A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kate Rousmaniere on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Those members present were Steve Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, Chantel Raghu, Mike Smith and Edna Southard.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. John Jones, Police Chief; Mr. Sam Perry, Planner; Mr. Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Ms. Candi Fyffe, Human Resources Director; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of discussing personnel. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Dana
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rousmaniere requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
"NALC FOOD DRIVE DAY"

Mayor Rousmaniere read the Proclamation and presented it to Mr. Bob Ratterman.

Mr. Bob Ratterman, Director, Oxford Community Choice Pantry, expressed his appreciation to Council, the letter carriers and the community, for supporting the National Association of Letter Carrier's Food Drive Day.

Mr. Ratterman noted when the school year ends later this month the Summer Harvest program begins and the pantry provides extra food for households with school aged children. Mr. Ratterman advised a lot of the food collected during this food drive goes into those bags. Mr. Ratterman reiterated that he greatly appreciated the support of the community and of Council.

Mayor Rousmaniere reminded everyone that the food drive was Saturday, May 12th and to place non-perishable food items by their mailboxes and the letter carriers would collect the donated food for families in need.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Carol Michael, a founder and President of ShareFest, 409 E. Chestnut Street, noted she was glad to be able to speak to Council and staff this evening. Ms. Michael advised last year, the 13th year, was the best year ever for ShareFest, collecting 87 tons of furniture, clothes and household goods and 300,400 pounds of food for 5 charities. Ms. Michael noted the volunteers cleaned the City fast, helped a lot of people and saved a lot of landfill space. Ms. Michael advised ShareFest had a 300% increase in requests for off-campus pick-ups this year compared to last year which she felt speaks highly of their marketing efforts. Ms. Michael advised the bad news was that ShareFest was still in need of a very good dispatcher for the success of ShareFest as the role was absolutely critical. Ms. Michael noted a good dispatcher must be extremely comfortable and skilled at using the latest technology. Ms. Michael advised a good dispatcher must be able to keep track of 5 charity groups simultaneously and another work group not only sending them out but sometimes re-routing them to other sites. Ms. Michael noted a good dispatcher must know the crews well and judge which crews are most appropriate for which pick-ups very quickly and handle paperwork as well as the computer and phones. Ms. Michael advised the dispatcher must know the City and the university geography well and understand the site and the overall operation of ShareFest very well. Ms. Michael noted it takes a lot of special skills to play the most important role at the site. Ms. Michael reiterated that a very good dispatcher was still needed for ShareFest to be a success this year. Ms. Michael thanked everyone for their support of ShareFest.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired what the schedule was for the dispatcher. Ms. Michael advised May 16th to May 22nd from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Southard asked how people can volunteer to work the event and Ms. Michael advised those interested should visit www.sharefest.org to sign up and noted many volunteers were needed.

Mr. Dana inquired if Andrew Wilson should be the person to train a dispatcher and Ms. Michael advised if a change was necessary, Andrew Wilson should be the one to do the training.

Ms. Jessica Greene, Enjoy Oxford, announced the summer concert series will begin June 7 and there would be a concert every Thursday through September 27. Ms. Greene distributed the concert schedules to everyone and noted her hope to see them in the Uptown Park on Thursdays this summer at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Greene encouraged everyone to vote next Tuesday, May 8th noting Enjoy Oxford had been working very diligently on promoting the Oxford Area Trail Levy and she would appreciate everyone's support.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the April 17, 2018 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the April 10, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Planner)

Report regarding the April 19, 2018 Recreation Board Meeting. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
ROAD SAFETY PROJECT

