The Work Session of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. Those Council members present were: Ken Bogard, Doug Ross, Alysia Fischer, Kate Currie and Greig Rutherford. Richard Keebler was excused.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; Steve McHugh, Law Director; Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; John Detherage, Fire Chief; Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Fischer moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council to receive information regarding infrastructure improvements needed for the new Talawanda High School.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Dana advised she, Ms. Fischer and Ms. Currie attended the sub-committee meeting with the School District. Mayor Dana noted and the School District requested an outline of what the City could bring to the table with regard to infrastructure needs for the new High School. Ms. Fischer noted the School District was aware that the City had not budgeted funds for this venture.

Mr. Elliott provided background information regarding this project and noted a partnership meeting had taken place on February 17, 2009.

Mr. Elliott provided Council with a draft of the necessary infrastructure improvements and the estimated costs.

Council discussed six projects as follows:

- Water Line Extension
- Sanitary Line Construction
- University Park Blvd. Extension
- US-27 Intersection Improvements
- US-27 Sidewalks
- Utility Connection Fees

Mr. Elliott advised the total estimated cost for the off site improvements was $1,133,000.

Council discussed various funding options for the above listed projects.

AJOURNMENT

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Doug Ross, Alysia Fischer and Greig Rutherford. Richard Keebler was excused.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; 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. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Ms. Kim Newton, Assistant to the City Manager; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rutherford moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:24 p.m. in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) for the purpose of discussing (1) Personnel – employment terms. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rutherford moved to return from Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (6)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dana requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
'THE BIG READ MONTH'

Mayor Dana advised she read and presented the Proclamation Sunday during the kick-off for Big Read Month at the Community Arts Center.

PROCLAMATION
'KAREN MURRAY DAY'

Mayor Dana advised she read and presented the Proclamation for Karen Murray on Monday.

NOTICE TO
LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Notice to Legislative Authority – New Permit for Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado LLC DBA Chipotle 2 South Main Street Oxford, Ohio 45056.

Mr. Bogard moved to approve the Notice to Legislative Authority without comment. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion passed 5-1-0 with Mr. Ross voting nay.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Ross requested removal of Item J. Resolution.

MINUTES

Minutes of the February 17, 2009 City Council Work Session. Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the February 17, City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the February 10, 2009 Planning Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the February 18, 2009 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the February 19, 2009 Recreation Board Meeting. (Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH STATEWIDE
FORD LINCOLN MERCURY, INC.

A Resolution No. 4414 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Statewide Ford Lincoln Mercury, Inc., Van Wert, Ohio for the purchase of four new 2009 Crown Victoria Police vehicles at state contract pricing at a cost not to exceed $89,120.00. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
CHARLIE'S DODGE

A Resolution No. 4415 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Charlie's Dodge, Inc., Maumee, Ohio for the purchase of a new 2009 Dodge Dakota FlexFuel Compact Pickup Truck at state contract pricing for a cost not to exceed $24,298.00. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION
NOISE ABATEMENT

A Resolution No. 4416 authorizing a temporary abatement of the Noise Ordinance No. 2550, Section 509.99, on Friday, April 3, 2009 starting at 6:00 p.m. to Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 3:00 a.m. at Cook Field on Miami's campus for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

RESOLUTION
NOISE ABATEMENT

A Resolution No. 4417 authorizing a temporary abatement of the Noise Ordinance No. 2550, Section 509.09, on Thursday, April 30, 2009 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on the lawn at Millett Hall for an After Dark concert. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
CINCINNATI BELL

A Resolution No. 4418 accepting the proposal and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three-year contract with Cincinnati Bell to provide internet access and local and long distance telephone service to the City Building and seven remote locations. (Kim Newton, Assistant to the City Manager)

Ms. Currie moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
NOISE ABATEMENT

A Resolution No. 4419 authorizing a temporary abatement of the Noise Ordinance No. 2550, Section 509.09, on Friday, May 8, 2009 from 9:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. in the Uptown Parks for a Campus Activities Council sponsored musical event. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Ms. Fischer noted the name of the event had been changed twice and was now called the Red Brick Rally in an effort to be sensitive to the community.

