

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kate Rousmaniere on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Bob Blackburn, Steve Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, Kevin McKeehan, Mike Smith and Edna Southard.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

INTRODUCTION

MR. STEVE SCHNABL

Ms. Joan Potter-Sommer, Executive Director, Oxford Seniors, advised she was retiring as the Executive Director of Oxford Seniors at the end of April. Ms. Potter-Sommer thanked the City of Oxford, the current Council and Councils of the past 18 years for the support they gave her and Oxford Seniors. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised Council's continued support of Oxford Seniors was vital to the older adults and families living in and around Oxford. Ms. Potter-Sommer encouraged Council to work with the volunteers of Oxford Village Network as they strive to develop the livability of the community for all ages. Ms. Potter-Sommer introduced her successor as Executive Director, Mr. Steve Schnabl noting Mr. Schnabl had a vast amount of experience in senior center operations and working within the aging network.

Mr. Steve Schnabl, thanked Council for placing his introduction on their agenda this evening noting he was a 30 plus year Oxford resident. Mr. Schnabl advised it was his pleasure to take over the role of Executive Director at Oxford Seniors and noted for the past 18 years he worked for Partners in Prime in Hamilton, Ohio. Mr. Schnabl advised he had been understudying Ms. Potter-Sommer and would continue working with her through her retirement event on April 28, 2017. Mr. Schnabl noted he looked forward to working with Council and thanked them for their strong support of Oxford Seniors.

Mayor Rousmaniere welcomed Mr. Schnabl and thanked Ms. Potter-Sommer for her many years of terrific work for Oxford Seniors.

COMMENDATION

Chief Jones read the Commendation regarding an incident which occurred on N. Poplar Street in February for Officers Richard Butler and Mark Ledermeier of OPD and Officer Michael Jarvi of MUPD.

With assistance from Lieutenant Fening, Chief Jones presented the Oxford Police Division Life Saving Award to Officer Butler and the Certificate of Commendation to Officer Ledermeier and Officer Jarvi.

Chief Jones thanked the family members and supervisors of the three officers for attending this evenings ceremony and thanked Council for the opportunity to recognize the officers.

Mayor Rousmaniere thanked the officers for their service and thanked their family members for attending this evening.

PROCLAMATION **'EARTH DAY'**

Mayor Rousmaniere read the Proclamation and advised the Earth Day event would take place this Saturday in the Uptown Park.

PROCLAMATION **'ARBOR DAY'**

Mayor Rousmaniere read the Proclamation and noted Mr. Dreisbach would deliver both Proclamations to David Treleaven, the City's Environmental Specialist.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Carol Michael 409 E. Chestnut Street, noted ShareFest 2017 would be held Wednesday, May 10 through Tuesday, May 16 and planning was well underway. Ms. Michael advised the event would be held at Chestnut Fields as it was last year. Ms. Michael noted the items collected would be given to Butler County Children Services, Butler County Success, Preble County Success, Lighthouse Food Pantry, Oxford Community Choice Pantry, The Family Resource Center, Habitat for Humanity and Goodwill. Ms. Michael advised the website sharefestoxford.com was up and running and encouraged members of the community to go to the website to sign up to volunteer. Ms. Michael advised lifters and drivers for off and on campus were needed and she would sign people up to work the help desk for the volunteers. Ms. Michael noted people that wished to donate could go to the website to schedule a pickup and advised the scheduled donations were ahead of last year so far.

Ms. Southard inquired how many tons were donated last year and Ms. Michael advised 57 tons of consumer goods, furniture and clothing and over 3,000 pounds of food for the Oxford Community Choice Pantry.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted ShareFest was a great event.

Ms. Misha Mathur, Vice President, Community Service and Engagement, Panhellenic Association, at Miami spoke about Greek Service Week last week noting fraternities and sororities collected 1,486 cans of food for the Oxford Community Choice Pantry. Ms. Mathur advised proceeds from a fundraiser held at Buffalo Wild Wings would go to the Booker T. Washington Community Center in Hamilton, Ohio. Ms. Mathur noted all week long people signed up for blood drives.

