



OXFORD CITY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

[Link for website video here](#)

Full Transcript available upon request.

Roll Call [TIME 00:00:24](#)

William Snavelly Mayor	Chantel Raghu Vice Mayor
Jason Bracken	Amber Franklin
Alex French	Glenn Ellerbe
David Prytherch	

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor William Snavelly on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Amber Franklin, Glenn Ellerbe, Alex French, Jason Bracken, David Prytherch, and Chantel Raghu.

Staff Members in Attendance

Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Ms. Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Sam Perry, Community Development Director; Mr. Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Ben Mazer, Law Director; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; and Ms. Heather Barbour, Clerk of Council.

Pledge of Allegiance [TIME 00:00:38](#)

Approval of the Agenda [TIME 00:01:00](#)

Motion – To Adopt

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. Franklin

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Public Participation [TIME 00:01:18](#)

A. Proclamation – “Oxford Lions Club Day” **Page 5 of the Agenda Packet**

Phillip Abshire, Milford Township resident- Incoming President of the Oxford Lions Club accepted the Proclamation.

B. Notice to Legislative Authority- Transfer of permits D1, D2, D3, and D3A to Fridge & Pantry INC 45 East High Street Oxford, Ohio 45056 **Page 6 of the Agenda Packet**

C. Notice to Legislative Authority- New D3A permit for Wills Uptown Pizza & Carryout LLC DBA Wills Pizza 10 North Beech Street Oxford, Ohio 45056 **Page 8 of the Agenda Packet**

Mr. Prytherch moved to receive both Notices of Legislative Authority without Comment. Ms. French Seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

D. Public Comments

The purpose of the Public Comments Section is for members of the Public to speak to the City Council on any subject not scheduled on the Agenda, except Consent Agenda items. City Council values your comments, and Council rules limit public comments to five minutes for each person. Presentations are not to be in the form of public debate, personal attacks on Council, City staff or other members of the public and Council shall not act except to direct the City Manager to take action or schedule the matter for discussion at a later date.

Resident Name address Resident Comment / Request

Liz Craybill 307 W Chestnut St. Ms. Craybill spoke in favor of the DORA extension.

Peggy Branstrator Meadow Circle Ms. Branstrator spoke about rooftop solar and reminded the Council of the Silverton Solar Project. Ms. Branstrator a member of the Audubon Miami Valley Board regarding Pollinator Gardens and the interest in creating more gardens soon.

Dan Heitger *Hickory Wood CT* Mr. Heitger spoke in regards to economic development, and how to attract more businesses to Oxford.

Randi Thomas *239 Northridge Drive* Mr. Thomas mentioned the College@Elm project and how that will help bring economic growth. Mr. Thomas thanked the City Council for their work, making Oxford a great place.

Steve Large *186 Hill Top Road* Mr. Large reminded the Council of Health, Wellness, and Safety when thinking about the DORA expansion.

Consent Agenda [TIME 00:20:48](#)

All matters under the Consent Agenda are considered by the City Council to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. Any City Council member may, however, remove an item from consent by request. Items removed for separate discussion will be considered after the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

- A. Minutes of the May 3, 2022 City Council Meeting (Heather Barbour, Clerk of Council)
Page 10 of the Agenda Packet
- B. Report regarding the May 4, 2022 Environmental Commission Meeting (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director) **Page 42 of the Agenda Packet**
- C. Approving use of Uptown Park for “Red Brick Friday” events (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager) **Page 46 of the Agenda Packet**

Motion – To Adopt

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolutions

Resolution No. 7403 [TIME 00:21:14](#)

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1. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to Nature Works for ADA Inclusive Playground Equipment. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7403

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7404 [TIME 00:23:36](#)

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2. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 3 year agreement with G&J Pepsi Company for the supply of beverages for the Oxford Parks and Recreation Department. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7404

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. Franklin

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7405 [TIME 00:25:08](#)

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3. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments requesting funding from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program for the Amtrak project. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Comments from the Public – Randi Thomas 239 North Ridge Drive – Mr. Thomas spoke in support of applying for the OKI Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, and the Amtrak project.

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7405

(Voice Vote) 1st Mr. Prytherch 2nd Ms. Raghu

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7406 [TIME 00:33:38](#)

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4. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign an Option to Exchange Real Estate Agreement between the Board of Education of the Talawanda Local School District and the City of Oxford. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Comments from the Public – Randi Thomas 239 North Ridge Drive – Mr. Thomas spoke in regards to Miami's part in the proposed exchange of property.

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7406

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7407 [TIME 00:40:57](#)

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5. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 3-year agreement with NextStep Networking for IT support services and backup disaster recovery services for the City of Oxford at a cost not to exceed \$73,200. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7407

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7408 [TIME 00:42:31](#)

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6. A Resolution Approving the reopening of the designated outdoor refreshment area (DORA) in the City of Oxford on May 22, 2022. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7408

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. Franklin

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Resolution No. 7409 [TIME 01:00:34](#)

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7. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a \$225,000. Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Public Safety, to engage in and coordinate as Lead Agency for the countywide OVI Taskforce. (John Jones, Police Chief)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 7409

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Mr. Ellerbe

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

Ordinances

Ordinances are adopted using a two-step procedure. First reading introduces the Ordinance and provides an opportunity for public input on the subject as well as allowing Council to request more information as needed. Second reading is to provide Council with the opportunity to consider new information and to deliberate.

First Reading [TIME 01:02:26](#)

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1. An Ordinance authorizing the Tax Budget for the year 2023 and directing that the same be transmitted to the Butler County Auditor. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Comments from the Public – None

Second Reading

Ordinance No. 3677 [TIME 01:10:32](#)

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1. An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3654 Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 4 to make Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 3677

(Roll Call Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. Franklin

AYE #7

Ms. French, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Ms., Franklin, and Mayor Snively

NAY #0

Names Here

ABS #0

Names Here

Ordinance No. 3678 [TIME 01:13:45](#)

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2. An Ordinance by Oxford City Council repealing the current section 1519.04 “Possession, Sale or Discharge Prohibited; Exceptions” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Oxford, Ohio and enacting a new Section 1519.04 “Possession, Sale or Discharge Prohibited; Exceptions” for the purpose of addressing the provisions of H.B. 172 Concerning the right of Municipalities to retain the regulations and prohibitions on the discharge, ignition and exploding of fireworks that existed prior to the enactment of H.B. 172. (Chris Conard, Law Director)

Comments from the Public – None

Motion – To Adopt Resolution No. 3678

(Roll Call Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Ms. Franklin, Ms. French, and Mayor Snavelly

NAY #0

Names Here

ABS #0

Names Here

Announcements & Communications

Remarks from City Council and City Staff [TIME 01:16:00](#)

The comments expressed by individual members of Council or City staff during this portion of a City Council meeting do not necessarily reflect the views of the City of Oxford, The Oxford City Council, or the City staff.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn Meeting at 9:11 p.m. [TIME 01:42:31](#)

(Voice Vote) 1st Ms. Raghu 2nd Ms. French

AYE #7

NAY #0

ABS #0

0:00:23.3 Clerk: Ms. Franklin

0:00:23.3 Ms. Franklin: Here

0:00:23.3 Clerk: Ms. French

0:00:24.0 Ms. French: Here.

0:00:24.0 Clerk: Mr. Prytherch

0:00:24.0 Mr. Prytherch: Here

0:00:26.0 Clerk: Ms. Raghu.

0:00:26.1 Ms. Raghu: Here

0:00:27.3 Clerk: Mr. Bracken

0:00:27.4 Mr. Bracken: Here.

0:00:28.3 Clerk: Mr. Ellerbe.

0:00:29.4 Mr. Glenn Ellerbe: Here.

0:00:30.0 Clerk: Mayor Snavelly.

0:00:30.5 Mayor Snavelly: Here. We're all here, I would invite those who wish to join us for Pledge of Allegiance.

0:00:38.1 Group: We Pledge our Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

0:00:56.8 Mayor Snavelly: I now, would entertain a motion to approve the agenda.

0:01:01.2 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:01:01.4 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved.

0:01:03.2 Ms. Franklin: Second.

0:01:03.4 Mayor Snavelly: And Seconded. Are there any additions or corrections? Seeing none. All those in favor say Aye. Opposed. Thank you. We'll now move to public participations, and it is my pleasure to start off with the proclamation, whereas the civic organization currently known as Lions International was organized in the early 20th century. And whereas Lion's international is based on the principles of courage, strength, fidelity, and civic activity. With over 1.4 million members world-wide in nearly 47,000 local clubs, and whereas the mission of Lions International is health and wellness, strengthening the community, engaging in humanitarian service, and encouraging

peace, and International understanding. And whereas the Oxford 'Lions Club was chartered by Lions ' International on May 19th, 1947. And held its first meeting in Oxford on June 2nd, 1947, and whereas the Oxford Lions Club for 75 years and has been a leader in local fundraising and collaborating with other civic groups for community service programs including its Annual Halloween Parade, Christmas Tree sales, and local golf events.

0:02:29.2 Mayor Snavelly: And whereas the Oxford Lions Club has been active in the Lions International Sight Savers Campaign. Including Eye glass collections and financial support of eye examinations and eye glass prescriptions in the Talawanda school district and Lane Libraries large print book program. And whereas the Oxford Lions Club has supported programs for local youths including Miami Little League, Oxford Parks and Recreation, Learn to swim programs, Talawanda High School Academic Scholarships, and Literacy programs. Now therefore, I William B. Snavelly, Mayor of the city of Oxford, Ohio. Do hereby proclaim, Thursday, May 19th, 2022 as Oxford Lions Club day in the city of Oxford, in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Oxford Lions Club and an appreciation for the contributions of the Oxford Lions Club to the community. I would love to have someone from Lions Club present this. Congratulations!

0:03:58.2 Phillip Abshire: Thank you very much.

0:04:01.8 Mayor Snavelly: Would you like to say anything?

0:04:02.4 Mayor Snavelly: Yes, Phil you want to?

[laughter]

0:04:02.8 Mayor Snavelly: You don't have to but if you want to.

0:04:03.4 Phillip Abshire: Do I have to come over?

0:04:03.5 Mayor Snavelly: Yeah, you have.

0:04:03.5 Phillip Abshire: Alright, I'll... All I'm gonna say is he wouldn't say anything.

0:04:05.8 Mayor Snavelly: State your name for the record.

0:04:07.2 Phillip Abshire: My name is Phillip Abshire, I'm a resident of Milford Township. And as you can tell I'm the incoming President that was the outgoing President who will stick me with the gavel tomorrow. I wanted to point out that there are a lot of Lions here today and we very humbly yet proudly appreciate this. We just hope that we can continue another 75 years of service to our community. Thank you very much.

0:04:32.8 Mayor Snavelly: You do a great job!

[applause]

0:04:45.7 Mayor Snavelly: Alright, next we have two notices to legislative authority. The first is a transfer of permits to Fridge and Pantry. The second is a new permit for Will's Uptown Pizza and Carryout. As we did last time.

0:04:45.8 Mr. Prytherch: I moved and we receive both notices of authority without comment.

0:05:05.7 Ms. French: Second.

0:05:07.5 Mayor Snavelly: Without objection, all those in favor say aye.

0:05:10.3 Group: Aye.

