A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 7:38 p.m. Those members present were Bob Blackburn, John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder. Ken Bogard was excused.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Bob Holzworth, Police Chief; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic 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 requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Snyder moved to approve the agenda. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**REQUEST FOR USE OF
UPTOWN PARKS**

**Ms. Diana Durr**, Executive Director, Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, updated Council with regard to the Porsches to Oxford event noting the possibility of the event returning to Oxford in June of 2013.

Ms. Durr noted the Miami Alumni Association asked her to speak on their behalf this evening. Ms. Durr inquired if the Alumni Weekend 2012 Fun at the Park event on Friday, June 15, 2012 could be combined with the Music Festival event by moving the Music Festival from Thursday to Friday night. Ms. Durr advised there would be a section of the Uptown available for the purchase of alcoholic beverages for those of legal age and they would be required to wear a wristband. Ms. Durr noted she had already met with the Police Chief and the City Manager, and the City Manager asked her to present the idea to Council for consideration. Ms. Durr advised the street closures would be the same as the Music Festival street closures. Ms. Durr provided a map of the proposed area for the event to Council and explained how the event would be set-up if approved.

Mayor Keebler advised he had significant concerns about combining the Music Festival with the Alumni event. Mayor Keebler noted he had no qualms with the Alumni event and it went very well last year. Mayor Keebler advised for a number of years, on Thursday nights, the community had a very nice family event called the Music Festival and he did not think alcohol should be introduced to the event.

Mr. Blackburn inquired if the band was a Music Festival band and if so who would pay for it, the sponsors or Miami. Ms. Durr advised Miami would pay for the band and the street closures that night.

Mr. Snyder inquired what would be gained by combining the events. Ms. Durr advised Miami's approach was to encourage more mutually beneficial events that involved people on and off of campus. Ms. Durr noted if Council wasn't comfortable with combining the events, Miami was planning to go forward with their Friday night event. Ms. Durr advised if Council approved combining the events, it would be included on the Music Festival poster and other advertisements, and if not, a separate poster would be made for the Alumni event welcoming the public to attend. Mr. Snyder noted he was more comfortable with the Alumni event being separate from the Music Festival.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if this would be a formal Oxford Music Festival and Ms. Durr advised yes, it would be on Friday night instead of Thursday night.

Mr. Elliott clarified that staff signed off on the Park and Right-of-Way permits for the Alumni event last year and later they asked to have alcohol at the event and that request was brought before Council. Mr. Elliott noted staff signed off on the permits for the 2012 event and Miami had paid the street closure fee. Mr. Elliott advised the issue was whether or not to combine the two events and if Council approved combining the events there would not be a regular Thursday night Music Festival. Mr. Elliott noted he and Chief Holzworth met with Ms. Durr and he had reservations about combining the events and felt the request needed to come to Council's attention.

Mr. Snyder noted the community had a history of a branded event on Thursday night that was non-alcoholic and he did not think it should be mixed with the Alumni event.

Mr. Harman advised he was not concerned with combining the events and noted both events had been very successful in the past. Mr. Harman noted there had not been alcohol issues with Uptown events that he was aware of. Mr. Harman advised this would be a merger of 2 good events that were positive for the community. Mr. Harman noted the Alumni wanted to include local residents they themselves were still a part of the community even though they had graduated and gone on with their lives. Mr. Harman advised there were restaurants within 20 feet of the Uptown Park that served alcohol and he felt Council should consider the request and be open to expanding Uptown events that in the past had been well received by the community and the university.

Mayor Keebler advised last year was the first year for the Alumni event off campus. Mayor Keebler noted the problem with combining the events was branding the Music Festival as an alcohol event.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised she did not see it as an alcohol event noting alcohol was available throughout the Uptown area. Ms. Rousmaniere advised Council just had a Work Session and Miami University presented their circulation plan which involved some linkages between the university and the City and she looked at the request to combine the events in the spirit of that. Ms. Rousmaniere noted she only saw the request as an advantage not a problem.

Mr. Harman noted the Music Festival would eventually evolve and it did not have to be the same as it always had been.

Mr. McKeehan noted he had mixed feelings regarding the matter noting he attended a similar event in Springfield where alcohol was available and he didn't see anything out of control. Mr. McKeehan advised he was not thrilled about combining the events noting the need to keep the identities separate.