A Resolution No. 6081 of Council authorizing the City Manager to sign all documents associated with an application for road safety funding on behalf of Miami University, in the amount of $1,362,571.52 with a matching fund commitment of $212,901.80 to be paid by Miami University, to the Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Systems Planning and Program Management for a project to improve safety along East High Street between South Campus Avenue and Patterson Avenue in the City of Oxford. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised his request this evening was two fold, the first one being to obtain Council's approval to apply for a grant on behalf of Miami University, and the second was to discuss the gateway opportunities to define the entrance into Miami University. Mr. Dreisbach noted Miami University had an extraordinarily thorough pedestrian traffic safety study throughout the entire campus done and one of the results of that was identifying ways to improve pedestrian safety crossing High Street and Patterson Avenue. Mr. Dreisbach advised joining the conversation this evening from Miami University were John Seibert, Architect and Director of Planning Architecture and Engineering and Cody Powell, Vice President of Facilities. Mr. Dreisbach noted Mr. Seibert and Mr. Powell would make a presentation to bring Council up to speed on what was being proposed. Mr. Dreisbach advised the High Street safety improvements would consist of consolidating crosswalks and eliminating a few mid block crosswalks as well as making them highly visible with signage and electronics and having a refuge area in the middle of the island. Mr. Dreisbach noted the second portion of the presentation would focus on gateway opportunities and advised this topic was discussed briefly during the CIP hearings last year. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City budgeted $25,000 to partner with Miami University so the landscape improvements in the right-of-way will be coordinated with what the university is proposing. Mr. Dreisbach advised he would turn the presentation over to Mr. Seibert and Mr. Powell who had some very nice drawings to share.

Mayor Rousmaniere referred to the proposed Resolution and inquired if only a City could apply for such a grant from ODOT and Mr. Dreisbach advised yes, only a municipality could obtain such a grant from ODOT. Mr. Dreisbach noted the university would pay for the local match and if the grant was awarded a supplemental budget would be needed at some point to expense the funds and the university would reimburse the City the same amount.

Mr. Powell and Mr. Seibert took some time to go through their slides, provided Council the history, and set the stage for the two projects that were mentioned. Mr. Powell and Mr. Seibert noted they enjoyed the benefit of having a great working relationship with the City. Mr. Seibert and Mr. Powell answered questions and heard concerns from City staff and Council members.

Mr. Ken Bogard, 716 Melinda Drive, inquired whether lighting on US 27 South would be improved or if that was part of a future project which Mr. Seibert addressed.

Mayor Rousmaniere reminded everyone that the gateway project would occur prior to the safety improvement project on E. High Street which was what Council was voting on this evening.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 6081. Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT WITH
LAYNE CHRISTENSEN COMPANY

A Resolution No. 6082 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Layne Christensen Company for the rehabilitation of Production Well #1 at a cost of $151,444.00 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the agreement price or $15,144.00 for a total cost not to exceed $166,588.00. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised this was a project to rehabilitate Production Well #1 which is located off of Bonham Road noting it was a radial collector well and critical to the system. Mr. Dreisbach advised Production Well #1 supplies the greatest amount of raw water to the system. Mr. Dreisbach noted the project consists of the abandonment of three obsolete laterals and the rehabilitation of six laterals. Mr. Dreisbach advised the project also requires video inspection of the laterals and central caisson. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City has worked with Layne Christensen in the past, their work was outstanding, and he looks forward to working with them again.

Ms. Southard inquired what the project would look like to the public. Mr. Dreisbach advised the pubic would not see anything as all the work takes place below ground.

Mr. Prytherch noted his hope the City thought about the well field as related to land use changes around it. Mr. Dreisbach advised there was a defined well head protection area that would limit development and the City would control what could be developed in that area.

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

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 6082. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT WITH
WILCON CORPORATION

A Resolution No. 6083 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Wilcon Corporation subject to approval by the Law Director for the construction of a new aquatic center in the City of Oxford at a cost of $4,174,573.00 plus a contingency amount of fifteen percent (15%) of the agreement price for a total cost not to exceed $4,801,000.00. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Mr. Wooddell advised over the past few months the City has gone through a RFQ and a RFP process and received three proposals for the design build project of the new aquatic center. Mr. Wooddell noted after going through presentations with the design build teams and evaluating the most advantageous proposal to the City it is the recommendation of the City Manager, Service Director and himself that the City enter into an agreement with Wilcon Corporation and the design build team that they have proposed.