0:05:12.2 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? Okay, thank you. Now we will move to public comments and at this time anyone who wishes to address Council about items that are not on the agenda or on the consent agenda. Please come forward at this time and state your name and address for the record. We are glad to have you and we'll give you five minutes to say whatever you wanna say.

0:05:33.3 Ms. Crayball: Hi, My name is Liz Crayball. I have to say my address?

0:05:37.0 Mayor Snavelly: At least your street, yeah.

0:05:39.7 Ms. Crayball: I live at 307 West Chestnut Street in Oxford. I'm here because I am in favor of reopening the DORA with no end day. As a townie who is 10 years out from college, I don't spend a lot of time in the bars. But when DORA began at the start of COVID I realized how much I enjoyed simple sitting outside in the park with a beer. I'm nervous, I don't know why.

0:06:06.5 Mayor Snavelly: You shouldn't be 'cause were real friendly.

0:06:11.3 Ms. Crayball: If DORA was available year-round I think I'd spend a lot more time enjoying our uptown square. Whether that be with friends and their young children or after a walk in uptown with my dog. There's also a lot of times throughout the Miami calendar year when the weather is nice, and I'd appreciate the fun social opportunities that DORA provides. I personally I'm not concerned with the students behavior in regards to DORA. I wouldn't automatically assume that public intoxication would increase dramatically for students with DORA. I believe this is mostly an issue late at night when the bars close or at off-campus house parties where alcohol is readily available for free. I believe that the nature and cost of DORA would naturally lead to different behaviors from the students.

0:06:55.9 Ms. Crayball: Finally, I think it will be good for the economy in our town. Many of my friends would like to see it opened up year round. And if it were, we would spend more time uptown. Obviously, spending money on food, incense, stuff like that. I'd be way more likely to go to the music festival in the summer, if I could have a beer. In fact, I often go to Hamilton for their Thursday, summer music festival for that reason. And they have DORA and I know it's affected their economy positively. If Oxford wants to continue to be a progressive, forward thinking, successful town, we need to be open to new ideas. And I think that year round DORA is a good idea. Thank you.

0:07:35.6 Mayor Snavelly: Super. You may have been a little nervous, but you did an excellent job.

[chuckle]

0:07:39.3 Ms. Crayball: I wrote it down.

0:07:39.9 Mayor Snavelly: Very good.

[laughter]

0:07:41.8 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you very much. Would anyone else like to address Council tonight? Welcome.

0:07:51.4 Ms. Branstrator: Good evening. I'm Peggy Branstrator and I live on Meadow Circle, and it probably won't surprise you that I have come to encourage you to look again at rooftop solar in Oxford. I want to remind you that the village of Silverton with 5000 residents, they're much smaller than Oxford, has set aside \$30,000 in their general budget. They don't have any American... Whatever that name of the extra money from the... But they don't have any federal bucks, so they put it in their general budget. They think it's that important. And they're giving 15, \$1000 rebates to anybody who does rooftop solar and they're giving away 3, \$5000 with an income stipulation on it for a low or moderate income. And I think we could do something probably a little more extensive than that, given our resources. This tax credit, the federal tax credit is in the process of disappearing. It might come back if we could ever get Build Back Better done, but that doesn't look very hopeful at the moment. Electricity rates are increasing. There was recent publications in newspapers and various things about electric rates going up. The time to do this is now, it's not later, later will be too late. So it's something that needs to... I think some urgency and some immediacy. I also have a few comments about pollinator gardens, but I think that's on the consent agenda and I'll wait for that later.

0:09:29.1 Mayor Snavelly: If it's on the consent agenda and you wanna talk about it, now's the time.

0:09:32.7 Ms. Branstrator: Oh, now's the time, okay. A different hat. I now come as board member of Audubon Miami Valley, who passed a resolution last night encouraging me to come address this. I don't know if you know this, but three years ago, Audubon Miami Valley got a federal or got a grant from the national organizations to put a pollinator garden in Oxford. And I wasn't involved at that time. Linda Williams did this and she went all around trying to figure out where, who wants one, and I know she talked to them at the Community Park. I don't know who she talked to, but they did not think they had a suitable place at the moment. So the pollinator garden was put in at the Oxford Art building, and we've been maintaining it ever since then. They've also now entered into an agreement with Hueston Woods to put in a garden in the bird viewing area at the new nature center. They actually appropriated a \$1000 for plants last night in their budget.

0:10:35.7 Ms. Branstrator: They're interested in the discussion that happened with the students from... Dr. Prytherch's students, about a pollinator garden at the Community Park. I've looked at the site. It's perfect. I think we could do something yet this spring, if we get action on it. And Audubon Miami Valley would be interested in working with the city, try to work out some shared responsibility, might be some possibility of budgeting for plants. Frankly, I personally know how to get a bunch of free plants that would be appropriate for that. This is the time that a lot of my gardening friends and I are subdividing things, and I actually have about three dozen extra plants sitting in my side yard. So I'm encouraging you that we could do something soon, if you want to.

0:11:28.5 Mayor Snavelly: Super, thank you very much for your comments. And there are at least

three members of Council sitting up here who have taken advantage of that Silverton program that you mentioned. And my electric bill last month was \$12. Welcome.

0:11:52.4 Mr. Heitger: And welcome. Good evening. Thanks for the chance to offer a few comments. My name is Dan Heitger. I live in Hickory Wood Court. And I've lived in Oxford for about 20 years now. I really enjoy living here. Hope to live here a lot longer. I just had some friendly comments about economic development. As I understand the three pillars of our strategic outlook have to do with the environment, housing, and economic development. I understand those three. I think they work well together. While I really like Oxford, I think it could be better. I think probably many of us feel we could be better. I think we deserve to be better and I think we could be better. I think economic development, the way we think about that and move forward with that could play a big role in how we become better. As I go around and look at other cities, Hamilton, or Columbus, Indiana, or many others, they seem to be very successful at doing some things I would like to emulate or share in that success. So I don't have any answer. These are just some things to think about as we move forward. So it seems to me that we have some fantastic business owners and businesses in Oxford. I would just like to have more of them and think about what we might be able to do to influence who opens businesses and the types of businesses that are opened here.

0:13:03.4 Mr. Heitger: We have many very similar businesses, and then there are types of businesses that we don't have any of here. I think it will be very helpful if we could do that. So can we think about a way to attract the types of businesses that we will like to have here? That's really the goal. I think here are just a couple of things I might offer up as I have talked to others and communities where they seem to have been quite successful. Partnering with non-profits or someone to acquire commercial property seems to be a big, big deal. I think rents are very expensive for some of our business owners. I think it's prohibitively high for things maybe we'd like to be here, but aren't, and so finding a way to...

0:13:43.7 Mr. Heitger: Purchase block by block, if necessary building by building, if necessary to try and control those rents. And again, provide an incentive and an atmosphere to attract the types of business we want. I think acquiring commercial property might be an important piece of that puzzle. However, we might do it. I think assisting with commercial build-outs is something that other communities do. And there've been some businesses some of which you've worked very hard to try and bring here were very close. I think that was a big stumbling block, whether it be HVAC or the roof or other things. So assisting with those build-outs I think would be helpful. And thirdly, and this is a little more out there, but having some kind of a, a non-profit partnership with a group of people to help lead recruitment and support of businesses that start here. And I guess what I'm thinking about there is we've had, I think a lot of people who've lived in Oxford, especially as students and loved it here, loved their time but for now they've gone out into the world and done some very impressive things. They've started businesses, run businesses.

0:14:40.9 Mr. Heitger: They've really experienced a lot, and they're very good at understanding complex problems and solving complex problems. They have access to ideas and capital in ways I don't think I understand, or, or maybe many of us do. So there might be opportunities to partner with people who have done that access to capital and ideas that would, I think very much enjoy playing a role in helping us understand and solve some of the problems we have or becoming better as I said. So anyway, just some thoughts, for us to consider, appreciate your time and we'll go have a great night.

0:15:13.7 Mr. Prytherch: Thank you. We don't have a vacancy on the CIC coming up. Do we?

0:15:18.3 Mayor Snavelly: I bet we might. You'd be good for that.

0:15:23.1 Mr. Prytherch: Yes.

0:15:24.3 Mayor Snavelly: Anyone else wish to address council? Randi Welcome.

0:15:32.5 Mr. Thomas: Mr. Mayor, members of council, Randi Thomas 239 Northridge drive. And after the last dignified citizen of Oxford just spoke, I feel compelled to say, there's this project called College@Elm that pretty much what he covered is what we're hoping to do. And of course, obviously the city's a partner with the university on that and we're still out seeking funding to finish out the construction and also for the operations of it. It will in fact bring together, those minds that he talked about. Not only that are locally here, but... And forgive me, I cannot remember the name, perhaps Jessica can, the of the organization, national organization retirees but they've agreed to be...

0:16:19.3 Mayor Snavelly: AARP?

0:16:19.9 Mr. Elliott: Is it Score?

0:16:20.8 Mr. Thomas: Score? Thank you Doug. Yes Doug gets a Score, Score which is executives that are retired Cincinnati has a chapter and they've already agreed to be a part of College@Elm. So his suggestion actually will take place. It'll go beyond, Oxford and things like that. And the, and the whole purpose there of course is if we can capture one of the three, at least three of the student startup groups and get them to stay in town over time, we can just build, an economy that is beyond simply those that service the University and the student population, nothing against that I love that. Thank you for doing that.

0:16:58.9 Mr. Thomas: My mom is here. That actually is not why I stepped up though Mr. Mayor, my mom is 89 years old she had an opportunity to meet your wife the other day at the, at the voting booth.

0:17:06.8 Mr. Thomas: She's relocated to Toledo and she absolutely loves Oxford Ohio. And she says she wishes she would've done this earlier. So I'm here on her behalf, thanking you all for the great work that you do to make Oxford the place that it is. I know you have tough decisions that come up. You'll have tough decisions coming in the future. And there are a great number of us in the community who perhaps don't always come up and tell you, thank you. But we just went on behalf of my mom and the rest of them. Just thank you for taking the time to be here. I know you all have other jobs and to put in the time to make this place, the place that it is. And as Mr. Heitger said to even make it better. So that, that's my sentiment. Thank you for your service.

0:17:51.3 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you very much, Randi. We're not used to receiving positive. We don't know how to react to that.

[laughter]

0:18:04.9 Mayor Snavelly: So thank you. Welcome, sir.

0:18:05.1 Mr. Large: Hi, thank you. Hi friends. My name is Steve Large. I live at 186 Hilltop road. Let me start by saying I adore Oxford. Every single thing about this town is special. I cannot share enough with my friends about how unique this town is in our community is I was just actually in Chicago this past weekend. I escaped commencement and to see a friend and just raved again about our special community. Some of you may remember the last time I was at this podium and it was discussing Miami's approach to COVID. And if you remember, it was a bit of a bumpy ride that felt, or that exchange felt a touch tense at times. And there was some controversial decisions or disagreements that were shared but what was beautiful about that moment is that there was this shared valuing of health and wellness and safety. So for those that were there, I'm just trying to reorient you back to that situation, health, wellness, and safety.