Mr. Elliott advised he would bring legislation forward at the next meeting to request alcohol for the Friday night event. Mr. Elliott apologized for bringing the matter to Council noting he should have nixed it himself.

Mr. Harman applauded Mr. Elliott for bringing the matter to Council noting the citizens needed to know who wanted things the way there were and who was willing to look outside of the box.

Ms. Durr thanked Council for their consideration.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Mr. David Brown**, Butler County Auditor's Office, announced those turning 65 or older this year were eligible for the Homestead Exemption and the filing deadline was June 4, 2012. Mr. Brown noted the exemption would shield the first $25,000 of a home's value and the forms were available on the Auditor's website. Mr. Brown advised new values were mailed for 2011 and payable in 2012. Mr. Brown encouraged homeowners to contact the Auditor's office if they found any inaccuracies. Mr. Brown also encouraged citizens to contact the Auditor's Board of Revision if they felt their value was too high. Mr. Brown noted new photos of each home in Butler County would be taken for the 2014 reappraisals.

Mr. Harman applauded the Board of Revision noting citizens who used their services told him the board was very fair and equitable.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Rousmaniere requested removal of item B. Environmental Commission Report.

## MINUTES

Minutes of the March 6, 2012 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

## REPORT

Report regarding the March 7, 2012 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Blackburn moved to approve the consent agenda items A. and C. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**REPORT**

Report regarding the February 29, 2012 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised at the last Environmental Commission meeting there was discussion about the quorum requirements. Mr. Dreisbach advised currently it was codified that 5 voting members needed to be present to conduct business. Mr. Dreisbach noted the Planning Commission member was an ex-officio (non-voting) member so in essence the quorum was 5 out of 6 voting members. Mr. Dreisbach advised the Environmental Commission requested that Council consider revising the Ordinance to make a quorum 4 members out of 7 and staff was recommending that the Planning Commission member should be a voting member.

Mayor Keebler advised the Planning Commission member had been voting for some time. Mayor Keebler advised 4 was a quorum on other boards and commissions with 7 members including Council. Mayor Keebler requested legislation for the next meeting to address the changes.

Mr. Blackburn moved to approve the Environmental Commission Report. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION**
**THREE VALLEY**
**CONSERVATION TRUST**

A Resolution No. 4668 of support for the Three Valley Conservation Trust's 'Fryman Project' in the greater Oxford area. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott noted the resolution was in support of the Three Valley Conservation Trust's Fryman project. Mr. Elliott noted two Three Valley Conservation Trust Board Members were present; Cal Conrad and Roger Millar. Mr. Elliott advised the project would be located in the unincorporated portion of Oxford Township and would provide alternate modes of transportation such as walking and bicycling and staff felt it was a good project for the community.

**Mr. Cal Conrad**, 5226 Westgate Drive, noted his hope Council would unanimously approve the Resolution and support the project as it moved forward. Mr. Conrad advised fundraising for the project would begin on Thursday night.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Resolution No. 4668. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**RESOLUTION**
**EXTEND CONTRACT**

A Resolution No. 4669 authorizing the City Manager to exercise the option to extend the contract with PFM Asset Management LLC Investment Management Services for the management of the City's investable funds for a period of one (1) year. (2nd of 2 option years) (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised staff was looking to exercise the City's second option to extend the contract with PFM who had been managing the City's investments for going on 5 years. Mr. Newlin noted the fee would remain the same and staff was recommending adoption of the Resolution so the City could continue to use PFM as its investment management group.

Mr. McKeehan inquired if Mr. Newlin felt PFM's performance was satisfactory considering the economic environment. Mr. Newlin advised yes, he was pleased with their performance.

Mr. Harman advised he felt the fee structure was competitive.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No. 4669. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**ORDINANCE**
**FIRST READING**

**ORDINANCE**
**SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3159. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin discussed his staff report as presented on pages 22 and 23 of the agenda which addressed a reimbursement from ODOT, right-of-way acquisitions and a FEMA grant.

Mayor Keebler noted the second reading of the proposed Ordinance would take place at the next meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Elliott announced OKI would hold several Open Houses regarding the OKI Regional Transportation Plan and locally the public could attend an Open House on April 16, 2012 at the Harry Wilkes Conference Center on Miami's Hamilton campus.