Mr. Wooddell showed slides of the proposed new aquatic center and discussed the proposed amenities and offered to answer any questions. Mr. Wooddell advised the Chair of the Recreation Board, Ken Bogard was in attendance and noted Ms. Southard also serves on the board.

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

Ms. Raghu inquired if the slides Mr. Wooddell shared depicted the final design. Mr. Wooddell advised he shared with Council a site plan proposal from Wilcon Corporation and once an agreement was entered into with Wilcon Corporation they would provide a final design after addressing any requests from the City before moving forward with construction.

Mr. Dana advised Wilcon did wonderful work noting he looked on line to see what they have done and it was clearly first class.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired about the timeline. Mr. Wooddell advised pre-construction would occur the first half of this summer, breaking ground by August and being open and ready for the 2019 pool season.

Mr. Dana inquire if there Would be connection to the Oats trail and Mr. Wooddell advised yes.

Ms. Raghu inquired on behalf of the Environmental Commission if environmentally friendly aspects were being considered. Mr. Wooddell advised the Environmental Commission requested that the use of solar panels on the roof of the structure be considered and all 3 of the design build teams recommended that solar panels were cost prohibitive for a facility that is only in use 15 weeks per year. Ms. Raghu advised some solar energy companies will work with cities to put solar panels on their buildings at no cost to install. Mr. Wooddell noted that was something to look at through during the pre-construction design with Wilcon.

Mr. Prytherch noted he was happy to see the building oriented to shelter the pool from the wind as that was one of his concerns with locating the pool at the park site. Mr. Prytherch advised the park was windy all the time. Mr. Prytherch advised the Oats Trail is not necessarily an answer to access to the pool for a number of years.

Ms. Southard advised the aquatic center has been contemplated for a very long time. Ms. Southard noted the orientation will also take care of the sun because an east-west orientation would cause the sun to be in the eyes of swimmers morning and night.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted she was glad Mr. Bogard was in the audience as he has worked on this project for 20 years or more.

Mr. Prytherch advised the pool at the TRI would be de-commissioned and noted his hope Council can find the resources to start doing some park master planning regarding the future use of the TRI. Mr. Wooddell advised the City technically owns the piece of land where the current pool sits noting it was leased from the TRI in the 1970's and as soon as the pool is no longer in that location the land reverts back to the TRI. Mr. Wooddell noted the TRI Foundation owns all of the rest of the property there including the building, the basketball courts and the baseball field.

Ms. Southard advised there would be opportunities for people to donate to various aspects of the pool. Mr. Wooddell advised the intention was to sign an agreement with the Oxford Community Foundation as a pass through to accept donations toward the facility and use them appropriately.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 6083. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance Of Not To Exceed $4,825,000 Of Bond Anticipation Notes In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Bonds For The Purpose Of Constructing And Equipping An Aquatic Center, Together With All Necessary Appurtenances, And Declaring An Emergency. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised the proposed Ordinance is the means to finance the aquatic center. Mr. Elliott noted the City of Oxford will issue general obligation bond anticipation notes that will have a maturity date of one year. Mr. Elliott advised at that time the City will issue general obligation bonds for 20 years. Mr. Elliott noted the proposed Ordinance was for short term financing as the construction of the aquatic center is being done and then the City will issue long term financing. Mr. Elliott advised at the next meeting staff will ask Council to adopt the Ordinance as an emergency to enable the bond anticipation notes to be priced and purchased by RBC Capital Markets by May 30th with a closing date of June 12, 2018 to have the money available to sign the contract with Wilcon Corporation.

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

Mr. Elliott, Mr. McHugh and Mr. Newlin addressed several questions from Council regarding the bonds.