Mr. Ross noted he felt it was a poor idea to support the use of alcohol late at night.

Mr. Thad Boggs, Vice President of Student Affairs, advised the Red Brick Rally had been an ongoing event for ten years. Mr. Boggs noted students and others in the community viewed this as a positive manner to celebrate the end of the school year. Mr. Boggs noted this year the event was under the purview of the Campus Activities Council who had expertise in programming events and they were making great strides to involve community members and parents. Mr. Boggs noted the timeline for street closures and the noise abatement request had been moved from previous years to better accommodate the Uptown businesses. Mr. Boggs noted ASG felt this was an excellent event and something all members of the community could enjoy.

Mr. Rutherford noted the noise abatement was only for the area defined by East Park Place, West Park Place and High Street.

Mr. Bogard noted with the change of commencement dates and more parents being in town the event had improved over the last 5 years in terms of noise levels and compliance with Council's wishes.

Ms. Fischer noted the Student Community Relations Commission worked very diligently to help improve this event as well as others.

Ms. Fischer moved to adopt Resolution No. 4419. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Ms. Dana (5)

NAY: Mr. Ross (1)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
MYERS SUBDIVISION

An Ordinance Approving The Planning Commission's Recommendation For Preliminary Approval Of The Myers Subdivision On 32.12 Acres Of Land With Conditions. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen provided a brief background with regard to the site. Mr. Chen addressed the proposed subdivision and concerns of the Planning Commission at the first public hearing which was tabled. Mr. Chen advised the developer redesigned the project and highlighted aspects of the proposal. Mr. Chen noted after lengthy deliberation including a Work Session the Planning Commission recommended approval of the preliminary plan with conditions. Mr. Chen discussed the conditions as listed on page 49 of the agenda.

Ms. Kelly Umbstead, advised she was in attendance on behalf of the applicant, Tim Myers.

Mr. Joshua Liles, Apex Engineering and Surveying, advised he was the engineer for the project. Mr. Liles noted his company worked closely with the Planning Commission to alleviate their concerns and design the project according to the subdivision regulations and Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Tim McGowan, 616 Windingbrook Drive, noted he was a local citizen as well as the Executive Director of The Knolls of Oxford. Mr. McGowan advised as Executive Director of the Knolls of Oxford they were not opposed to development of the property. Mr. McGowan noted he was invited to and attended a Planning Commission meeting in December to look at the plan and provide input. Mr. McGowan noted the plan was immediately tabled due to the application being incomplete although discussion did take place. Mr. McGowan advised in February an entirely new plan appeared before the Planning Commission. Mr. McGowan noted concern that the new plan depicted a road and bike path bordering the Knolls property which was in direct conflict with the annexation agreement and with what he had kept the residents at the Knolls apprised of. Mr. McGowan advised he did not understand how Council could approve a plan which was in direct opposition to the annexation agreement.

Mr. Bob Miller, Knolls of Oxford resident, noted he had lived in Oxford for 58 years. Mr. Miller advised fellow residents asked him to make it perfectly clear to everyone that they were not opposed to development. Mr. Miller noted he and his fellow residents were in attendance tonight to object to the proposed road which would border the Knolls of Oxford. Mr. Miller noted all along everyone thought the proposed road would be constructed farther west. Mr. Miller noted several safety concerns regarding the proposed road and bike path and advised he and the other residents at the Knolls of Oxford felt the road should be placed farther west as it was originally depicted.