Mr. Shane Mart, Vice President, Community Service and Philanthropy, IFC, at Miami advised last Saturday was the annual Greek Spring Clean event and over 200 participants gathered at the Uptown Park and were sent to 18 different community partners around the Oxford and Cincinnati area to spend 2-3 hours performing service for the variety of community partners.

Mr. Dana inquired what method of advertising was used for the event. Mr. Mart advised a lot of time was spent with the Office of Community Engagement and Service reaching out to the community partners to let them know about the Greek Spring Clean event. Mr. Mart noted planning for the event started at the beginning of the semester.

Mayor Rousmaniere thanked Ms. Mathur and Mr. Mart for the update and noted it was a wonderful event.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the April 4, 2017 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the April 5, 2017 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the April 5, 2017 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION

SURPLUS PROPERTY

A Resolution No. 5057 declaring certain City property no longer needed for municipal purposes as surplus and authorizing its advertisement and sale to the highest bidder at public auction or internet auction. (John Jones, Police Chief)

Mr. Dana moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION **LETTER TO** **OHIO'S GOVERNOR**

A Resolution No. 5058 supporting a request by the Oxford Environmental Commission to submit a letter to the Ohio Governor, Senate and House of Representatives to reconsider their opposition to the "Renewable and Energy Efficiency Standards" and to actively pursue the development of renewable energy. (Kate Rousmaniere, Mayor)

Mayor Rousmaniere advised Vince Hand from the Oxford Environmental Commission would speak to the proposed Resolution.

Mr. Vince Hand, noted the Environmental Commission was asking Council to repeat something they did in 2015 which was to request that the State Senate, House of Representatives and the Governor not freeze the renewable portfolio standard that was passed by the Ohio House and Senate and signed by the Governor in 2008. Mr. Hand advised this had been an ongoing controversy and there was a freeze on this in 2014 which was opposed by many City governments, many Chambers of Commerce, and manufacturers. Mr. Hand noted once again this has come up for a vote, it has already passed the Ohio House and is to be considered by the Senate and Governor Kasich suggested he would once again veto it. Mr. Hand advised the Environmental Commission was asking for Council's support and a letter was in Council's packet along with the Resolution. Mr. Hand noted a renewable portfolio standard is in the best interest of the State as supported by many Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Hand advised the State of Kentucky is a well known coal state and they were seeking increasing amounts of renewable energy and are proposing to build a solar field on an abandoned mining site. Mr. Hand noted manufacturers when deciding on new sites for facilities or expanding old ones looked for the availability of renewable energy. Mr. Hand advised he felt this was in the best interest of most of the population of Ohio and asked that Council support the Resolution and allow the Mayor to sign and send the letter.

Mr. Dana noted he felt the letter was excellent and could be used as a template for other letters to legislators. Mr. Dana advised the letter draws attention to Governor Kasich's stance in favor of renewable energy and demonstrates the comparison between Ohio and its competitors. Mr. Dana noted it makes the case of economic growth far from being impeded by increasing the use of renewable energy as it increased economic growth. Mr. Dana advised people who would like to register their opinions could refer to House Bill 114 and it had passed in the House and was now sitting in the Senate. Mr. Dana noted the State Senator was Bill Coley for those who wished to contact him.

Mr. Hand advised the Environmental Commission Chair, Mr. Wright Gwyn wrote the letter and was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Mr. Ellerbe noted he was in favor of the proposed Resolution and inquired why the Ohio House and Ohio Senate opposed renewable and energy efficiency standards. Mr. Hand suggested the interests of coal fired electric utilities were strong in the state.