ORDINANCE
CONDITIONAL USE

An Ordinance Approving A Conditional Use Permit To Allow An Automotive Service And Sales Facility Which Shall Be Built On A Vacant Lot In The LI (Light Industrial) District At 6705 Ringwood Road Oxford, Ohio 45056 With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Planner)

Mr. Perry advised the City received a proposal from a local investor to build a new building on a vacant lot on Ringwood Road in the Light Industrial (LI) District. Mr. Perry noted there was no provision in the Oxford Zoning Code for an automotive service facility to be located in the LI District. Mr. Perry advised the LI District could allow this as a Conditional Use. Mr. Perry noted the Planning Commission went through the review process had no issues with the proposed facility. Mr. Perry advised the Planning Commission recommended approval with three code waivers. Mr. Perry showed a slide of the proposed layout from architect Scott Webb who was unable to be in attendance this evening. Mr. Perry noted the facility was not intended to be a used car lot or new car lot but a high end repair facility for the local Oxford market. Mr. Perry discussed the three zoning code waivers recommended by the Planning Commission as presented on pages 47 and 48 of Council's packet.

Mr. Kyger advised he met with the applicant several months ago to find a location for the proposed facility and noted given the available space in the community he felt this was a good location. Mr. Kyger advised this type of use is not a permitted use anywhere in the Oxford Zoning Code so a Conditional Use Permit granted by City Council is required. Mr. Kyger advised he would like to see this project go forward noting the applicant is using local attorneys and other professionals and trying to do it the right way.

After comments from Council, Mr. Perry and Mr. Kyger addressed several questions from Council regarding the proposed facility.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SALARY ORDINANCE

An Ordinance No. 3468 Repealing Ordinance No. 3453 Adopted November 21, 2017 And Adopting A New Ordinance Establishing Salaries And Certain Benefits For Salaried And Hourly Full-Time And Part-Time Employees Within The Service Of The City Of Oxford, Ohio, Paid From January 1, 2018 Through December 31, 2018. (Candi Fyffe, Human Resources Director)

Ms. Fyffe advised there were no changes from the first reading of the proposed Ordinance.

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

Ms. Raghu referred to the median part-time salary of approximately $14.00 per hour and noted in her calculation 50% of the part-time employees made less than that. Ms. Raghu referred to pages 77-78 of Council's packet and stated that would be 62 people that look like they were part-time with a wage of $8.50 per hour which was essentially half of the employees listed on the proposed Ordinance. Ms. Raghu noted if we extrapolate median from the $14.00 there are 31 people making less than that. Ms. Raghu stated in part she looked into what other City's say about wages for students or unskilled workers and some people say youth that are getting paid minimum wage if you raise minimum wage maybe the youth aren't able to get into the job force and some people do a staggered youth minimum wage and she felt that was something to consider in the future or now. Ms. Raghu referred to statements made during the first reading of the proposed Ordinance and noted to say that just because someone is young that they are on their parent's health insurance and that was not entirely true because not every parent has health insurance to provide for themselves or their children and that is also saying they are probably from an upper middle class household so who cares if we pay them peanuts because maybe some of them are helping their families or paying for college. Ms. Raghu stated she did not feel them being young discredits the fact that they should be paid a better wage and if a college student accepted a seasonal part-time job it's because they need the money. Ms. Raghu referred to the unskilled workers wage and noted she felt it was obvious you just can't live on that especially without benefits. Ms. Raghu advised she knew the reason this was brought forward was for a very specific reason with the police force but she did not feel she could vote in favor or it.

Mayor Rousmaniere asked Ms. Raghu to point to the area of her greatest concern. Ms. Raghu advised she and a problem with the minimum wage because if the median salary for part-time or seasonal workers is approximately $14.00 then she felt by throwing that number out there it implies that there is no harm in increasing the minimum wage. Mr. Ellerbe inquired if Ms. Raghu had a number in mind and Ms. Raghu stated no, but she felt $8.50 is not an appropriate number. Ms. Raghu stated extrapolating from nearby cities that do have a living wage the City of Cincinnati is $11.00 something as a minimum wage for workers who are contracted or subcontracted by the City and that is if they are provided health insurance and other benefits and if they don't receive health benefits it was $13.00 an hour. Ms. Raghu noted that was extrapolating from Cincinnati and she felt it might be appropriate in Oxford given our high housing.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired what the process was by which this pay rate could be changed. Mr. Elliott advised the final decision rests with Council and noted staff brings forth the legislation and Council adopts it as written or they can change it. Mr. Elliott advised many of the employees making $8.50 work at the park for 3 months and typically if they come back the following year they are paid more money. Mr. Elliott noted these are employees working in the concession stand and they might go for a while without a customer but someone has to be on duty. Mr. Elliott advised if the bottom part of the scale was changed it affects the people making more money per hour. Mr. Elliott noted Oxford's Police Officers and Firefighters do not make what Cincinnati's Police Officers and Firefighters make. Mr. Elliott advised he felt strongly about trying to pay people a good wage and on a national scale he felt the minimum wage needed to be addressed.