0:19:11.3 Mr. Large: I decided to come up to the podium today to talk about the expansion of DORA and how that aligns or doesn't align with those values of health, wellness, and safety. I'm not opposed to a limitless 12 month DORA not opposed to alcohol use. What I am opposed to is the extent of the expansion of DORA and I know that's not necessarily what you're all are here to discuss. It sounds like the ultimate discussion is around whether there's an end point of DORA or not, but as I read the ordinance and as I understand it, it looks as if it's going to be an 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, seven day a week operation. And to me, I question or wonder what value does that show our community there. That if we're essentially saying 12 hours a day, seven days a week, if you'd like to have an alcoholic beverage go for it, to me that doesn't necessarily align with health, wellness or safety. And so I wanted to bring up that discrepancy and encourage you to think more about that. Thank you.

0:20:15.7 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you for coming. Appreciate it. Anyone else? I think we've gotten most of all the people who are here, so that's good. We're, we're very thankful for each and every one of you for coming forward and it's not... It looks kind of scary to come up and talk before council. When I was not on council, it was a little nervous for me too. So I get that. I think you'll find councils pretty friendly. We'll move into the consent agenda and I would entertain a motion to approve it.

0:20:48.9 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:20:50.8 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved.

0:20:51.4 Ms. French: Second.

0:20:51.9 Mayor Snavelly: And seconded by Councilor French, all in, would anyone like an item removed? Hearing none all those in favor of approving the consent agenda...

*** MP3 sound failure at this point in the transcript. Start Summary*****

0:20:51.5 Group: Aye

Mayor Snavelly: Motion passes. Let's move on to Resolutions.

Clerk: A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to Nature Works for ADA Inclusive Playground Equipment.

Ms. Raghu: So moved.

Ms. French: Second.

Mr. Wooddell: Mentioned the similar Resolution for a Procter & Gamble Grant application several weeks ago. We were not awarded the grant, so we are moving on and applying to Nature Works due June 1st. Since then we have been working with a local citizen has a 10 year old daughter who is in a wheelchair. The citizen has started a petition in support of this project. I believe she has 500 signatures already. As of this evening I received an email of someone who found out about this and is offering financial support in addition to what we're looking to do here. We'll keep working to get the funds to make at least one of our playgrounds ADA accessible and inclusive.

Mayor Snavelly: Would anyone from the public like to address this resolution? Seeing none. Councilors?

Mr. Prytherch: Fingers crossed on the grant.

Ms. Franklin: I think whenever there's a need that arises organically where someone from the Community says hey I like this and we respond. I think again it shows why Oxford is the wonderful Community that it is so thank you.

Mayor Snavelly: All those in favor of the resolution?

Group: Aye

Mayor Snavelly: All those opposed? Resolution is adopted, let's get that grant. You may read the second.

Clerk: A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 3 year agreement with G&J Pepsi Company for the supply of beverages for the Oxford Parks and Recreation Department.

Mayor Snavelly: Is there a motion to adopt?

Ms. Raghu: So moved.

Ms. Franklin: Second.

Mr. Wooddell: This is essentially a renewal contract. The contract is renewing an additional 3 years from where we are. We've been very pleased with not just the products but the service, the equipment that they provide, all the maintenance they provide all free of charge. They also provide a lot of rebates based on how many cases of product we buy. It's been a great relationship, especially since the new pool opened. They were very eager to jump on board when we opened the aquatic center.

Mayor Snavelly: Would anyone from the public like to address this Resolution? Seeing none, Council? All those in favor?

Group: Aye

Mayor Snively: All opposed? The Resolution is adopted. Move to number 3.

Clerk: A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments requesting funding from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program for the Amtrak project.

Mayor Snively is there a motion to adopt?

Mr. Prytherch: So moved.

Ms. Raghu: Second.

Ms. Greene: So this grant would be for the first grant that we apply for the actual construction of the platform for the Amtrak stop along the Cardinal line. The location of the platform is proposed to be at 909 South Main St. We would construct a small parking area, the actual platform, and then build out a waiting room in partnership with the Butler County Regional Transit Authority. The grant could go toward all of those expenses. The Grants can go up to 8 million they do require a 20% match and they're due June 3rd. If awarded we would anticipate the funds being released in fiscal year 2026 that gives us a few years to get ready. We're still waiting on final numbers from the AECOMM which is our company who's helping with the estimate, but our initial estimates are around 2.1 million. That does not include the build out of the waiting room we're still waiting from Amtrak on the specification of that build out. Because of this we're asking permission to apply for up to 2.5 million using the remaining \$150,000.00 that we have allocated toward this project as the match the remainder of the match we would ask from Miami University and their \$350,000.00 for a total of \$500,000.00 that we can put toward the match. I think it would be worthwhile to submit. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Snively: Is there anyone from the public who'd like to address this Resolution?

Mr. Thomas: I have my Miami University hat on now, not my resident hat on. We are extremely supportive that this is as Jessica said and you all know we've got the agreement to put in the \$350,000.00 to begin with. We want to see this project through we've done some advocacy work as you know. We have communicated with the Governor's office, the Ohio Department of Transportation, and the rail commission. Through the University, City Council, Chamber of Commerce and the CIC, was that all of us? We did receive responses back from a lot of those entities. Thanking us for the quality of our presentation and things so it's tied together a bit. Because if that goes through and the Governor and the State get on that list that could mean dollars for the Cardinal potentially other things as well. So this is huge what we will hopefully will do here.

Mayor Snively: Not seeing any other comments from the public. Council?

Ms. Franklin: I have a question from the Public Arts Commission. Would there be an opportunity to include public art in the waiting room or the building? Is that something the City would have access to?

Ms. Greene: We haven't currently build public art into the budget, but there will definitely be spaces if you want to think of them as blank walls that could be used for a public art location. The

funding for the public art would need to be found somewhere.

Mr Prytherch: So just a question, is this a reimbursement grant?

Ms. Greene: It is.

Mr. Prytherch: Then the question is I'm trying to understand when's the earliest we might likely have a platform? Because we would have to budget for and pay for this ahead of time so if everything were to line up what's the earliest we could have a platform?

Ms. Greene: I'm going off past allocations from OKI and that year 2026 would come out so if we stayed on their schedule if we got the grant and stayed on their schedule we anticipate that we would do a few years of formal engineering and design and then construction in 2026. That's an okay thing because it gives us time to exchange real estate that we're going to talk about next.

Mr. Prytherch: wants to express thanks because we've been talking about this for a little while, but what's really exciting is that there's a lot of pieces to this puzzle we've got more resolutions coming up. It's been quite complex but we're on the verge of all the pieces coming together if they all come together right it's going to be really big for Oxford. So the idea that we're moving forward this is me getting super excited in May of 2022. Which is the forward motion with grants, securing a site and advocacy. Thank you Randi and everyone.

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0:21:03.4 Mr. Prytherch: Having a high level of train service and, you know, forgive me for thinking that's really big [chuckle] in a town like ours. So yes, thank you, I'm gonna keep my fingers crossed because OKI our success rate with OKI has been really knock on wood. We've been doing it, whoever's been doing it has been doing a really good job.

0:21:23.2 Mayor Snavelly: Great writers.

0:21:24.0 Mr. Prytherch: Good with the trail, I mean I think it's the quality grants and it's the ideas that we put forward have been viewed favorably. So thank you in advance we'll keep our fingers crossed and it's an exciting time.

0:21:37.5 Mayor Snavelly: I want to thank Jessica for following those points.

0:21:44.1 Ms. Greene: I do wanna let you know that this is gonna be more competitive because the points are just, it's a rubric, right? And you can follow the rubric and I'm gonna tell you some of the points scoring is going to be a little lower. It just is because of the nature of the project. So what we can hope for is that they have more money to give away and then they'll accept more projects. But our other projects, I was able to be like...

[vocalization]

0:22:06.1 Ms. Greene: I was able to chase it a little better so I am gonna be really honest with you that we're gonna be scoring more in that midrange based on their rubric this time but I still think we should try.

0:22:13.5 Mr. Prytherch: If we increase our local match is it a worthwhile investment for the...

0:22:17.1 Ms. Greene: I mean but you have to get up to the almost 40% match level to really get back the points that you would need which gets to be a lot more money and I'm not ready tonight to present what that would be.

0:22:29.4 Mayor Snavelly: I also wanna thank Randi Thomas, Aspire and Miami University for their cooperation and partnership in this. I wanna thank the Talawanda school district for their cooperation and active participation in this we've had a number of meetings and it is exciting to see it move forward and this is a very essential stuff. Anything further? No? All those in favor of this resolution indicate by saying aye.

0:23:01.0 Group: Aye.

0:23:01.0 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? The resolution is adopted and Jessica will stay up for the fourth resolution.

0:23:06.6 Clerk: A resolution authorizing the city manager to sign an option to exchange real estate agreement between the board of education of the Talawanda school, local school district and the city of Oxford.

0:23:19.4 Mayor Snavelly: Okay is there a motion to adopt this resolution?

0:23:23.1 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:23:24.3 Ms. French: Second.

0:23:27.2 Mayor Snavelly: Moved. And it is seconded.

0:23:27.8 Ms. Greene: So part two of Amtrak as you know, well you may know the Amtrak term sheet that we received and the recommendations of AECOM which is our consultant to helping us with the design have both recommended the removal of the Nelson Morrow building to allow for easier access to the rail platform. This is that location of 909 South Main Street, Talawanda school district currently uses that building and houses 17 staff members in there. And they also use it for their professional development area. We offer to try to build in the purchase of that facility in the grant at \$350,000 which is the value, but they informed us that they can't build a facility for 17 people with \$350,000 so they were like, no. And so we kind of went back to the drawing board around the same time the Oxford Seniors organization, just this past year, met with us and shared with us that they're looking at a collaboration with the tri-board to move into a new community style center. With that and knowing that their lease at the current location of 922 Tollgate, their lease expires in 2024.

0:24:42.5 Ms. Greene: So we found that we might have an opportunity for an exchange of property. So we had an appraisal done at the Oxford Seniors building and it was valued at \$590,000 Talawanda schools did tour that facility and felt that it would meet their needs quite adequately. So what we're recommending is if we are able to secure funding for the rail platform and then council allocates those funds that we would enter into an exchange of property with Talawanda school

district, we would in exchange for the Nelson Morrow building give them the Oxford Seniors building. We would act on this when we get the funding for Amtrak and the timing of the Oxford Seniors is important. And so we are really hoping I mean, in the perfect world, we get the money for Amtrak it comes down the 26th and by then they've moved out and they're in their new facility.

0:25:37.5 Ms. Greene: If that doesn't quite work out, we've worked out a, currently a verbal agreement with Miami University that they would provide for temporary space for Talawanda to move into from the Nelson Morrow building while we wait for the Seniors to then finish, you know, in their fundraising and move out of the Seniors building, we don't wanna kick the Seniors out in any way shape or form. We wanna make sure that they have a new lovely home and then we would move Talawanda into that facility. So that's our recommendation it would be a dollar to act on this option and it would only begin if council then has funding for the platform. I'm happy to answer any questions.

0:26:20.9 Mayor Snavelly: Okay is there anyone from the public who...

0:26:23.9 Ms. Greene: I'm sorry I do have one I forgot to mention. There is one correction from the actual agreement that's in your packets that Talawanda did add in and the most substantive change is under the conditions under closing it says that...

0:26:39.0 Mayor Snavelly: Could you give us a page number of your data?

