

A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 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. Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Mr Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, 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 moved to approve the agenda. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mr. Matt Ciccone**, Secretary, Off Campus Affairs, advised next week was Spring Break for Miami University and Thursday was Green Beer Day. Mr. Ciccone noted last week a very constructive forum took place on campus with students and members of the Oxford Police Department, Miami University Police Department and Miami officials to discuss safety issues on Green Beer Day. Mr. Ciccone noted the message conveyed was positive and resonated with the students.

Mayor Keebler thanked Mr. Ciccone for taking a pro-active approach regarding the event.

Mr. Bogard noted George Clooney would be in town filming the Ides of March movie on Green Beer Day and inquired if the Oxford Police Department was involved to make sure there was no rowdiness going on. Mr. Elliott advised the OPD was involved and the movie crew had their own security as well. Mr. Elliott noted he did not foresee any problems.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the February 15, 2011 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION**  
**NOISE ABATEMENT**

A Resolution No. 4590 authorizing the temporary abatement of the Noise Ordinance No. 2550, Section 509.09, on Friday, April 1, 2011 starting at 5:00 p.m. to Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 3:00 a.m. at Millett Hall (outside and concourse) On Miami's Campus for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

**RESOLUTION**  
**NOISE ABATEMENT**

A Resolution No. 4591 authorizing the temporary abatement of the Noise Ordinance No. 2550, Section 509.09, on Friday, April 15, 2011 from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on the back patio at the Shriver Center for a Miami After Dark Spring Marquee event. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION**  
**PORSCHES2OXFORD**

A Resolution No. 4592 authorizing the City Manager to permit the Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau in conjunction with the Oxford Lions Club to hold an event on July 29, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Oxford Memorial Park. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised this event was approved by Council last year to welcome the Porsches2Oxford participants to the City. Mr. Elliott noted the event would be held from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. which was two hours longer than last year's event.

**Ms. Diana Durr**, Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, advised the group was asking to start the event earlier and run it longer than last year. Ms. Durr advised the Uptown area they requested was the same as last year.

Mayor Keebler asked Chief Schwein if there were any issues with the event last year and Chief Schwein advised no.

Mr. Harman noted this was a terrific event that showcased Oxford. Mr. Harman advised he was glad it went well last year and he did not see a problem with extending the hours of the event this year.

Ms. Currie noted there was some debate on this event last year as it had never been done before and asked Ms. Durr to detail the plans for food, beverages and attendance.

Ms. Durr advised an article was prepared for the Oxford Press last year which stated that the public was welcome to attend the event but the article did not get printed. Ms. Durr noted the VCB tried to get the word out verbally by contacting area businesses. Ms. Durr advised the Lions Club contacted every restaurant in the greater Oxford area to invite them to participate in the event and last year 4 restaurants participated. Ms. Durr noted she hoped at least 4 or more restaurants would participate this year. Ms. Durr advised people at the event last year expressed their desire to see it last longer this year. Ms. Durr noted the Porsches2Oxford event organizers loved the Friday night event and were working harder to promote it this year along with the Thursday night music festival. Ms. Durr advised she expected larger attendance this year.

Mr. Blackburn advised 54 letters were sent to restaurants in Oxford last year inviting them to participate in the event. Mr. Blackburn noted last year an event was held in Columbus as well as Oxford and this year there would be no out of town event which would bring more Porsches to Oxford on Friday night. Mr. Blackburn advised next year there might be a golf outing on Thursday. Mr. Blackburn reiterated the Friday night event was open to anyone who wished to attend.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Resolution No. 4592. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

#### **RESOLUTION** **WAIVE FEES**

A Resolution No. 4593 authorizing the City Manager to waive the fees adopted in the Fee Ordinance for the street closings for the Visitors and Convention Bureau for the 2011 annual Summer Music Festival. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised Council had approved this request since 2005. Mr. Elliott noted Council had the schedule of concerts and Ms. Durr would answer any questions Council had.

Mayor Keebler noted this was the only event Council typically waived the fees for since it was a major event which brought people into the Uptown Parks over the summer.