Ms. VanPeterson, 22 Ivywood, advised several years ago there was an effort to use a portion of the Knolls of Oxford's property on the western side for a bike path from Fairfield Road to Contreras Road. Ms. VanPeterson noted because that area was in the backyards of the Knolls of Oxford's residents the request was turned down. Ms. VanPeterson advised her feeling a bike path was unwarranted and the Knolls of Oxford residents demonstrated then that the creation of a bike path adjoining the cottages of the Knolls was a serious infringement to the protection of the elderly residents' peace and quiet, sense of safety, and would cause them to suffer anxiety. Ms. VanPeterson noted the earlier bike path proposal was turned down and now with a public road included in this proposal for development there would be more cause for concern due to streetlights, noise, traffic and unforeseen disturbances. Ms. VanPeterson urged Council to turn down the location of the proposed bike path and public road.

Mr. Jack Grove, 7006 Fairfield Road, advised his wife Susan was in attendance and he was speaking on her behalf as well. Mr. Grove acknowledged Dr. David Hirsch who was also in attendance. Mr. Grove advised he and his wife were sickened by the proposed development in many respects primarily due to drainage issues and inattention to the view-scape, rural fringe and the density being proposed. Mr. Grove noted most intrusive to them was two streets ending at their property line presuming they would extend their property to the congestion of 70 plus houses on approximately 30 acres. Mr. Grove explained his easement in detail which was dedicated by the property owners in the 1950's. Mr. Grove advised the soil types were unusual and he felt no attention had been given to soil analysis and what it meant in terms of retention ponds, erosion, and how the drainage would be affected. Mr. Grove advised he wanted to make it very clear to Council that they would not consent to any burden placed upon the easement and they objected to what was being discussed. Mr. Grove noted the Oxford Township Trustees had seen fit to protect these areas and had approved agricultural preservation zoning. Mr. Grove advised the Oxford land use plan spoke to protecting these areas and called for transition and protecting the view-shed and the developers had not given that any consideration. Mr. Grove noted they were excluded from the annexation agreement even though their property rights were affected and they were very disappointed with the way the proposed development had come about. Mr. Grove advised they were concerned with the transformation of the proposal from the December public hearing to the February public hearing. Mr. Grove advised if there was to be a street and a bike path he would prefer it was on the westside of the property to allow transition and open space and to divide his property from the congestion. Mr. Grove discussed concerns related to retention ponds which were not handled properly. Mr. Grove listed problems related to the culture clash and noted it was inappropriate to have this kind of congestion at his farm's property line. Mr. Grove noted disappointment with the way the land would be cut up and advised his feeling the land had much more potential.

Mr. John Huntington, 71 Redbud Trace, advised he and his wife had resided in Oxford for more than 40 years. Mr. Huntington noted concern with the changes to the proposal since the December public hearing. Mr. Huntington noted in the original plan the environmental impact noise and pollution from the thoroughfare would be shared by the residents of the development. Mr. Huntington advised the new plan would have the thoroughfare nearly in the backyards of many residents at the Knolls of Oxford. Mr. Huntington noted safety concerns with the east/west feeder streets.

Mr. Huntington noted concern with the unpleasantness of headlights from the proposed development shining into the residents homes at the Knolls of Oxford. Mr. Huntington agreed with Mr. Grove in that the thoroughfare and the multi-purpose path could be placed on the westside of the property which would provide a buffer between the pastoral settings of the farm and the proposed development. Mr. Huntington noted concerns with the proximity of the entrance and exit of the thoroughfare to existing intersections.

Ms. Suzanne Reif, 49 Scarlet Oak Circle, noted she lived on the western side of the Knolls and this project was very important to her. Ms. Reif noted she was concerned with the drainage issues related to the proposed development as drainage was a problem now. Ms. Reif advised quite often when it rained a stream of water ran through her backyard and her neighbor's yards and she felt it would increase as a result of the proposed development. Ms. Reif showed Council a picture of the yard after a rain storm. Ms. Reif noted her concerns with the retention basins and where they would drain and advised she would like to see reports, procedures and descriptions of what would alleviate the current problem which would possibly become a larger problem.