0:26:42.1 Ms. Jessica Greene: Yes hold on. On page 88 under the subheading of closing number 3...

0:27:01.2 Mayor Snavelly: Okay.

0:27:02.3 Ms. Greene: They did add in, that the Oxford property is vacant and available for Talawanda to occupy, unless such condition is waived by Talawanda. So they really wanted to add in kind of like we really would prefer it be vacant, but this option to be waived by Talawanda, so we can find some other home for them. But if we have no other home and it's not vacant, they do reserve the right to say, we can't move out of our facility, so I just wanted to bring that to your attention.

0:27:30.4 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you. All right, is there anyone from the public who would like to address this resolution?

0:27:40.5 Randi Thomas: Mr. Mayor, members of council and staff, again, Randi Thomas with Miami University. As the Assistant City Manager pointed out, Miami is willing to play a role, and work with the city and with the school district, if the domino's don't align that we think we've got places and we can figure something out and work with them and things of that nature. Much like the school district that's based on the assumptions of the size that they've said and what they need and all those things, but based on what we know right now, we feel that we can accommodate that, and we are all in on seeing this Amtrak stop and the station and everything through, so.

0:28:27.6 Mayor Snavelly: Super.

0:28:28.1 Randi Thomas: Thank you.

0:28:28.6 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you for your cooperation and willingness to help this move forward.

0:28:32.6 Randi Thomas: Thank you sir.

0:28:34.3 Mayor Snavelly: All right, if there's no other comments from the public, discussion, Council?

0:28:42.3 Mr. Prytherch: I want to say on the entrepreneurial spirit of all the partners, because it's easy to get to "No" on this one, but to get to "Yes", took a lot of creativity and openness and trust. And so the idea that we live in a community in which we can do those things, and find a mutually beneficial... 'Cause if this all comes together, it's gonna be really good for everybody, but it took a little bit of risk. But again, I know that you met with the school board president and staff meeting with staff, and so thank you to everybody for getting somehow everybody to yes on the conditions.

0:29:27.8 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you.

0:29:29.0 Mr. Ellerbe: This is the epitome of a town and gown project. I mean, we have every aspect of town and gown together on this, and we're all working in harmony. I never thought it would happen. I was one of the no can'ts, and now I'm a yes guy. I was hopeful, but you kinda have to have one foot in reality, but the more that everybody's put in the time and the work, the more I see that we have a light at the end of the tunnel, right, and especially on the federal side. So hopefully, you know, the stars do align and we get to funding that we want, and some people back out of some things and it shows up faster than normal and everything just goes our way.

0:30:08.2 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you, Glen. Anyone else? All those in favor, indicate by saying aye.

0:30:15.7 Group: Aye.

0:30:17.6 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? This resolution is adopted. Amtrak, here we come.

0:30:20.9 Ms. Greene: Thank you.

0:30:21.4 Mayor Snavelly: You may read the next one when you're ready.

0:30:25.6 Clerk: A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 3 year agreement with NextStep Networking for IT support services and backup disaster recovery services for the City of Oxford at a cost not to exceed \$73,200.

0:30:43.7 Mayor Snavelly: Is there a motion to adopt the resolution?

0:30:46.4 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:30:47.2 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved.

0:30:48.4 Ms. French: Second.

0:30:48.6 Mayor Snavelly: And seconded. Thank you, Alex.

0:30:50.8 Ms. Greene: Good evening again. One of my many hats that we get to wear. So this is for our three-year-contract with NextStep Networking. They are our long-term partner for our IT services, and so this would be a monthly amount of \$6100, and an annual amount for \$73,200. It's a little less than prior years, but it does also decrease a little bit of our on-site support, but we've hired a staff person who's on site a bit more, so we feel competent to cover the day-to-day, and they're gonna help when they do an excellent job with our security and our backup center and our networking. And also we have some large upgrades coming down the pipeline for cybersecurity that we're gonna really need their continued support on. So they do a great job and we would recommend approval of this contract.

0:31:40.8 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you. Is there anyone from the public who'd like to address this item before council? Seeing none. Councilors any question or discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor, indicate by saying aye.

0:31:54.9 Group: Aye.

0:31:55.2 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed. Resolution is adopted. Move to number six.

0:32:00.6 Clerk: A resolution approving the reopening of the designated outdoor refreshment area in the City of Oxford on May 22nd, 2022.

0:32:09.9 Mayor Snavelly: Is there a motion to adopt?

0:32:10.9 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:32:12.8 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved. Is there a second?

0:32:13.6 Ms. Franklin: Second.

0:32:14.1 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you very much and Doug.

0:32:17.9 Mr. Elliott: Thank you. This piece of legislation is one we've discussed at several meetings and it was a goal at the Council Retreat. So this legislation proposes to reopen the City's designated outdoor refreshment area or DORA, on Sunday, May 22nd, which of course is one day after the Oxford area Chamber of Commerce Wine and Craft Beer Festival. This legislation does not provide for a closing date, as we've done in the past. As City Manager, I reserve the right to suspend the dates of operation due to disorderly conduct, littering or other public nuisance problems. This does not expand the boundaries, we've talked about that as well. That extension of the boundaries will require the City Manager to submit to City Council a new DORA application, advertise this change in boundaries, hold a public hearing, and then adopt legislation to amend those boundaries, and we would propose to do that later this summer. We'll bring in a new application for that. So basically what we're doing here is reopening our DORA without a closing date. And if you have any questions, I'd be glad to answer them.

0:33:28.1 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you very much. Is there anyone from the public who'd like to address this item? Seeing none. Councilors, any questions or discussion? Alright, all those in

favor...

0:33:43.2 Mayor Snavelly: You gotta say you wanna talk go ahead Dave.

0:33:46.7 Mr. Prytherch: So yeah, I think that I really have appreciated the comments that were shared to us personally, as well as the Op-Ed that was written by a Miami staff, as well as the Miami Student editorial that asked good questions about this, so I'm in support of expanding DORA. I guess I have a hesitation about an open-ended expansion, and so when we were talking about expanding it, I was imagining discrete sorts of events in which it would be expanded, and I understand there's an enforcement challenge of turning it on and off, and so I think leaving it totally off or totally on is much simpler for the police. And so... But I guess I am at least open or is it the idea of exploring on what might be a middle ground one is we just keep it the way it is, and it ends and...

0:34:45.2 Mr. Prytherch: Or B as the ordinance, it's basically open ended 11:00 to 11:00 seven days a week, and we experiment and then we see what happens, and then the middle ground might be that it's opened up during discrete events, like city-wide events, like for example, I and later we're gonna be talking about what I guess was part of the concern agenda about the Red Brick Fridays. I wish we did more events like that throughout the school year, and if the DORA were paired with the events, so anyway that's just a... If it's all on or all off, I'm open to expanding it, but I guess I wish when I initially said I was in support of it I was hoping there was more nuance to what the expansion might look like anyone else.

0:35:31.4 Ms. Raghu: I don't see this as a marriage, there's an obvious way that it can stop... I hear a lot of talk about not wanting to belittle students maybe. And I don't think that this... I don't think this is gonna add to their current drinking problem, so I can see this as a worthwhile experiment, especially if it's something that helps businesses and makes our town more lively...

0:36:02.4 Ms. Franklin: I've been speaking to people in the community, and there's some reluctance, there's some people who don't want us to do it at all, but there are, I think a lot more people who feel like it might not work, but if it doesn't work, then we end it, and I have some questions related to that. One is if, so what would things have to look like... And this is a question for you too, Chief Jones, to end it. What is the level of disorderly conduct or... Litter, I know you had to do an assessment when it was just opened in the summer to make sure you had staff to manage it, but I don't know if that was considered for when the students are here.

0:36:42.6 Mr. Elliott: So let me take a shot at it first I mean basically what I had in mind was if we have drinking-related incidents that increase over what we have now, as we all know, we have off-campus house parties that are problems for us from time to time, and so I can't give you a definite number, but you know... We reserve that right to suspend this if Police Chief comes to me and says, this is a problem, I'll basically send you an email in saying we're suspending it, we'll talk about it at the next council meeting. I will share with the public that I did provide City Council an email that I received from the City of Kent City Manager because I'm good friends with him, and I recognized that they had a year-round DORA... They started at about the same time we did. But they have a year-round DORA... And Dave shared with me that it has not had an impact on drinking-related incidents, either in the summer or the academic year or full year, it's fairly popular with their businesses and their residents as it is here, and it... By having it open all year round as what was already said, there's less confusion about when can I go out with a beer and so on and so forth. So

it's a pilot project, if it's a failure, we'll recognize that quickly and we'll end it, but I don't know if you have anything you wanna add JJ Go ahead yeah.

0:38:19.5 Chief Jones: Sure thank you for the opportunity. So I think... Yeah, what would it be for me to go to the City Manager? I think you would have to have incidents of public intoxication, litter, challenging things that are actually related to the DORA, and I think that everyone is losing sight of that like the DORA is controlled by the bar owner who sells a cup. If it's someone walking with their Natty Light can, or their White Claw can down the sidewalk, they're already in violation. Now, I think DORA, back when you instituted, DORA that led to a little bit of ambiguity and cultural norming of open containers, so it's already done. And I don't foresee students using this too much, honestly, if they do and they have their DORA cups and they're out drinking and they're causing problems, I think that's when we'll come to the City Manager and say, Shut it off, or if just the DORA alone is leading to so much social norming of it, I suppose that would be a reason to come but... We already see open container violations that occur throughout the City, and we address those. So again, it's had literally no impact on our operations since it's been instituted, but I certainly understand the kind of the fear and the unknown that may come with a larger population having access to it, but again I...

0:40:01.9 Chief Jones: I don't think... I think it's our residents who wanna enjoy it, not as much the students. But if we just... Again, is there're violation of Open Container Law without a DORA Cap that's a separate issue. So the trash and the litter will be the biggest challenge with it.

0:40:23.6 Mr. Ellerbe: One question.

0:40:25.6 Mayor Snavelly: Yes.

0:40:27.4 Mr. Ellerbe: Having a cup in the DORA area gives all of your officers probable cause to check an ID, correct?

0:40:37.5 Chief Jones: I don't think so, no.

0:40:39.0 Mr. Ellerbe: As far as age, are you eligible to drink? Are you over 21? Is that something that would allow an officer to approach an individual and just check and ID?

0:40:49.8 Chief Jones: Yeah, I think we could do that, but I still think you have to have reasonable suspicion or probable cause. But if you're carrying a DORA cup throughout town I don't know if I have probable cause [laughter] to identify you.

0:41:04.6 Mr. Ellerbe: I think you know what I mean.

0:41:05.7 Chief Jones: But I know what you mean, yes. If somebody's carrying an open can of Bud Light in a public area, that's instant probable cause to check their ID.

0:41:15.7 Mr. Ellerbe: Well, more of I was entertaining several debates regarding this, and one of them was a person of age contributing to the delinquency of minors through the DORA. And my argument is, if an officer sees someone who is clearly, under the age or under drinking age, they have probable cause to go and say, "Can I see an ID?"

0:41:42.2 Chief Jones: Yes, no, I think if you see someone who looks young, you can approach them if they're holding alcohol, whether it's DORA, whether it's something else.