Mr. McKeehan noted he was disappointed there were only 8 concerts this year due to lack of sponsorship which was not surprising due to the economy. Mr. McKeehan noted his hope the sponsorship would rebound.

Mr. Harman noted he had received some very positive input about the event from citizens of Oxford and the surrounding area who appreciated the concerts and looked forward to them.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Resolution No. 4593. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mayor Keebler advised there were no Ordinances on the agenda and Council would move into Announcements & Communications.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Elliott advised council received information regarding the intersection improvements at SR-73 and SR-177 and noted a meeting took place with the County Engineer and discussions had taken place with ODOT regarding funding for the project. Mr. Elliott noted he hoped the issues would get resolved so legislation for the project could be placed on Council's agenda in March.

Mr. Elliott advised the public meeting regarding the possible re-routing of US-27 was rescheduled for March 30, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the High School.

Mr. Elliott advised at the last meeting a citizen (Mr. Steger) noted concern with intersection safety and provided Council with accident reports from various intersections in the City. Mr. Elliott noted he asked Mr. Dreisbach to respond to Mr. Steger's concerns. Mr. Elliott advised in May or June of each year the Police Chief and Service Director evaluated intersections where the most accidents had occurred and made recommendations for improvements which might include extending the no parking area or adding signage.

Mr. Elliott updated Council with regard to HB 3 (Estate Tax), HB 50 (Annexation) and HB 5 (Collective Bargaining) and noted staff would follow those bills closely.

Chief Schwein advised he wanted Council to know what a pleasure it was for his staff to work with Matt Ciccone. Chief Schwein noted Matt was in front of Council at most of their meetings but he worked with OPD a lot behind the scenes. Chief Schwein advised Matt was a pro-active student government leader and it was a pleasure to work with someone who was so helpful.

Mr. Newlin advised representatives from the Regional Income Tax Agency would be at the Municipal Building on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist citizens with their local income tax preparation. Mr. Newlin advised the income tax filing date was April 18<sup>th</sup> this year due to a Federal Holiday.

Mr. Kyger advised the Double D Diner was relocating from Oxford to Hamilton. Mr. Kyger noted the empty section of the former Gretchen's Hallmark building would be taken over by another business.

Mr. McHugh noted he provided Council with a report on a piece of potential legislation regarding a moratorium on Sweepstakes/Internet Cafés and recommended that Council consider it for a future meeting.

Mr. Bogard advised he felt the proposed legislation was satisfactory and something the City should have on the books.

Mr. Blackburn noted he attended the Randall Arendt Conservation Development and New Urbanism follow-up session which was a very good presentation sponsored by the Wilks Scholars. Mr. Blackburn noted former Mayor Dana also sponsored the event.

Mr. Blackburn noted he attended the Soul Dinner at Oxford Seniors and the Miami University Gospel Singers performed. Mr. Blackburn advised the singers were fantastic and encouraged everyone to attend their concert on April 23, 2011 at Hall Auditorium.

Mr. Blackburn welcomed George Clooney and his staff to Oxford and noted his hope they would enjoy their time in Oxford.

Ms. Currie asked Mr. Dreisbach to provide an update regarding the improvements to the CSX railroad crossings. Mr. Dreisbach advised CSX officials had assured the Butler County Engineer and the City of Oxford that the repairs would be made this spring or summer.

Mr. Bogard asked for an update on the Deer Management Program. Mr. Elliott advised 13 deer were harvested and 8 were donated to the Meal Center in Hamilton. Mr. Elliott noted the Meal Center was very appreciative of the donation. Mr. Elliott advised staff would look at ways to increase the harvest next year and noted this year's program was small but successful.

Mr. Rutherford thanked Prue Dana, Jim Rubenstein, David Prytherch, the Miami University Geography Department and the Wilks Scholars for bringing Randall Arendt to the City of Oxford. Mr. Rutherford noted his hope the information presented at the Workshops would broaden the thinking of decision makers and stakeholders in the community with regard to conservation development.

Mr. Rutherford advised according to many business owners he had spoken with a good Green Beer Day did not make or break a business. Mr. Rutherford encouraged those who found Green Beer Day to be problematic to patronize establishments that did not wish to support alcohol abuse.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.