Mr. Hand advised within this week First Energy asked for additional tax relief to sustain its nuclear power plants and also attempted to get relief for its 'stranded capital' in inefficient coal fired power plants and they had a strong influence. Mr. Hand noted he felt to some extent it was a partisan issue. Mr. Ellerbe noted he felt someone was benefitting from this and its not going to be overtly known. Mr. Ellerbe advised he felt First Energy had a huge part in the production of the legislation in this Bill and these tactics upset him. Mr. Ellerbe noted he felt a singular business entity was going to cause some severe statewide environmental impacts.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted at the last meeting she was asked by citizens to join the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy which was a global coalition committed to reducing local greenhouse gas emissions.

Mayor Rousmaniere thanked Mr. Hand for addressing the proposed Resolution.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 5058. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
IMPROVEMENTS TO
CURBS, GUTTERS AND SIDEWALKS

A Resolution No. 5059 declaring that it is necessary to improve those portions of certain properties as shown in Exhibits "A" and "B" attached hereto in the City of Oxford, Ohio, by repaving, re-curbng, and repairing the sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised Council recently awarded a contract to Barrett Paving for street resurfacing and in advance of doing that work it was important that the curb, gutter and sidewalk associated with the project get repaired. Mr. Dreisbach noted the Service Department sent notices to all the affected property owners noted on Exhibits A and B several weeks ago. Mr. Dreisbach advised the total cost of the street and sidewalk improvements is over one million dollars and \$690,000 would come from local funds. Mr. Dreisbach noted if a property owner chose not to make the required repairs they could have the work done by assessment and pay for the repairs over 5 years through their property taxes at 5% interest. Mr. Dreisbach referred to page 30 of Council's packet and advised based on the date of the original notice to property owners Sections VI and VII of the proposed Resolution needed to be amended from 30 days to 45 days for property owners to have the work completed themselves.

Mr. McKeehan moved to amend Sections VI and VII from 30 days to 45 days. Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Dreisbach advised this was the first of 4 pieces of legislation required to complete this process. Mr. Dreisbach noted the second piece of legislation would involve a contract for construction once it was known which property owners would have the work completed themselves and which ones would need the City to hire a contractor for them. Mr. Dreisbach advised there would be another Resolution identifying the costs associated with each parcel and then an Ordinance to levy the assessment to the property taxes.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted this project was done each year.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No.5059. Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
PARTIAL EASEMENT VACATION

An Ordinance No. 3401 Approving The Partial Vacation Of A Waterline Easement Located Within Lot 3832, Of Bishop Square Phase II As Described In Exhibit "A" Attached Hereto And Incorporated Herein For The Purpose Of Relocating Said Waterline Outside Of Its Recorded Easement. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised he had no new information to relay since the first reading of the proposed Ordinance and it went hand in hand with the next proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if there were any comments from the public or from Council and there were none.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3401. Mr. Dana seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Dana, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
ACCEPTING EASEMENT

An Ordinance No. 3402 Accepting A Waterline Easement From EVR Investments, LLC Over The Property Of Grantor As Described In Exhibit "A" Attached Hereto And Incorporated Herein For The Purpose Of Relocating A City Owner Waterline Outside Of Its Recorded Easement. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

There were no comments from Mr. Dreisbach, Council or the public.

Mr. Smith moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3402. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. McKeegan, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Dana
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised he, Mr. McHugh and City staff had been meeting to discuss plans for the road outlined in the development agreement of 2006 between 4-Leaf and the City of Oxford and noted he had shared information with City Council in his Friday Reports. Mr. Elliott advised under the terms of the agreement 4-Leaf may elect to construct the road and if constructed dedicate it as a public road. Mr. Elliott noted the City had the responsibility to finance the road through a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program and execute a Payment In Lieu Of Taxes agreement with the developer. Mr. Elliott advised legislation would be introduced at the next meeting asking Council to adopt 5 Ordinances to establish the necessary TIF Districts for the Trinitas project. Mr. Elliott noted one Ordinance would be for a commercial TIF and the other 4 would be residential incentive districts. Mr. Elliott advised notification of the proposed districts was sent to the Talawanda School District and the Butler Technology Center which was a statutory requirement. Mr. Elliott noted these would be 10 year 75% TIF's and which did not require the approval of the school district or the joint vocational district.