0:41:49.2 Mr. Ellerbe: Right. And that was the other thing I was saying is that all of the abuse or misbehaving laws already exist and are established. This does not change any of them regarding public intoxication, disorderly conduct, litter, noise all that stuff.

0:42:13.2 Chief Jones: Correct.

0:42:13.6 Mr. Ellerbe: All of that already exists and we have a well-matured response to many of these things due to the iterations that we've had in this town.

0:42:24.1 Chief Jones: Yeah, I agree.

0:42:26.4 Mayor Snavelly: I want to acknowledge, for the record, that we received a number of communications to all of Council on both sides of the issue, and we appreciate the comments that were sent in and taking them into consideration. Thankyou.

0:42:42.3 Mr. Prytherch: Could I just asked a question, and I'm a person who supported the DORA, I'm in support mean of the DORA and I think we've answered the question about the kind of the illegal conduct that we can use and if it gets out of control. The op-ed from Dr. Brownell and more and large touched on more of a cultural issue. I'm just kinda curious for those who seem to the majority of their argument is that those people who are seeking out a different type of experience without alcohol present deserve places Uptown where they can go shop, socialize and enjoy the outdoors. And the adoption expansion of this policy, we removed already limited alcohol-free options for them Uptown. So it's less about disorder than it is about a culture of drinking permeating every outdoor space and whether that's the perfect reason not to do it or not but I'm just kinda curious where those people were open, what would you say to that argument that they made in the Miami?

0:43:40.3 Ms. French: I am happy to touch on that a little bit 'cause I've been thinking about this a lot, and when I was here, I was not a super go to Brick Street every weekend kind of student so I did appreciate those spaces where excessive imbibing was not the order of the area. And I think that to me it's a couple of things. One, it's a pretty limited area of Uptown. Two, if somebody is not selling alcohol, it's not Apple Trees and all of a sudden gonna become a bar. So there are still places for them to go shop. The places that they would already be going to eat are by and large already selling alcohol, even Kofenya. So I don't see the expansion of DORA into the school year as exacerbating that issue. Granted, that is pending our hypothesis that the students, by and large, the reason they wanna be at Brick Street is because they wanna be at Brick Street.

0:44:36.7 Ms. French: It's not to go drink next to a family who is playing in the fountain uptown. So I think that space of Uptown will still be by and large, protected for them. It's a matter of is an adult having a beer on the bench while they eat Mac and Joe's like how impactful is that. And I think further, we already technically have DORA when the students are here. We do have a summer population of students who are here, and a lot of those students are very studious and working on summer scholar projects and not necessarily the most visible drinking type of students. So I think we have shown that we can coexist in a space where it's not exclusionary to have Uptown beverages while the students are here. So that's where my train of thought has been on that question.

0:45:22.4 Ms. Franklin: I'm not a drinker, and so when I think about this, I think about excessive drinking, and part of my background informs this. I know it's a different rules, different countries, but growing up in Canada, where the Ontario the drinking ages was 19, Quebec it's 18. There were student-run campus pubs on campus. What I read in preparing for this is actually some of these campus pubs are starting to turn half of their floor into coffee shops because there's actually not that much of a desire for alcohol. People are really into coffee drinks and things like that. And so for me, I'm not a student anymore, but I would and still do enjoy going out with friends who might enjoy a drink and as long as I'm not around excessive drinking, it's fine. And so I think focusing on excessive drinking in the Uptown area is something to consider. I will say I was out, it was right after the Easter weekend and there was a soccer tournament in town, I think with parents and little kids and I don't know how families will respond depending on the kind of drinking or how much public drinking there is. But again, I think if people were not publicly intoxicated, it might not be a problem, but it's as Chantel said, "It's not a marriage." I mean, if it doesn't work, it doesn't work.

0:46:48.5 Mayor Snavelly: I guess I would also point out that we've had experience with DORA. And I think we should rely on some of that experience to say, Let's take one more step. But I think it's a tentative step in the sense that the City Manager is that mandated, it's turns out to be problematic, then we can put an end to it. This doesn't say that it's endless. It just doesn't state that there's an end date.

0:47:14.1 Mr. Prytherch: I guess I wanted out of respect for the fact that I think this is a well-reasoned argument. I mean, I spend a lot of time in Europe and kids and alcohol and playgrounds you know, like it's okay. Can be okay. Doesn't mean the United States keep things very separate. But I think it's a legitimate argument alone was worth thoughtfully we thought about that. I think that's good. I guess I would just ask that we, that we set a date to revisit it, and we don't just definitely wait for like, Well, is there problem? Let's shut it down. But let's have a conversation after a month of it, and just revisit it. And it could be for the are there reports? How do we feel about a culturally does it change the uptown that we don't like and so it's not necessarily it's gonna be a disaster before pull the plug? Let's, if it's truly a pilot, let's.

0:48:04.7 Mayor Snavelly: I think we need

0:48:05.9 Mr. Prytherch: We could just revisit at a certain point in time and just say, How's it going? And maybe it's good, or...

0:48:11.2 Mr. Elliott: We'll probably, if there are complaints that I receive, or the Police receive, we'll share those with you, if the Chief alerts me that this is not going well, it will stop and will let you know, if you wanna pick a certain date, I would suggest doing it when the students are back because that's.

0:48:33.0 Mayor Snavelly: Good actually, have to.

0:48:34.2 Mr. Prytherch: after a month experience with the students back September 15th, or something, and just.

0:48:40.6 Mayor Snavelly: Well, I just say maybe in the middle of October, because when the weather changes, most people are gonna go inside any...

0:48:48.3 Mr. Elliott: Right.

0:48:48.4 Mayor Snavelly: But I was gonna say any councilor to bring that up, certainly and ask how it's going.

0:48:54.1 Mr. Elliott: Right.

0:48:54.5 Mayor Snavelly: But I think we could have just an agreement, reassess in October, but it doesn't have to be in the resolution.

0:49:02.9 Ms. Raghu: And I'm looking at Randi, just because you're the only Miami person in the room, But.

[laughter]

0:49:08.0 Ms. Raghu: I think that everyone can agree that excessive drinking is a problem. Miami knows it. I mean, that's why they're in opposition. Right. But I think that pointing the finger at DORA probably, isn't it? So I wonder what we could do as far as how can the University and maybe take some of those Police reports and really take it into something tangible as far as how can it affect their diploma, something that they actually care about? I would love to take this like enthusiasm and get store to maybe think about what are other ways we can work together.

0:49:48.7 Mayor Snavelly: Is that it? Alright, this is a resolution, all those in favor indicate by saying aye.

0:49:56.8 Group: Aye.

0:49:57.1 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? Motion is adopted. We'll move to number 7.

0:50:03.8 Clerk: A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a \$225,000 grant agreement with the Ohio Department of Public Safety to engage in and coordinate as Lead Agency for the countywide OVI Task Force.

0:50:20.4 Mayor Snavelly: Is there a motion?

0:50:21.8 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

0:50:22.5 Mr. Ellerbe: Second.

0:50:22.7 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved and seconded Thank you Glenn.

0:50:28.1 Chief Jones: Now we have a program for those who enjoy their DORA and get in a car.

[laughter]

0:50:34.7 Chief Jones: This is our OVI grant, the police department's the lead agency for the Butler County OVI task force. We administer that grant along with finance staff. It's through the

Ohio Department of Public Safety. It's 225,000 distributed to 13 agencies in Butler County. There's a required number of checkpoints they have to do and then OVI saturation patrols. Being the lead agency does benefit Oxford as we get a higher share of that. It helps put officers out on the street in your community.

0:51:10.8 Mayor Snavelly: Okay we've been doing this...

0:51:14.2 Chief Jones: For many years, and we've been the lead agency since, I wanna say 2014, that's it, thank you.

0:51:22.3 Mayor Snavelly: Would anyone from the public like to address this item? Seeing none Councilors? Questions?

0:51:27.8 Mr. Jason Bracken: You have to say that this is a statistic I would watch relative to DORA. If we see numbers go up here then I'd definitely rethink.

0:51:34.3 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you, anything else? All those in favor of the resolution indicate by saying aye.

0:51:46.3 Group: Aye.

0:51:47.6 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? The resolution is adopted, we'll move to ordinances first reading, you may read the first.

0:51:54.1 Clerk: An ordinance authorizing the tax budget for the year 2023. And directing the same be transmitted to the Butler County Auditor.

0:52:04.1 Mayor Snavelly: Okay, welcome, Joe.

0:52:06.4 Mr. Newlin: Thank you. This is the first step in our budgeting process. It's required by the Ohio Revised Code. We have to pass it as the legislative body and return it to the county to their budget commission by July 20. Then the other stuff I'll probably read next time because we actually have public hearings. So keep them amused. But it's not all that pertinent tonight. The way I've attacked this is, this is more of an exercise just to show you have enough money to pay your general obligation debt. And you show how much property tax you receive. And then we show much of that as you go on and all this other detail. And since we're going to be doing that, in the coming months, I don't see why I don't have the hat that I put on this guess stuff. So I leave it up to the departments as we all work on a budget together. This is basically just taking the 2022 budget and applying it to this tax budget just to show that we have the income tax coming in for the two new Councilors. If you look on page 114.

0:53:22.8 Mr. Newlin: You'll see in the Schedule A, it says, "Governmental funds," and we as the budget commission, we get 1.4 million coming to the general fund, special revenue funds, we get about 1,378,128, and that's split between the trail and then the projects that pay for the road improvement up on 27 South, all the different... The five different areas that the taxes actually go towards. 75% of it goes towards the payment of the money that we borrowed to put in the road down on 27 South.

0:54:09.7 Mr. Newlin: Then if you go to page 123; is the other one that really shows what's going on for this whole exercise, you show what's your... The two debts that we have that have to do with property taxes, the one is for the Aquatic Center. Next year, it'll be \$311,050, and then the South Point Tiff Road project of 303,275. So we received plenty of money for both of those, so basically, that's what this stack budget tells you, even though there's a lot of other stuff in here that is just... Like I said, basically, I just go in and use last year's budget. But I will go over and just point out what's different in the general fund, and the other funds, I'll just go briefly because they're basically exactly the same. But this also looks at any of the supplementals we've brought in this year. So when you look at the 22 estimate and the 23 projected budget, federal grants, we received 31,451, and I believe the police department got that for their cameras; the grant that they applied for. So we did a supplemental to show that.

0:55:34.9 Mr. Newlin: Return from advance of the capital improvement fund, we don't know what projects will be outstanding at the end of this year, that'll get reimbursed next year, so I didn't put anything in. Return of advance from Oxford area trails fund. And this is just an accounting thing that I had to do so everything worked out. And actually, that won't be a problem, I don't believe, going forward. And then advance from the Oxford area trails fund, this year, we had advance a bunch of money because we were gonna do two projects at once. So I just put it in at 560 next year to make things balance out. And then return of advance from the High Street pedestrian fund, we had 400,000 this year and 366,350. And again, I just had to put that in there because that'll be closed out by the end of this year also.

