make sure the development fits as best it can with the Comprehensive Plan and Council's goals and priorities. Mr. Prytherch noted he loved Vereker Farms because it is infill development that maintains the small town character. Mr. Prytherch advised this development is at the very fringe of town along a major highway so it is not an optimal location for the kind of housing the developer describes. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt it was Council's job to figure out how to make it fit best and he felt the Planned Development process allows Council to do that. Mr. Prytherch advised he appreciated that the Planning Commission put a long night in to look at this and that their desire was to move it along although the preliminary phase was the last chance Council has for a substantive say in the layout or in the conditions. Mr. Prytherch noted he wanted to make sure the development was as connected to the rest of Oxford as possible given the circumstances. Mr. Prytherch advised he supported the Planning Commission's recommendation that there be a multi-use path although he was curious where it would be and how Council can ensure it happens as part of this development and not another phase of development. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt a sidewalk will become necessary on U.S. 27 in the future and he would hate to miss the opportunity to make sure the right-of-way is maintained and make sure the developer provides funds to contribute to that in the future. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt the residents of Lake Forest Drive will demand a traffic signal at the intersection with U.S. 27 at some point in the future and he felt it would be unwise of Council not to think about the development in light of that need in the future. Mr. Prytherch noted concern with the cul-de-sac being so close to what will ultimately be a signalized intersection and he felt the burden of paying for it should not fall all of the citizens of Oxford. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt the developer should help support future intersection improvements even if it was just money in escrow.

Mr. Bracken noted he expressed some of those concerns as a member of the Planning Commission and advised many of those things were being worked through. Mr. Bracken advised the sidewalk seemed to be a good idea although the Planning Commission felt it would be constricted where Lick Run runs over the road. Mr. Bracken noted the Planning Commission talked about connecting it to Magnolia Drive on the other side. Mr. Bracken referred to the northern portion listed as open space or water quality basin and noted concern with the swale there and leakage. Mr. Bracken advised he would like to retain that as forest because it is the only forest left on the property, which provides a wildlife corridor and riparian buffer.

Mr. Bracken noted unless that basin is needed for water quality and it functions that way he would prefer it stayed forest.

Ms. Southard asked for clarification of condition 12 as presented on page 58 of Council's packet. Mr. Perry provided a slide, which shows the sliver of land in question and where it would be connected.

Mr. Perry spoke to Mr. Bracken's concern and noted the goal of the developer was to continue the sidewalk farther north to Southpointe Parkway. Mr. Perry advised there could be an opportunity in the future to have another connection closer to the development although there is a topographic issue that would have to be addressed. Mr. Perry noted having the right-of-way would help make that happen in the future.

Mr. Webb referred to condition 12 as presented on page 58 of Council's packet and advised he was not involved in the discussion regarding the right-of-way dedication. Mr. Webb advised the sidewalks being provided would be provided within the right-of-way. Mr. Webb noted a public easement was needed to allow a sidewalk to connect from Magnolia Drive and inquired if his client needed to give away land to make that happen. Mr. Webb advised they were not opposed to a pedestrian path there and again asked if public right-of-way was needed to make that happen. Mr. Webb advised Ms. Reed has stated by text that there is a 2.5' elevation difference between Magnolia Drive and Lake Forest and to connect the roads would require tearing out part of Magnolia Drive to reconstruct it at a different elevation.

Mayor Smith advised he felt there was a way to work this out to get some connectivity for foot traffic.

Ms. Raghu noted she liked the idea of trying to diversify the available housing in Oxford noting the goal was to make sure people who work here can live here too. Ms. Raghu inquired as a measure of good faith if the developer would be willing to initiate a Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District to make sure it is permanent housing and not student housing. Mr. Webb advised a homeowners association would govern the limitation of rentals in the proposed development and would ensure property values are protected. Ms. Raghu advised she has a hard time believing on paper that what is being said will actually happen. Ms. Raghu reiterated she felt it would be a measure of good faith if an overlay district were initiated. Mr. Webb advised an overlay district was comprised of a group of lots and it was initiated by the neighborhood itself and noted it does not apply here. Mr. Perry advised the overlay provisions allow City Council to waive the minimum number of lots and noted if this was something the applicant and owner were interested in restricting on themselves, he felt City Council could find a way to adjust the provisions to make them apply to a single lot. Mr. Perry noted he felt Council needed to be careful not to add a condition or restriction if the applicant is not agreeable to it as it puts the City in a potential legal bind. Mr. Perry advised between the first and second reading of the proposed Ordinance staff could look into the potential waiver of the minimum number of lots and report back on that. Ms. Raghu advised she would be in complete support if the applicant went that route.

Mr. Prytherch advised the developer owns the land and has a right to develop it under the subdivision Ordinance although the Planned Development is something different where the applicant and the City meet in the middle. Mr. Prytherch noted Council can grant flexibility for things the subdivision Ordinance would not permit but might have expectations for things that the subdivision Ordinance by law would not require. Mr. Prytherch advised if it does not meet the expectations of the Comprehensive Plan Council can deny the Planned Development. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt this proposal coming forward as a Planned Development was good as Council has the flexibility to ask things of the developer. Mr. Prytherch and Mr. Perry discussed traffic issues and the traffic impact study from 2017 and Mr. Prytherch suggested the developer put money in escrow for potential future intersection improvements. Mr. Perry advised he did not think the data supported that right now noting staff would need to review the traffic issues with the City Engineer. Mr. Prytherch noted he would also like to see a sidewalk along U.S. 27 for connectivity purposes.