Ms. Raghu noted there were approximately 100 cities across the country that do a living wage and the City of Oxford was a large employer. Ms. Raghu advised and she felt the City of Oxford had an ethical obligation towards the people that are hired regardless of how fortunate they may or may not be or how many skills they have.

Mayor Rousmaniere asked Ms. Raghu to bring forward a proposal for the next budget meeting.

Mr. Prytherch noted he felt this was much like the affordable housing issue in regard to the state of our current economy and what do we mean by affordable. Mr. Prytherch stated just as Council was trying to think through what affordable housing should look like, Council should take a look at our local wages in a methodical way.

Ms. Fyffe advised the City of Oxford was not a large employer and the City of Oxford can not be compared to Miami University which is a large employer. Ms. Fyffe noted the City must stay within the constraints of the budget and if the minimums are raised the maximums will also be raised. Ms. Fyffe referred to the employees making $8.50 per hour and noted Councilors could come to see her or go out to the park or visit with the people that actually have those positions and see what they are actually doing and what their job duties are. Ms. Fyffe advised compensation studies show that a wage is based on what education is required for the job, what experience is required for the job, what the actual job duties are and what the budget of the organization is. Ms. Fyffe noted if someone is selling popsicles or candy bars and they are 16 years old the City is not going to pay them $15 an hour. Ms. Fyffe advised if we have a fulltime custodian opening we have to be feasible for that person as we want to let them have a successful career with the City and we would not start them at $8.50 per hour. Ms. Fyffe encouraged Councilors to look at the job, look at what is required to do the job, talk to people in the field and study certain areas as Oxford can not be compared to Cincinnati or to a large employer.

Mr. Ellerbe advised Council had been focusing on the floor of various salary bands which are a band and the maximums on those are in the $12 and $13 range which is very close to what Ms. Raghu considers a living wage. Mr. Ellerbe noted the City's salary structure as designed does account for some of the concerns raised by Ms. Raghu. Mr. Ellerbe advised during the budget planning Council can address some of those issues by possibly increasing the ceilings of those bands to accommodate for some of the concerns raised this evening. Mr. Ellerbe noted he did not feel this was the right time to discuss it.

Ms. Raghu agreed it was an awkward time to discuss it and noted she personally could not vote in favor of the proposed Ordinance. Mayor Rousmaniere asked Ms. Raghu to have a proposal for the budget Work Session. Ms. Raghu noted she felt the City paid the full-time workers well and she felt that should be extended to the part-time people that do not have benefits. Ms. Raghu agreed with Ms. Fyffe's comments about the concession stand worker and noted looking at a youth minimum wage made sense because you don't want to prevent them from entering the job force like other studies have shown.

Mr. Prytherch noted Councilor's can make inquiry and visit and get an understanding of what these different wage bands are and advised he felt it would behoove Councilors to know who the various employees are and what work they are doing. Mr. Prytherch noted Councilors could do that in advance so there is research of other places and then the local conditions and then see what if anything needs to be changed.

Ms. Southard advised she felt what Council has observed both at various City events and around town is that the City has a very good record of retention and of rehiring seasonal employees and noted people come back and there must be a reason. Ms. Southard advised she felt that is to be observed and celebrated.