Mr. Elliott referred to the recommendations for Charter changes which Council approved in December and advised they were delivered to the Board of Elections and would appear on the next general election ballot in November. Mr. Elliott noted he planned to speak in front of various service organizations regarding the proposed recommendations before the election.

Chief Jones thanked Council for the opportunity to recognize the 3 Police Officers this evening.

Chief Jones reminded everyone the Fresh Air Fair was taking place April 29 at the Talawanda High School and OPD along with MUPD would be there to handle medication disposal from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast was being held the same morning at the High School.

Mr. Ellerbe echoed the congratulations to the officers for helping save an individuals life and noted all law enforcement agencies in the Oxford area did a great job.

Mr. Dana noted Earth Day was Saturday, April 22 and it had special significance this year as friends and family of Orle Loucks will honor him for his very consequential work for the environment. Mr. Dana noted Mr. Loucks was a world renowned environmentalist who taught biology at Miami University.

Mr. Dana advised there would be a service honoring him at the Hopedale Unitarian Church at 12:30 p.m. followed by the dedication of a trail and a reception at the Community Arts Center from 3-5.

Ms. Southard referred to the upcoming project of Collins Run Road being realigned with Main Street and noted there was some question about renaming it S. Main Street. Ms. Southard advised the Oxford Township Trustees were not in favor of renaming Collins Run Road although she felt Council should move forward in making it a single name to simplify the designation.

Mayor Rousmaniere asked what the process was to rename a road.

Mr. Elliott advised if the majority of Council favored the road name change staff would bring forward legislation to begin the process by Ordinance. Mr. Dana inquired if the Oxford Township Trustees would be informed of the proposed legislation and Mr. Elliott advised yes.

Mr. Ellerbe inquired if the name Collins Run Road had historical significance. Mr. Dreisbach noted the creek behind the City Garage was named Collins Run. Mr. Dreisbach advised Collins Run Road was not a dedicated street, it was a City owned parcel.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted Collins Run Road was the street off of which the proposed Amtrak Station would be built and she felt the name change was appropriate.

The consensus of Council was to have the legislation brought forward to change the name of Collins Run Road to South Main Street.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Earth Day event was Saturday in the Uptown Park and there was also a March for Science from 11:30 to 1:00 sponsored by Miami University starting at the Armstrong Student Center and ending at the Slant Walk.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised Congressman Warren Davidson would be in Oxford tomorrow and was scheduled to speak at 2:45 p.m. in the LCNB Community Room. Mayor Rousmaniere noted it was an open meeting for anyone to attend and ask questions.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised on the next agenda she would like a Resolution for a request from the Coalition for a Healthy Community for \$500 to bring in a consultant to help with some of their work. Mayor Rousmaniere noted she distributed a newsletter this evening from the Coalition for a Healthy Community which was a communitywide group supported by the school district, the City, the university and the hospital. Mayor Rousmaniere advised the Coalition formed three work groups focusing on obesity, alcohol and other drugs and mental health. Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Coalition planned to bring in a community health consultant named Mark Fenton to help develop action plans to further physical activities, improve walkability, public transportation, bicycle routes and other non-motorized transportation. Mayor Rousmaniere advised Mr. Fenton was coming to Oxford the week of September 25th to work with members of the Planning Commission, City and university service staff, participants in Safe Routes to School, Oxford Area Trails, university engineering staff, the Chamber of Commerce, City Council, the Butler County Engineer's Office, Metro Parks and local Township Trustees.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Coalition would receive \$500 from Miami University, \$500 from the Talawanda School District, \$1000 from McCullough Hyde Memorial Hospital, \$500 from the Miami University Greek Community Fund, and \$1000 from the Interact Thriving Community grant to pay for Mr. Fenton's services.

ADJOURN

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.