Mr. Elliott commended the Service Department for their efforts to replace the High Street water main. Mr. Elliott noted the work needed to be done prior to the brick replacement project that would occur after Miami's spring semester.

Mr. Elliott noted legislation would be on the next agenda to address the Environmental Commission's request to modify their quorum requirements.

Mr. Elliott reminded everyone that the City's July 3rd celebration would take place at the Community Park this year.

Mr. Elliott advised he received a letter from Glenwood Energy regarding a tax change adjustment which is being reviewed by the City's attorney. Mr. Elliott noted he would provide additional information on the matter at a later date.

Mr. Elliott discussed HB50 which proposed changes to the current annexation law. Mr. Elliott noted he felt the proposal was unnecessary and would create road blocks for future development in the State of Ohio.

Mr. Elliott advised he was pleased that the Three Valley Conservation Trust provided a letter stating they agreed with the County Engineer and the City and intended to enter into an agreement with the City to annex a minimal amount of land for the Bonham Road bridge replacement project. Mr. Elliott noted he felt the project was good for the overall community and the bridge would be replaced with a savings to the taxpayers since the speed limit would be reduced. Mr. Elliott advised the annexation petition needed to be amended since the Three Valley Conservation Trust did not want to annex their entire parcel. Mr. Snyder inquired what the timetable was for the annexation and Mr. Elliott advised he would let Council know once he received additional information from the Engineer's Office.

Mr. Kyger noted the newest edition of the Delta Sigma Phi magazine featured Seaview Outfitters in their cover story. Mr. Kyger advised it was very good publicity for the local retailer.

Mr. Kyger commended the Service Department noting their work on High Street was phenomenal.

Mr. Kyger advised Anytime Fitness would hold their Grand Opening tomorrow with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at 4:00 p.m. which the Mayor and City Manager would attend.

Mr. Kyger noted Furnish 123 held their Grand Opening over the weekend.

Mr. Kyger advised the Wine Festival would take place soon and there were many volunteer opportunities. Mr. Kyger encouraged those interested in volunteering to contact him or the Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Rousmaniere noted the passing of a significant community member, Mary Melvin. Ms. Rousmaniere advised Ms. Melvin was a mentor for her in terms of community engagement and an advocate for university/town partnerships. Ms. Rousmaniere noted Ms. Melvin was also a teacher/educator and an advocate for international students. Ms. Rousmaniere advised a memorial would be held for Ms. Melvin on Thursday at noon at Holy Trinity Church.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised the Oxford unit of the NAACP would hold its annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Rousmaniere noted she was selling tickets for the banquet which was their major fund raiser each year and a great event. Ms. Rousmaniere advised the speaker this year was Pastor Tracy Hunter and tickets were $40.00.

Mr. Harman noted he was very thankful for McCullough-Hyde Hospital and advised he needed their emergency services recently and the staff and doctors were very efficient. Mr. Harman noted he felt everyone needed to be reminded that McCullough-Hyde was a great hospital and a town the size of Oxford might not normally be able to support a hospital. Mr. Harman noted it was good to have them as a neighbor.

Mr. Blackburn noted while he was recuperating at the Knolls of Oxford recently, Mary Melvin was his next door neighbor and a very fine lady.

Mr. Blackburn noted McCullough-Hyde had been very good to him over the last 5 years and the City was fortunate to have such a hospital.

Mr. Snyder complimented the Police Department noting the weekly report provided information regarding the event that occurred each year before Miami's spring break. Mr. Snyder advised there had been efforts going on since last October in terms of collaboration between the Oxford and Miami University Police Departments. Mr. Snyder noted during that specific event officers from the City and Miami paired up and according to several officers and the Chief the event went very well. Mr. Snyder commended each department for the collaboration.

Mr. McKeehan noted his mother in law was at McCullough-Hyde for a few days recently and they were phenomenal and did a great job for his family. Mr. McKeehan advised his mother in law did pass away and thanked everyone in the community for their kind words and gestures.