Mr. Dana agreed with Mr. Prytherch with regard to Councilors going to visit various employees at their jobs and understand it from the ground up. Mr. Dana noted that was one component and he felt there should be a compensation study.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3468. Mr. Dana seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Dana, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mayor Rousmaniere (6)

NAY: Ms. Raghu (1)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
NEW CHAPTER 146

An Ordinance No. 3469 Establishing The Public Arts Commission Of Oxford (PACO) and Establishing Chapter 146 Of The Oxford Codified Ordinances. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott noted he had noting to add since the first reading of the proposed Ordinance and noted Council will need to appoint members to this Commission once the Ordinance is adopted. Mr. Elliott advised Council will make appointments in June for all of the various Boards and Commission vacancics.

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

Mr. Prytherch advised this was something people have been talking about for a very long time and it is always a pleasure to be part of something that moves from talk into reality.

Ms. Southard advised there had been a group of citizens working hard on this initiative and acknowledged Joe Prescher, Bob Benson, Steve Sullivan, Jessica Greene, Caroline Croswell and Mayor Rousmaniere.

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

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3469. Mr. Dana seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Dana, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
EXTENDING UTILITIES

An Ordinance Granting The Request Of Mr. Joshua L. Lester To Connect To And/Or Extend The City's Sanitary Sewer Utility To Serve A Single-Family Residence Located At 4171 Miami Western Drive Outside The Oxford Corporate Limits With Conditions. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the applicant has withdrawn this request and asked Council to permanently withdraw this item from consideration.

Mr. Ellerbe moved to withdraw the Ordinance Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised the petitioner decided on another course of action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Perry advised the HAPC was moving forward with looking at additional interesting properties to add to the Historic Inventory. Mr. Perry noted there would be two vacancies on the HAPC this summer and advised he was looking for citizens to recruit.

Ms. Raghu encouraged everyone to vote next Tuesday.

Mr. Dana advised if anyone wanted to partner with him when he canvasses for Issue 2 he was open to suggestions noting he thought Councilors needed to put everything they had behind it. Mr. Dana advised he felt building a path around the City was the most valuable thing that could ever happen in Oxford.

Mr. Smith advised May was Historic Preservation Month and the Historic Tours would be kicked off this Saturday on Collins Street. Mr. Smith noted he was hosting the tour this Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Collins and Elm. Mr. Smith noted Councilor Southard will host the last tour at the end of the month. Mr. Smith noted he hoped to see everyone there.

Ms. Southard advised the tours would take place May 5, May 12, May 19 and May 26 at 10:30 a.m. Ms. Southard noted the tours were all done by volunteers who want to draw attention to the historic houses and the historic character of the City. Ms. Southard advised one tour would be in Springwood on the 19th and the others would be in the Mile Square.

Ms. Southard advised the Farmers Market begins this Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Ms. Southard noted Issue 1 on the May 8th ballot was against gerrymandering and is endorsed by Republicans and Democrats and it was a very important Issue in Ohio. Ms. Southard advised it was a bipartisan public process for drawing congressional districts and noted her hope everyone would vote in favor of it.

Mr. Prytherch referred to the Duke Energy project in the Contreras Road corridor and commended the City noting he felt the road closure was a smart idea and commended the contractor for enabling access even in crazy conditions. Mr. Prytherch noted the residents have not had much diminishment of access as a result of the way the project has been managed. Mr. Prytherch advised he heard concerns from a citizen that it was tough when sidewalks in a corridor are blocked off for months at a time. Mr. Prytherch noted he knew the contractor was trying to do their best and he wanted to relay a concern that there were some safety issues being a route to school that was hard to navigate.

Mr. Prytherch extended Council's condolences to the City Manager for his recent loss.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised ShareFest will be May 16-22 and encouraged people to go to the ShareFest Oxford website to sign up to volunteer. Mayor Rousmaniere reiterated from earlier comments that ShareFest was in need of a Dispatcher, someone who was energetic, good with technology and wants to do some great volunteering for a great organization.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised there were vacancies on every Board and Commission effective June 30th noting these were great opportunities for people who are interested in helping and working with the City.

ADJOURN

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.