Mr. Bernard Stude, 106 Creekside Lane, noted he agreed with most of what had been said regarding the proposed development. Mr. Stude referred to page 61 of the agenda which stated that a traffic impact study shall be conducted prior to submitting any subdivision request to the Planning Commission. Mr. Stude advised the residents at the Knolls of Oxford had not seen the traffic impact study and did not know what it indicated. Mr. Stude noted he felt this was important information and the traffic impact study should be part of the analysis of the situation here. Mr. Stude asked Council to look into the matter.

Ms. Marge Piper, advised she lived at the Knolls of Oxford and would be very close to the proposed road. Ms. Piper noted concern with fire issues and inquired with 178 units in the proposed development how the City planned to handle fire calls at the Knolls and other subdivisions. Ms. Piper advised she had heard the Fire Department was very much under staffed and noted her feeling it should be improved before Oxford took on more responsibilities. Ms. Piper advised a westside Fire Station had been talked about for over 20 years and needed to be considered. Ms. Piper inquired if Oxford had adequate water to supply the proposed development and the Knolls and the rest of the subdivisions. Ms. Piper inquired if the City could handle a large fire in this area. Ms. Piper encouraged Council to consider this request very carefully as many residents at the Knolls were devastated by the proposal.

Ms. Edith Layman, Scarlet Oak Drive, advised she had the same concerns which had been discussed this evening and noted the development would impact the Knolls negatively. Ms. Layman advised her feeling a new public road was not necessary. Ms. Layman noted in these difficult economic times she felt building a new road was irresponsible.

Mr. Dick Hess, advised he had been a resident of Oxford for 20 months and felt it was the ideal place to live. Mr. Hess inquired if Council had looked at the marketing plan for the development and if the marketing plan had a contingency for what would happen if the economy didn't come back for ten years. Mr. Hess noted his feeling the marketing plan was important for Council to consider.

Mr. Larry Frimerman, Oxford Township Trustee, 292 Ryan Drive, advised he was mostly speaking as an individual resident of Oxford but also wanted to acknowledge and support the concerns of the constituents at the Knolls and others. Mr. Frimerman noted while he was not opposed to development of the property he felt it was not properly scaled, oriented or in keeping with the City and County's Comprehensive Plans. Mr. Frimerman noted the proposal was not consistent with the current annexation agreement with regard to the specific property. Mr. Frimerman advised his feeling the proposals did not conform to the Comprehensive Plan's focus on creating open space and compatible use and pace of development in areas on the edge of the City. Mr. Frimerman noted the density proposed was not compatible with the abutting farm. Mr. Frimerman advised his feeling the drainage issues were not adequately addressed.

Mr. Conrad Leslie, 63 Scarlet Oak Circle, called Council's attention to the current economy noting his feeling the project should be postponed until the economy improved.

Ms. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director, advised when the Community Park was designed there were 5 drainage swales that had to be addressed. Ms. Brahier noted these swales could be addressed with professional engineering and the Community Park had retention ponds to address the drainage issues. Ms. Brahier also advised there was an adequate water supply for this area of town.

Ms. Fischer noted the first plan came to the Planning Commission with many problems and a public Work Session was advertised and held with the developers and engineers. Ms. Fischer noted concerns were raised at the Work Session and the plan being considered this evening was brought to the Planning Commission at their subsequent meeting. Ms. Fischer noted she was one of two no votes at the Planning Commission meeting. Ms. Fischer noted Cluster Development was new and the Planning Commission had discovered some problems with it including the 20% green space requirement which the Planning commission felt was adequate until they saw it. Ms. Fischer noted the reason she voted against the proposal was due to the proposed road widths being narrower than the subdivision regulations called for and due to some issues with sidewalks. Ms. Fischer noted the idea of 'flipping' the plan was never discussed during the Planning Commission meetings.

Mr. Bogard noted the distance from the proposed road to the Knolls property line was 37' and the distance from the multi-use path to the Knolls property line was only 10'. Mr. Bogard inquired if there was any discussion regarding screening, mounding or landscaping. Ms. Fischer noted those items were discussed and would be brought forward during the final plan request. Mr. Bogard noted prior to the next meeting he would like to see what property lines would be crossed if the development was 'flipped'.