0:56:30.0 Mr. Newlin: The next one's in law enforcement on the expenditure side, 6741. That was all that money was encumbered this year, so it was encumbered at the end of last year, so I just put in new budget terms. On public health from welfare, the 24,473 there, and it's actually not recreation program, it's a community assistance, that was the money that we used to buy the software for the short-term rentals. And that'll be in the budget next year, but we'll deal with that come next year. And then all the rest of the... Everything else in the general fund, all the deltas are all money we had encumbered at the end of last year that won't be encumbered at the end of this year that we know of. So those are the only things in the general fund. And then again with the transfers, since that has to be a balanced budget, that service, the aquatic center, went up by 5800, so I just decreased the amount of money that we transferred to capital equipment fund by the same amount so everything balances out. And the advances, I had already talked about on the revenue side. This is just showing the advance going out of the fund.

0:57:49.4 Mr. Newlin: And as far as anything on Exhibit C on page 127, pretty much the only time... The only amounts, excuse me, that, or any changes is any monies that we transferred it out for capital projects. I just put the amount of expenditures equal to the amount of transfers. That's the only difference, is the wastewater and the water capital improvement and capital equipment funds. And again, the South point Tiff District adjusted those transfers to make sure that we were able to support the debt service for next year. So they went up by a little bit, because the debt service goes up. From year to year, sums is a little higher, down to a little lower, but it's within about \$2000 or \$3000 each year. Those were the only changes they made on funding.

0:58:51.4 Mayor Snavelly: Okay. And the details of our budget for next year will be handled later?

0:58:55.4 Mr. Newlin: Correct. And that's why... Like, this is more of a...

0:58:58.0 Mayor Snavelly: Proforma, right?

0:59:00.2 Mr. Newlin: Proforma, right. And I don't put a lot of extra time into it if I don't have to because I got plenty of other stuff to do.

0:59:06.1 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you, Joe. I appreciate it. Council, any questions? Yes.

0:59:11.1 Mr. Bracken: I want to use this as a chance to bring up possibly conforming our municipal boundaries; to pull that millage lost to the township with our services. That's something we've brought up before, but haven't discussed. We're talking about tax budgets. I just thought I'd bring them now so it doesn't get lost.

0:59:30.0 Mayor Snavelly: Yeah.

0:59:30.2 Mr. Bracken: It's about 90,000 revenue that I think we would make better use of, we had in earnings.

0:59:36.8 Mayor Snavelly: Would staff be would be looking at that.

0:59:39.3 Mr. Elliott: We're looking at it now. Look now, now. Yeah.

0:59:42.3 Mayor Snavelly: Appreciate it, anyone else? Okay. That was first reading so we'll hear it again at our next meeting, vote on it at that time. So we'll move to second readings and you may read the first one.

1:00:00.0 Clerk: An ordinance amending ordinance number 3654, supplemental budget ordinance number four to make supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2022.

1:00:11.1 Mayor Snavelly: Okay. Is there a motion to adopt this?

1:00:14.4 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

1:00:15.5 Ms. Franklin: Second.

1:00:16.0 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved and seconded to adopt this ordinance, Joe.

1:00:20.7 Mr. Newlin: Okay, thank you.

1:00:21.0 Mayor Snavelly: Any changes from last time?

1:00:24.9 Mr. Newlin: The first one stayed the same, the 103,000, and then we had three additional items that came up and they all have to do with... The first one is insurance proceeds for fixing the guardrail at Campus and Chestnut. We received \$5673.26 from the insurance company so we're showing that as revenue and then showing the expense \$5673.26 in the same fund. So it has a zero effect on the fund 'cause there's money coming in money going out the same amount. The next one in the wastewater capital equipment fund, Mike's group was able to go out to get Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation, trenched safety grant for \$11,221.60 So we're showing they were successful in receiving that grant and that we got the revenue of \$11,221.60 and then purchasing

that equipment on the expenditure side for \$11,221.60.

1:01:33.7 Mr. Newlin: And again they go out of their way to look for these grants and my hat's off to them because when you bring money in and it covers the expenses that's a great thing for the City. And then the next one, they also went out for a grant and this one for the water fund and this is EOPAs led service line inventory and mapping grant program. They were able to secure \$47,300. So we're showing the revenue coming in from the grant and then the expenditure to actually do the inventory and mapping of the lead service lines in the City. And again, we had money in the budget for lead service lines this year, but that's to help residents who may have to replace their lines. So this is above and beyond, it's gonna give us a good indication of what we actually have in the city so we know because at this point we just test those. I believe when we do any paving or anything on a street. So this will give us a good inventory so we actually know what we have. So again, thanks for getting that grant and makes the city safer.

1:02:42.8 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you. Is there anyone from the public who'd like to address this item? Hearing none. Any questions or discussion from the Council? Call the roll.

1:02:55.2 Clerk: Ms. French?

1:02:56.8 Ms. French: Yes.

1:02:57.5 Clerk: Mr. Prytherch?

1:02:58.8 Mr. Prytherch: Yes.

1:03:00.4 Clerk: Ms. Raghu?

1:03:00.4 Ms. Raghu: Yes.

1:03:00.8 Clerk: Mr. Bracken?

1:03:01.6 Mr. Bracken: Yes.

1:03:02.4 Clerk: Mr. Ellerbe?

1:03:03.3 Mr. Ellerbe: Yes.

1:03:04.1 Clerk: Ms. Franklin?

1:03:05.0 Ms. Franklin: Yes.

1:03:05.3 Clerk: Mayor Snavelly?

1:03:06.5 Mayor Snavelly: Yes. The ordinance is adopted. Thank you very much. Joe, you can read the second when you're ready.

1:03:14.0 Clerk: An ordinance by Oxford city council repealing the current section 15-19-04 possession sale or discharge prohibited exceptions of the codified ordinances of Oxford, the city of

Oxford, Ohio and enacting a new section 15-19-04 possession sale or discharge, prohibited, exceptions for the purposes of addressing the provisions of house bill 172 concerning the right of municipalities to retain the regulations and prohibitions on the discharge, ignition and exploding of fireworks that existed prior to the enactment of house bill 172.

1:03:55.3 Mayor Snavelly: That's a pretty long title, isn't it.

1:03:58.7 Clerk: Just a bit.

[laughter]

1:04:00.8 Mayor Snavelly: Aright. Is there a motion to adopt this?

1:04:02.4 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

1:04:02.9 Mayor Snavelly: Is there a second?

1:04:04.2 Ms. French: Second.

1:04:05.4 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you Alex, it's been moved and seconded and...

1:04:09.2 Mr. Elliott: Yeah, as I stated the last time and the title pretty much covered everything, but house bill 172 allows individuals to possess consumer grade fireworks. It lists a number of holidays but what we're saying is we're reinforcing that even though this bill was passed, you still cannot possess fireworks in the City of Oxford.

1:04:34.2 Mayor Snavelly: Okay. Thank you. Is there anyone from the public who would like to address this? The council? So we're not changing anything. Right?

1:04:44.0 Mr. Elliott: We are adding a section that basically says you can forget this new bill as you still can't possess them in Oxford.

1:04:50.9 Mayor Snavelly: But we're not, someone asked me, I hear we're banning all fireworks and we're still gonna have 4th of July fireworks.

1:05:00.8 Mr. Elliott: No, this is consumer grade fireworks and I don't believe we qualify those for as consumer grade fireworks.

1:05:06.8 Mayor Snavelly: Any further discussion, you may call the roll.

1:05:09.9 Clerk: Mr. Prytherch.

1:05:10.7 Mr. Prytherch: Yes.

1:05:11.7 Clerk: Ms. Raghu.

1:05:12.2 Ms. Raghu: Yes.

1:05:12.4 Clerk: Mr. Bracken.

1:05:13.0 Mr. Bracken: Yes.

1:05:13.1 Clerk: Mr. Ellerbe.

1:05:18.7 Mr. Ellerbe: Yes.

1:05:19.5 Clerk: Ms. Franklin.

1:05:20.3 Ms. Franklin: Yes.

1:05:20.6 Clerk: Ms. French.

1:05:20.7 Ms. French: Yes.

1:05:20.8 Clerk: Mayor Snavely.

1:05:20.9 Mayor Snavely: Yes. The ordinance is adopted. We move to announcements and communications and begin with remarks by Council and staff. I'll begin with City Manager, Doug Elliott.

1:05:31.8 Mr. Elliott: Thank you. A couple things I wanted to share with the council and the public that we had our first labor management committee with the Fire EMS division. This was under our new collective bargaining agreement. We basically discussed the main topic was staffing.

1:05:50.7 Mr. Elliott: I wanna share with you that the Fire and EMS division responded to 846 Fire calls and 2195 EMS calls in 2021. And this was done with a staff of nine full-time fire fighter paramedics, supplemented with part-time staff. So we've seen both Fire and EMS calls have increased over the last 15 years, except for the declines in the years 2019 and 2020 due to COVID. And so in order to add additional full-time staffing, we're gonna need additional revenue, of course. And we talked about three options generally and those three options, one would be an income tax increase, or as the Mayor likes to remind us, an earning tax. The second one is a real property tax and the third one that we discussed was a Miami University student fee.

1:06:44.9 Mr. Elliott: So, as you know the first two options would require voter approval. The third option would, of course require the support of Miami University. If you remember, in 2018, we had a public safety forum hosted on the Miami campus by the Miami students. And a student fee was broached at that time and discussed a little bit. So the students, Miami University students represent the majority of our population, we estimate approximately 65% of our population in 2019. And so they have a big impact on both Fire and EMS calls. And just to give you some example, fire calls from the campus of Miami University represented a five-year average of 23.46 of all fire calls. That doesn't include the off-campus student housing, this was just for Miami University campus. And in the EMS calls from the campus had a five-year average of 18.6%. And once again, both percentages do not include calls to off-campus student housing.

1:08:00.6 Mr. Elliott: In 2011, we looked at the age groups, which includes Miami University students, the age group that includes them was about 48% of our EMS calls. So that's one of the

reasons that we discussed the student fee, but of course once again, that would require the support of Miami University. We talked about possibly a combination because if you think about real property tax, all of Miami University property as well as churches in the city, in the school, they're exempt from real property taxation. So that's an issue there, if you look at an income tax increase and of course, the senior citizens that might be on pensions and investment income, they're exempt from that, they do not pay income tax on that. So we'll be discussing that more and I'm sure we'll be having a work session with Council to discuss that. If we do put something on the ballot, we talked about in the May 2023 primary to put something on the ballot.

1:09:04.6 Mr. Elliott: So our next meeting will be in August, but we'll be continuing that discussion, we did discuss other items at that labor management committee meeting, but that was the one that we spent the most time on. The last thing that I wanna share with you, as you know, the state, Ohio Board of Pharmacy issued provisional dispensary licenses for the second round. And three are located in our district, which is Southwest District 2, with two of the three located in Oxford, the other one is located in Monroe. And I gave you the names of the companies and their addresses. The two addresses are, one is 5280 College Corner Pike, and that was the former Asian food mart. And then the other one is the 3616-3620 South Point Parkway. So that was announced yesterday or today. I will share with you both locations will still need to obtain a building permit for build out and or change of use. So I wanted to share that with you since that was released. I kept getting on their website and getting on their website and they kept saying, "We're making sure the applications are complete" but no announcements were made, but those were made recently and I wanted to share that with you. So that's all I have, unless you have some questions for me. Thank you.

1:10:27.1 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you very much. Mike.