Mayor Keebler noted there had been a lot of discussion about cooperation/collaboration between agencies lately. Mayor Keebler advised he still attended the Butler County Fire Chief's meeting from time to time. Mayor Keebler noted at the last meeting Jeff Galloway, Director of the Butler County EMA discussed collaborative initiatives and events that had been taking place in Butler and surrounding counties. Mayor Keebler advised fire officers from Butler County spent time in Moscow, Ohio after the recent tornado, occupying their emergency operations center and working in the field to help with communications. Mayor Keebler noted through the statewide MARCS system and Butler County's Interoperable Communication System, complete interoperability was achieved in another county. Mayor Keebler advised for quite some time Butler County has had HazMat teams supported in part by the Butler County EMA located in Middletown, Hamilton and West Chester. Mayor Keebler noted these teams were working to become certified to the highest level of HazMat Response in the State of Ohio. Mayor Keebler advised a member of one of those departments developed a software system which allowed Firefighters on duty in the county with different technical levels to sign in so that at any given time it was know how many technicians were available. Mayor Keebler noted the group obtained federal funds and recently obtained a chemical analyzer which was used recently in West Chester to analyze a suspicious envelope that within 10 minutes was found to contain corn starch. Mayor Keebler advised usually this process would take at least 3 days. Mayor Keebler noted the chemical analyzer was shared countywide which was collaboration at its highest level. Mayor Keebler advised there was a Technical Rescue Team in Butler County with the majority of their operation headquartered in West Chester and some equipment was located in Middletown. Mayor Keebler noted members of the team were Firefighters and Volunteer Firefighters subject to dispatch to provide assistance. Mayor Keebler advised members of the team had been training at Kings Island for high angle rescue and would be called on in case of an emergency there.

Mayor Keebler noted the community, Councils, Township Trustees and people all over the county needed to understand how much collaboration was going on in and around the county. Mayor Keebler advised Chief Detherage should contact Mr. Galloway to get these initiatives publicized in the local papers. Mayor Keebler noted the public needed to know of the good things going on towards collaboration and cooperation.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Snyder moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

The Work Session of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 6:32 P.M. The Council members present were Bob Blackburn, John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder. Vice Mayor Ken Bogard was excused.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Victor Popescu, City Engineer; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Bob Holzworth, Police Chief; Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Joe Newlin, Finance Director; John Detherage, Fire Chief; Steve McHugh, Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

Also present were Bob Keller, John Seibert and Vincent Cirrito from Miami University.

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

Mr. Blackburn moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council to receive information regarding Miami University's Campus Circulation Master Plan.

**PRESENTATION
MIAMI UNIVERSITY'S
CAMPUS CIRCULATION MASTER PLAN**

**Mr. Bob Keller**, Associate Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Operations, University Architect, advised in 2008 a Task Force on Environmental Sustainability was created and they prepared a very detailed report regarding the issue. Mr. Keller noted in 2009 a Sustainability Committee was formed to identify specific goals with regard to environmental sustainability and one aspect was to create a sustainable transportation plan. Mr. Keller noted new buildings on campus had changed the routes people traveled and services had been developed that Miami University didn't have ten years ago. Mr. Keller advised student safety was a significant reason for the development of the Campus Circulation Master Plan.

**Mr. John Seibert**, Senior Project Architect, PFD Planning Architecture & Engineering, advised the Circulation Master Plan was on Miami's website. Mr. Seibert provided a PowerPoint presentation and noted the plan was broken down into four parts which included: the Introduction, Issues and Opportunities, Recommendations and Implementation. Mr. Seibert noted the project team consisted of consulting firms, university staff and students and City staff. Mr. Seibert discussed the Issues & Opportunities section of the plan which determined existing problem areas and areas for improvement in the transportation network including pedestrian and bicycle modes of transportation, vehicular and emergency access, parking and transit service. Mr. Seibert discussed the Recommendations section of the plan which addressed in detail the existing problem areas which were identified in the previous section. Mr. Seibert discussed the implementation phases of the plan as well as potential funding sources.

Mr. Seibert and Mr. Cirrito addressed various questions from Council.

Council made the following recommendations/observations:

- Traffic lights should utilized instead of adding stop signs
- Jay Walking should be enforced
- Crosswalks should be placed behind bus stops rather than in front
- Students need to be educated about the plan
- A bicycle usage survey should be conducted

Mayor Keebler thanked Mr. Keller, Mr. Seibert and Mr. Cirrito for making the presentation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Blackburn moved to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.