Mr. Joshua Liles, noted the location of the thoroughfare road was based on the future thoroughfare plan that showed a loop circling the City. Mr. Liles advised his company would be more than happy to eliminate the thoroughfare road but this was per the City and per the thoroughfare plan. Mr. Bogard advised connectivity had always been important to the Planning Commission and Council. Mr. Liles noted he had done preliminary calculations to design the size of the retention pond and he did not foresee drainage problems on the western property as a result of their proposed development. Mr. Liles noted per the Butler County soil maps the soil was suitable for residential construction.

Mr. Rutherford requested an explanation for the deviation in street widths and the location of sidewalks which Mr. Liles addressed. Mr. Rutherford requested that Mr. Liles describe the drainage easement on the Grove property and how it would be managed which Mr. Liles addressed.

Mr. Ross noted Council could not deny a project because it was a bad idea and asked Mr. Chen to explain the applicable Decision Standards with regard to the proposal.

Mr. Chen advised staff and the Planning Commission looked at subdivision requests based on the standards in the subdivision regulations. Mr. Chen noted if the request met the subdivision standards it should not be denied.

Ms. Currie inquired if the annexation agreement called for the multi-use path to be built on the west side of the property why it was designed on the east side of the property. Mr. Chen noted the Planning Commission felt this was a very good project but only Council would have the authority request an amendment to the annexation agreement.

Mr. Bogard inquired what affect it would have on the developer and the Planning Commission to revert to the original plan which Mr. Liles addressed noting the Planning Commission very much disliked original proposal.

Mr. Rutherford discussed the idea of 'flipping' the proposal and inquired if Mr. Grove recognized any immediate advantages or objections to a road along the eastern boundary of his property. Mr. Grove noted there were several advantages to having it on the Paulin's west and his east and it would provide a transition at the rural fringe as well as address the safety and privacy concerns of the residents at the Knolls.

Mr. Rutherford discussed his environmental concerns with the proposal noting Bull Run Creek ran into the center of Mr. Grove's property and was under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Mayor Dana suggested tabling the proposal and having staff guide Council through the discussion during another forum such as what Planning had done.

Ms. Fischer requested if the proposed Ordinance was tabled that notification of the next meeting or Work Session be sent to neighboring residents.

Mr. Chen noted if Council tabled the matter he would ask that Council direct staff to address the issues brought up this evening with the applicant and see if they could incorporate the concerns into the plan and bring the proposal back to Council.

Mr. Rutherford advised staff needed to address the disparity between the annexation agreement and what the plan presented.

Mr. Chen encouraged Council to let him know of their specific concerns with this proposal as well as the next one on the agenda.

Mr. McHugh suggested continuing the first reading of the proposed Ordinance to a certain date which would be the next Council meeting.

Mr. Bogard noted if there were a re-design of the multi-use path moving it to the center or to the west he would like to see how it could go along the south and east of the property and connect with the Community Park.

Ms. Currie asked Mr. Rutherford to clarify his environmental concerns. Mr. Rutherford advised there were easement rights and property rights which applied here as well as environmental laws of the State of Ohio and nation that he did not see being addressed. Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling Council was responsible for protecting the water courses that flowed through and out of Oxford.

Mayor Dana noted Council's main concerns dealt with the annexation agreement, water courses and connectivity. Mayor Dana noted citizens had mentioned financial concerns we well.

Mr. David Labus, Foundation Development Group, noted there would be no point in discussing the next item on the agenda if this proposal was tabled or continued as the proposals were tightly linked. Mr. Labus commented on the density, bike-path, connectivity, road width, and annexation agreement issues. Mr. Labus advised any other concerns needed to be flushed out.

Council discussed the road width deviations and Mr. McHugh noted the Planning Commission could make recommendations to Council that deviated from the standards and Council could deem if they were appropriate.