1:10:32.3 Mr. Dreisbach: Good evening. I'd like to take a moment and recognize Dave Treleaven who has coordinated our Rumpke Solid Waste and Recycling contract. So I'd like to thank everyone for their patience as we get the town cleaned up from move out. Generally it takes three or four days, so hopefully by tomorrow night things will be back in order. We had some high profile events with graduation and the Oxford Wine Fest and pardon me for not knowing the correct name, Craft Beer Festival?

1:11:08.2 Mayor Snavelly: Oxford Wine and Craft Beer.

1:11:09.8 Mr. Dreisbach: Thank you. So the town will be tip top shape for that this weekend. And I'd also like to recognize the Des Fleurs Garden Club, they provide the funds for us to do the hanging basket program through the Uptown District. And the hanging baskets are peppered through other facilities as well throughout town, so everybody's working hard to make Oxford a beautiful town. And we appreciate everyone's support.

1:11:37.2 Mayor Snavelly: I've noticed a lot less mounds of garbage this year than last year. It seems like we're doing a better job this year.

1:11:47.7 Mr. Dreisbach: I think there's several factors, one also being, the move out was a little longer duration and some people left right away.

1:11:56.3 Mayor Snavelly: Yeah.

1:11:57.0 Mr. Dreisbach: Some stayed to party for the last weekend and a few stragglers now, so it wasn't all out just in one day, so that was good. Thank you.

1:12:05.8 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you. JJ?

1:12:09.2 Chief Jones: Nothing thank you.

1:12:09.4 Mayor Snavelly: Joe?

1:12:10.1 Mr. Newlin: Nothing thank you.

1:12:11.6 Mayor Snavelly: Chief?

1:12:12.5 Chief Detherage: Nothing sir.

1:12:12.6 Mayor Snavelly: Casey, come on out.

[laughter]

1:12:18.4 Mr. Wooddell: I'd like to get my talking in while I'm here, so... [chuckle]

1:12:22.6 Mr. Wooddell: Hey. Hey. Hey. Just a couple of things. Saturday, May 28th is opening day for the Aquatic Center. This is a good time to mention that we've had some excellent opening day cannon balls in the past from whoever the mayor was so... Offering that service to you, if you're willing.

1:12:41.7 Mayor Snavelly: I will offer that opportunity to any of you.

[laughter]

1:12:45.2 Mr. Prytherch: You're the Mayor Bill.

1:12:48.1 Mayor Snavelly: It will not happen.

1:12:48.2 Mr. Wooddell: It will not happen. Would you be willing to be there for opening day?

1:12:53.0 Mayor Snavelly: I will be there. I will be there.

1:12:53.8 Mr. Wooddell: How about a trip down the slide?

1:12:55.3 Mayor Snavelly: I might do the slide.

1:12:57.0 Mr. Wooddell: Okay. [laughter] Excellent. We'll take that. Secondly...

1:13:00.8 Mayor Snavelly: I'm 70 years old... [laughter] I can't do cannon balls any more

1:13:02.1 Mr. Wooddell: Lifeguards are on duty all the time. [laughter]

1:13:06.6 Mayor Snavelly: Great to hear that.

1:13:09.8 Mr. Wooddell: And then last week at a recreation board meeting and Councilor French asked me about Freedom Festival, and it reminded me that I should inform all of you that on July 2nd, we will have the Freedom fest parade. It will be back this year, it will be Uptown as it was prior to COVID. And all of you are invited and welcome to lead that parade in a Horse drawn carriage. So I will send the details out to you but just so you're aware, that is on Saturday, July 2nd at 6:30 is the parade, and then there's a special music fest right after that at 7 o'clock that enjoy Oxford's putting on. Thank you.

1:13:45.7 Mayor Snavelly: Super. Thank you Casey. Welcome Sam.

1:13:52.5 Mr. Perry: Thank you. Good evening. I also wanted to comment on just how clean the town looks compared to previous years. So adding the containers around the Mile Square, I've appreciated that has helped a lot with code enforcement. We hate to see those things going to the landfill, but it is another way to help with just the overall process. ShareFest Miami University, Goodwill, there's a lot of partners, food pantries help get a lot of those solid waste items to other places. So we're very appreciative of that. Thank you.

1:14:27.6 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you. Jessica.

1:14:33.1 Ms. Jessica Greene: Good evening. I have a few updates. First, last meeting councilor Bracken, you would ask me a question about the climate use with the American rescue plan dollars, and I feel like I didn't give a very good answer to that. So I just wanted to clarify that climate is not directly an allowable use of American rescue plan dollars, which is probably why we don't have a strong recommendation in that category at this point. It would really have to be an infrastructure or directly COVID-related expense.

1:15:05.0 Ms. Greene: And we did just receive a notification of our second allocation and they said... I was kind of pissed it said "We really encourage you to use this on affordable housing and creating new jobs" and I was like, "Oh like, Okay" so the products we have recommended to you were very much in line with that. And on that note, we'll be sending on a formal invitation but I'm hoping that we can could have a work session, on and off Tuesday.

1:15:28.2 Ms. Greene: And I'm proposing, Tuesday May 31st, from 5:00 to 7:00, if possible we can change the time. But the goal is to have almost like a retreat style work session where we get into the nitty-gritty, get up out of our seats, go to boards and like, really kind of hash out some of these final recommendations that we have for you, so that we can bring forward formal recommendations for you to vote on in the near future.

1:15:53.5 Ms. Greene: That's what we would like to do, so I'll be sending in an email out and announce that to the public once we can kinda confirm that that date works for you. I also wanted to just briefly address the letter that we got from the Butler County Development Department, regarding there is a public meeting on Monday, June 13th at 9:30 AM at the County Commissioner's... Headquarters office. I almost got on top of head, sorry.

1:16:24.3 Ms. Greene: And it is addressing the prohibiting of economically significant wind farms,

large wind farms and large solar facilities. And so I went down to the Planning Department and got a copy of the map, which is here, but basically it's everywhere except Lemon Township. And I was frankly shocked, I was like, "Oh, what?" And so, after learning that, I kind of didn't ask, Well, what are the definitions of economically significant, and it's five to 49 Megawatts is an economically significant wind farm, and then anything over 50 Megawatts of wind farms and solar is considered would be prohibited.

1:17:06.9 Ms. Greene: And then the cities are still allowed to do these projects, but the Township areas would not... Kate Rousmaniere asked me to kinda share her thoughts briefly, and then did share that the County Commissioners indicated to the Townships like, "Hey, we're thinking of doing this" and the Townships then passed resolutions either in favor or against this recommendation. And Oxford Township did vote in to agree with the County Commissioners on a prohibition of wind and solar. And she did just explain that the County Commissioners had the final say and that the non-incorporated Township residents in large part are in favor of this prohibition.

1:17:51.4 Ms. Greene: And so she encourages all of you, if you're able to attend this meeting on June 13th and share your thoughts. And she also invites a representative council to start attending Township meetings if you'd like, and we can follow up in an email with their schedule and things like that. I can't answer any questions, I'm the messenger, but I did wanna let you know about the public meeting. And I think that's everything I have for tonight.

1:18:20.4 Mayor Snavelly: Very disappointing. What is the time of that meeting?

1:18:23.4 Ms. Greene: It is 9:30 AM in the County Commissioner's, I can't think the word today I'm...

1:18:30.1 Mayor Snavelly: Is it in the Government's center?

1:18:32.2 Ms. Jessica Greene: Yes. It's in the Government center upstairs, and they have their own...

1:18:35.9 Mayor Snavelly: Chambers.

1:18:37.3 Ms. Greene: Chambers. Thank you. It is 315 High Street Hamilton, Ohio, the Government Services Center.

1:18:45.8 Mr. Elliott: You know, it's a little disappointing that our assistant city manager had to go there to get the map, wasn't available online it's... I don't know that real sunshiny if you will.

1:18:57.9 Mayor Snavelly: Yeah. There's a bit of shade.

1:19:02.4 Mr. Elliott: Yeah. There's an option here because, basically they had a lot of complaints that, counties wanted to have input on it. And so this bill was passed and there's two options. One they could do like Jessica's outlined and had these, designated areas and restricted areas, designated restricted areas. Or they would still could move forward with them, but they have to have a public hearing. Once they pass this restricted area designation, if someone wanted to do a project, they would have to go to the voters and have it approved. So it's made it more complicated. And if you remember in the email that I sent, it basically said that now the cost per megawatt to build a solar

plan is below fossil fuels for the first time.

1:19:57.8 Mayor Snavelly: If that's the attitude that a township, our township trustees want to take, then it lends credence to Jason's comment earlier that it's time for us to separate from them. And I think their decision has made my decision.

1:20:15.8 Mr. Bracken: Can I?

1:20:17.0 Mayor Snavelly: Please.

1:20:17.7 Mr. Bracken: So one that also, this is only for renewable energy. It doesn't preclude fossil fuel setting up any number of...

1:20:24.6 Mayor Snavelly: That's right.

1:20:25.3 Mr. Bracken: Which includes...

1:20:26.1 Mr. Elliott: Yeah. You wanted to build a new fossil fuel plant. You wouldn't have to go through this process. Now you would still have to go to the power siding commission and they just added an extra step for solar, renewable.

1:20:37.7 Mr. Prytherch: Smoke stacks are okay. Solar panels are not so...

1:20:41.3 Ms. Raghu: So much for property right today.

1:20:44.2 Mayor Snavelly: And when I was at the township meeting this year, their annual meeting, all the township trustees said to me that they didn't like the wind turbines, but they were okay with solar. And apparently all that went out the window and they no longer believed that. I just find this very distressing and I would like us to proceed in the quickest possible way to separate ourselves from the township.

1:21:13.1 Mr. Elliott: I'll be providing you some information.

1:21:14.6 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you.

1:21:15.8 Mr. Jason Bracken: I just wanted to address, so going back to ARPA, and not to throw any wrenches in our plans, which are probably looking pretty good. But without climate being the goal, but just renewable energy infrastructure with that goal under the general infrastructure possibilities.

1:21:30.1 Ms. Greene: It really has to have a COVID direct COVID link. And so that's the, that's the hard part that we've been trying to do. Yeah.

1:21:39.3 Mr. Bracken: And so the other infrastructure also has to be directly related to COVID.

1:21:41.9 Ms. Greene: It does. You have to be able to prove that it's like pre-planned and you weren't able to do it because of blah, blah, Yeah.

1:21:47.2 Mr. Bracken: Awesome. Thank you.

1:21:48.4 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you, Jessica. Heather.

1:21:51.2 Clerk: Nothing. Thank you.

1:21:53.4 Mayor Snavelly: Ben.

1:21:54.2 Mr. Mazer: Nothing this evening. Thank you.

1:21:58.3 Mayor Snavelly: Glenn.

1:22:00.7 Mr. Glenn Ellerbe: Nothing, thanks.

1:22:00.8 Mayor Snavelly: Alex.

1:22:00.9 Ms. French: Yeah, just a couple of things. One a huge kudos to not only, keeping the town really nice as move out has happened, but I have to say usually I try to avoid the general uptown area as adamantly as I can, especially now that I don't work uptown during graduation weekends, but I was asked to go to a graduation party right in the heart of uptown, right in the middle of Saturday. And I buckled in for an inexplicably long drive from my house to the party location and, kudos to Chief Jones and his crew. It was dare I say, painless. Pedestrians were under control. Traffic flow was under control. I mean, I'm not gonna make it an annual tradition, but it was great. So thank you for that.