Mr. Webb advised these decisions are data driven and when Lake Forest Drive was proposed and installed a traffic study was required that determined what needed to be built when the entire 175 acres was 100% developed. Mr. Webb noted that resulted in a turn lane on U.S. 27, which was installed and advised it did not result in a need for extra stacking space before the cul-de-sac nor did it warrant a traffic signal when the area was totally built out.

Ms. Raghu agreed with the comments and suggestions made by Councilor Prytherch.

Mr. Bracken asked Mr. Webb to address the water quality basin in the northern open space area and what the status of it was. Mr. Webb advised the Final Planned Development process is when the final engineering is done noting at this point they have targeted two areas for potential water retention.

Further discussion took place with regard to the tree selection, lighting plan, setbacks and future connectivity.

Mr. Perry inquired if Councilors beyond Councilor Prytherch and Councilor Raghu were concerned about the traffic study and the intersection of Lake Forest Drive and U.S. 27. Mayor Smith inquired if Councilors would like to see more done in the way of a traffic study for the intersection and the majority of Council was in favor of receiving additional data.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott provided a COVID-19 update noting in the 45056 zip code Oxford represents approximately 9% of the confirmed cases in Butler County. Mr. Elliott advised the average new cases have been declining. Mr. Elliott noted he shared with Council the Ohio COVID-19 dashboard, which provides information for the State of Ohio as well as Butler County. Mr. Elliott advised 24,108 vaccines have been given in Butler County, which is 6.29% of the population. Mr. Elliott noted the 80 plus years of age group is almost 50% vaccinated and the 70-79 age group is almost 20% vaccinated.

Mr. Elliott advised the federal government has authorized shipping vaccine directly to pharmacies noting those who are 70 plus years of age are eligible to receive the vaccine.

Mr. Elliott advised the Police Services survey has been mailed and encouraged everyone to participate noting the responses are anonymous. Mr. Elliott advised the results of the survey would be provided to Council and to the Police Community Relations and Review Commission.

Mr. Elliott noted the City and McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital both received the Business of the Year award for 2020 from the Oxford Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Elliott advised the award was received last Tuesday at the Municipal Building noting he, the Mayor and the Assistant City Manager accepted the award on behalf of the City.

Chief Jones advised since the students returned to Oxford OPD has had some active weekends noting officers have been Uptown doing proactive enforcement and issuing citations for liquor violations, jaywalking, traffic and mask violations and working with bar and business owners in taking COVID precautions.

Chief Jones advised last summer Council adopted a chokehold and intervention Ordinance and noted the federal government issued a Presidential Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities. Chief Jones advised that empowered the US Attorney General to designate independent credentialing bodies for each state to credential each agency. Chief Jones noted the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services and the Ohio Collaborative became that agency for Ohio agencies. Chief Jones advised OPD just received their certification.

Mr. Elliott noted as part of the Chamber award, the Assistant City Manager, Jessica Greene also received a Chamber Champion of the Year award. Mr. Elliott congratulated Ms. Greene on receiving the award.

Ms. Greene noted it was quite an honor to receive the Chamber Champion award.

Ms. Greene advised a presentation for the Elm Street development was made with JobsOhio on Friday noting she, Mayor Smith and Miami University representatives made the presentation. Ms. Greene advised she felt it went extremely well noting the highest grant award would be 2 million dollars, which would go a long way toward helping with the Elm Street project.

Ms. Raghu referred to the Solarize Silverton project noting so far 40 homeowners/businesses have signed up to get quotes. Ms. Raghu advised Oxford makes up 25% of those noting people have until March 1 to sign up.

Mr. Snavely thanked Mr. Prytherch for agreeing to substitute for him on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Snavely congratulated Chief Jones and the Oxford Police Division noting he felt they have done an excellent job. Mr. Snavely advised it has been noticeable with foot patrols and cruisers checking alleys. Mr. Snavely noted he felt that combined with the message boards has made a difference with people wearing their masks, which he felt would have a positive impact.

Ms. Southard noted she was glad vaccinations were rolling out and advised she has friends who have been vaccinated at Kroger's in Oxford and at McCullough-Hyde. Ms. Southard noted she received her vaccine last week, which was painless. Ms. Southard noted her hope everyone who is eligible will get the vaccine.

Ms. Southard referred to the roadwork being done this summer noting her street is on the list. Ms. Southard advised her neighbors had many questions, which she compiled and sent to Mr. Elliott and Mr. Dreisbach. Ms. Southard noted Mr. Dreisbach did a wonderful job answering those questions very clearly and very quickly. Ms. Southard advised she felt more information was needed on the City's website, as many people do not realize curbs, gutters and sidewalks are their responsibility.

Mr. Bracken advised he was reaching out to different charities in town to help them with funding for solar because it helps with climate change and the environment and it will help sustain the charities for decades to come by lowering their overhead costs.

Mr. Bracken encouraged everyone to follow the COVID rules and to get their vaccine when they are eligible.

Mr. Prytherch thanked and commended Mr. Perry, Mr. Moore and the Community Development staff for the excellent work they do in helping Council review and work through complicated procedures. Mr. Prytherch noted he appreciated the high quality service from the Community Development Department.

Mayor Smith reminded everyone it was Black History Month and noted Enjoy Oxford has assembled a very nice Black History Tour for Oxford. Mayor Smith encouraged everyone to participate noting Oxford has had some very significant roles in civil rights and in black history.

ADJOURN

Mr. Prytherch moved to adjourn at 10:13 p.m. Mr. Snavely seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)