Ms. Fischer moved to continue the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance to the next Council Meeting. Mr. Ross seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCE
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
VILLAS OF OXFORD

An Ordinance Approving The Planning Commission's Recommendation For Preliminary Plan Approval Of The Villas Of Oxford Planned Unit Development On 22.46 Acres Of Land Between Contreras And Fairfield Roads To Allow A Development For Residential Use With Conditions. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed Ordinance should be continued as well since it was closely linked to the previous agenda item.

Ms. Fischer noted the proposed Ordinance received a lot more support overall than the previous agenda item.

Mr. Rutherford moved to continue the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance to the next Council meeting. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
NEW SECTION 503.02

An Ordinance No. 3046 Repealing Current Section 503.02, Classification Of Civil Offenses, And Adopting New Section 503.02, Classification Of Civil Offenses. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen noted the only change from the First Reading was the incorporation of Conditional Uses. Mr. Chen noted a correction to the proposed Ordinance on page 145 of the agenda.

Mr. Rutherford moved to amend paragraph (d)(1) Chapter 1149 Vehicle Management (Class C) to Chapter 1149 Vehicle Management (Class D). Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3046 as amended. Ms. Fischer seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Dana (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: Mr. Ross (1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Dana advised the unveiling and placement of the recycling sculpture would take place on Tuesday, March 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Arts Center. Mayor Dana advised Council would meet there for the unveiling prior to the regular Council meeting at the Courthouse.

Mayor Dana noted she received comments regarding the new speed limit on 27 South. Mayor Dana advised a traffic Study had been done which indicated a speed limit of 45 mph was warranted.

Mayor Dana referred to a letter Council received from the Family Resource Center regarding funding issues and noted Council would follow up with the request and look into what other agencies might have been affected.

Mayor Dana advised she received letters from second grade students at Marshall Elementary School asking about local government and what it was like to be the Mayor. Mayor Dana noted she would share those letters with Council.

Mr. Elliott provided background information and additional comments regarding the new speed limit on US-27 South.

Mr. Elliott updated Council with regard to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and where the City stood regarding the funding of local projects submitted for consideration.

Mr. Elliott noted his feeling the Work Session this evening regarding the infrastructure needs of the school district was productive and thanked Council for their comments.

Mr. Elliott advised the Fire/EMS committee would meet on Wednesday, March 11, 2009.

Chief Schwein noted Thursday was 'Green Beer Day' and encouraged those participating to be responsible. Chief Schwein advised the Police Department was prepared to enforce all applicable laws.

Mr. Kyger advised Kroger had applied for their building permits and the expansion project was moving forward.

Mr. Kyger noted the City received its first Revolving Loan Fund application since he came on board as Economic Development Director.

Mr. Kyger offered to assist with modifying City standards to be more business friendly.

Mr. McHugh referred to emails he and Council received recently with regard to snow removal and noted over the years he had written legislation and opinions regarding the issue. Mr. McHugh advised he would draft updated legislation based on Council's directive.

Mr. Ross referred to speed studies and noted people drove as fast as they wanted to on Fairfield Road until they hit something.

Mr. Rutherford advised the Environmental Commission heard a presentation from a Butler County planner regarding conservation zoning which was germane since the Environmental Commission was looking at the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Rutherford noted a conservation developer would also address the Commission in the future so the Commission could make some recommendations to the Planning Commission and Council.

Mr. Bogard advised he and his wife attended the Soul Dinner at the Senior Citizens Center on Saturday with approximately 100 other guests. Mr. Bogard noted the entertainment was very good and he felt this was a good use of the Senior Citizens Center.

Ms. Fischer noted her hope given the activities this week and people leaving for Spring Break that NIC would be particularly attentive to refuse issues.

Ms. Currie referred to the 'Big Read' event and noted her feeling it was a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together around a work of literature. Ms. Currie encouraged everyone to participate.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.