1:22:43.6 Chief Jones: Well, thanks. It was all my crew. I was not working.

[laughter]

1:22:47.7 Mayor Snavelly: But everybody else was. Thank you.

1:22:49.9 Ms. French: Yeah. And also if graduation weekend wasn't enough, Miami also posted the softball Mac tournament this weekend, to add a little bit of chaos on top of chaos. It was literally the tournament was happening as graduation was happening, like a softball's throw from each other. And so congratulations to the RedHawks for winning the Mac this year. This is the second year in a row. They've won the Mac. They're a fantastic group of young women and student athletes. So keep an eye on them during the NCAA championship coming soon. And I am glad that Casey reminded us about the parade because for a little while I thought he was joking. So that's not a joke. [laughter] no, thank you. Thank you.

1:23:34.0 Mayor Snavelly: Thanks.

1:23:34.4 Ms. Raghu: If I could, I just wanted to have a moment of silence for, we have mass shootings all the time. But just to point out the ones that happened in New York and California from hate crimes, racially bias. If we could just think about those people and I think that it can feel so far away because it's not happening here. And I don't even wanna say it could happen here, because I think we all know that it doesn't need to be said, but the work that we do to be inclusive and bring people in and invite as many people to the table as possible does such good work. So anytime we

make social media posts or, promote different businesses that has such a positive effect.

1:24:23.0 Ms. Raghu: So I'd like to thank us for going forward into that effort. And I will always say like just befriend people who don't look like you or think like you, and you have no idea what an impact it could make. And this is API heritage month. I was lucky enough to speak at a beautiful event in Memorial hall this past Saturday. And something that I learned is that API or Asian American Pacific Islander adolescents experience the highest level of racial discrimination from their peers from any other group. So something to think about, I have grown up with this my whole life, and I will always push back when I hear people not being inclusive over, businesses that they find to be different from what they expect. So yeah, check out any type of Asian owned restaurant this month, you might find really awesome dishes and meet some cool people.

1:25:29.2 Ms. Franklin: Couple of comments, you all remember the civil rights mural that used to be uptown. It's very close to being touched up. Joe, pressure's been working on that. And when he says that it's done, I'll communicate with City Staff and we'll get it eventually mounted onto the municipal building. So that would be exciting. I also wanted to talk about the events in New York.

1:25:56.5 Ms. Franklin: Some of you know of the experiences that I've had in Oxford, going for a walk, being called the N-word, Glenn, we've talked about that, I think before... And when these things happen, I do feel fearful. There are times when I don't feel necessarily that safe, and then when I feel afraid, I turn inward and then I have to try to find the line between; Am I just taking care of myself or am I isolating in a way that is unhealthy. But I do find that when I go uptown and hang out in front of Kofenya and see people walking by, I feel better. And I think that, though I am afraid, I think when we entertain the fear too much, it divorces us from our own humanity, and I think that's what happened, that young man just paddled in so much fear of the other, fear of change, fear of anything different in lies that he got divorced from his own humanity, and you cannot de-humanize other people unless you de-humanize yourself first.

1:27:00.5 Ms. Franklin: And so I wanna encourage us to continue to connect with each other, as a way as an antidote to fear, so that we can stay in touch with our own humanity and... There's a program that I'd like to do in the city, it's called Living Room Conversations. And if you go online and look up, Living Room Conversations and you look up the one called, Civic Renewal, it's an intergroup dialogue way that we can communicate with each other. And the good news is when I've been planting seeds in the community about it, there are people who are really desperate to have conversations. They really would like to talk to people who are different. The bad news is, when I asked them, "Can you invite someone who is different on the political spectrum than you?" They don't know that many people, where they don't connect with that many people, we're all sort of... Many of us are in a bubble silos.

1:27:57.4 Ms. Franklin: So if the city would be going to maybe make copies, I would like to hand some out at a city council meeting of the Living Room Conversations dialogue guide, but you can also find it online. I think that's a way for us to connect with each other, in this town, I would love to make Oxford a Living Room Conversations community. And I just wanna end with this quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, "Returning hate for hate, multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." Thank you.

1:28:40.9 Mr. Bracken: And there are so many good topics that we talked about the attack. Roe and

Wade that continues recent mass shootings, but a lot of that has been discussed and some of this is too long to discuss now. I'll just say that COVID is on the rise, I should be wearing my mask today, and I left it at home. But one thing you can do is, there are three test kits available to everyone, you can order them now, they will be shipped to you for free, I highly recommend that, and just keep an eye out because it's getting a little dangerous out there again. That's all.

1:29:11.6 Mayor Snavelly: Thank you, David?

1:29:12.5 Mr. Prytherch: So, yeah, I think we can have a moment of silence for a million people, who are no longer on the planet, and I'm really proud of what we've done, but... When the most careful people you know are getting COVID right now, you know it's all around us. And so I was trying to avoid it... "Okay school is over, I'm gonna start wearing my mask," and they came home with my high schooler and so now half of my family has it, everybody's gonna be fine, but it remains as transmissible and adaptable, and your vaccine is only gonna last you so long, so I think that COVID is going to be something we will be continuing... So it's... Yeah, I was enjoying going mask-free, but I'm also hoping not to be quarantined, it's very disruptive, even if it's just a minor thing, it's a major disruption to your life.

1:30:00.9 Mr. Prytherch: So, I just would also just like to express my profound confusion and disappointment about the township's decision. I can imagine the rationalizations that you could make, but I feel like we have partnered and I thought there was great shared values on these issues. We have appointed township residents to our climate action steering committee provided leadership, and we've not shut our doors to that and we assume that they share our values, and... There is vulnerable if not more so. The rural areas... Farmers are gonna face a very difficult future and meeting the scale, the challenge is going to require scaling up the solution and to shut the door on the only thing that's gonna prevent a catastrophic future that will really affect our rural areas. This is... I don't get it. And I thought I understood the township better than I do, obviously, we are in a great position and we'll keep doing what we're going to do, and I think the conversation has to continue because I think that... Yeah, if I were a farmer, I might like to have the right to develop wind on my property too...

1:31:12.5 Ms. Raghu: And the farmers union is in support of it.

1:31:14.4 Mr. Prytherch: Yeah, so I just...

1:31:22.1 Mayor Snavelly: I wanna just say congratulations to Miami University and their graduates and their faculty [chuckle] we are really happy that they're done as well. I wanna remind everyone again, of the wine and craft beer festival, which will be uptown. I hope that Councilors can be around uptown, if you are able and interested. I hope that you will. I think it's gonna be a nice event and it will bring people into our town and help our local businesses which need every little bit of help that we can get, and with that I would ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

1:32:00.7 Ms. Raghu: So moved.

1:32:00.8 Mayor Snavelly: Is there a second?

1:32:02.2 Ms. French: Second.

1:32:02.2 Mayor Snavelly: It's been moved and seconded by councilor French. All those in favor say, aye.

1:32:09.0 Group: Aye.

1:32:09.6 Mayor Snavelly: Opposed? Thank you. Meeting is adjourned.

Request has been sucessfully updated.

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: Tori Bartlett

Submitted On: 2022-05-16 15:23:29

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Doug Elliott

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



Please note: Comments must be received by 2:00 pm the day of the council meeting to be shared with City Council members. Comments will be included in the minutes under the public comment section.

* **First Name**

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Bartlett

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Phone

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* **I am a...**

☐ **Visitor**

☒ **Resident**

☐ **Business Manager**

☐ **Business Owner**

☐ **Employee in Oxford**

☐ **Student**

☐ **Other**

* **Comment(s)**

I think that DORA should be expanded in Oxford to be year round. It seems silly to stop DORA during the school year when Cincinnati and even Hamilton have it in effect year round. It's so nice to be able to just enjoy a drink outside and walk around and it would be really nice to be able to do it all year and it would be a reason for me to actually go Uptown during the school year rather than other cities.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

Request has been sucessfully updated.

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: Walt Vanderbush

Submitted On: 2022-05-15 21:01:47

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Doug Elliott

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



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* **I am a...**

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☐ **Student**

☐ **Other**

* **Comment(s)**

I write as a resident of Oxford and faculty member at Miami University for the last 28 years to offer support for the DORA program. I look forward to the return of the program this summer and the opportunity to enjoy a beer outside uptown. I know that in the past the program has been restricted to those times of the year when most of our students are not in town, and I hope that the City Council will decide not to end the program this year when they return in August. Selfishly, there are lots of times when students are in town that favorite restaurants are crowded, and I would like the option of food to go with a beer outside on a fall evening. But I also think that students deserve the option of having a beer or two in the uptown park as well. I can imagine that there are Miami students who would prefer a beer outside with a sandwich from La Bodega or a burrito from Chipotle to the scene in one of the bars encouraging excessive drinking by way of cheap pitchers of beer. I would like to think that Oxford would provide the opportunity for both students and others who live in Oxford to drink socially and responsibly together outside uptown during fall evenings. We can model an alternative approach to drinking that I would like to see more students choose rather than trying to "beat the clock" or even join in on the activities at some of the house parties we've all observed. In my experience, treating students as the adults they are is better for those of us who are long-term residents of Oxford and the students themselves.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

Request has been sucessfully updated.

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: Allie Gresham

Submitted On: 2022-05-17 11:16:06

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Doug Elliott

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



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* **I am a...**

☐ **Visitor**

☒ **Resident**

☐ **Business Manager**

☐ **Business Owner**

☐ **Employee in Oxford**

☐ **Student**

☐ **Other**

* **Comment(s)**

I'm in favor of reopening DORA again with no end date. I like that the city manager reserves the right to suspend the dates of operation due to disorderly conduct, littering, or other public nuisance problems. As a "townie" with two young children, I'm not always able to get out of the house, but when I do, I prefer to not be surrounded by students in a bar. I believe adults in town can show that they can be responsible with this freedom. Mason, Milford, Hamilton, and Loveland all have DORAs. Wyoming, OH City Administration made inquiries to those communities and none have negative experiences to report. Also, with Covid cases in the Midwest on the rise again, I think it's a good idea to encourage adults in oxford to congregate and build community while outdoors. This would allow us the interaction and community a lot of us crave, while keeping Covid numbers down and residents healthy.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

Request has been sucessfully updated.

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: Christopher Conese

Submitted On: 2022-05-17 15:46:54

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Doug Elliott

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



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* **First Name**

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Conese

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* **I am a...**

- ☐ Visitor
- ☐ Resident
- ☐ Business Manager
- ☐ Business Owner
- ☒ Employee in Oxford
- ☒ Student
- ☐ Other

* **Comment(s)**

The commerce in this town benefits greatly from DORA and the liberty it provides to do business throughout the town in a more fluid manner. I understand that the community feels hesitant to entrust it's youngest members with this privilege. However, at the end of the day it will be business as usual in town only more vibrant and lucrative than previously seen.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

Request has been sucessfully updated.

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: Paul Specter

Submitted On: 2022-05-28 16:21:37

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Doug Elliott

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



Please note: Comments must be received by 2:00 pm the day of the council meeting to be shared with City Council members. Comments will be included in the minutes under the public comment section.

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* **I am a...**

☐ **Visitor**

☒ **Resident**

☐ **Business Manager**

☐ **Business Owner**

☐ **Employee in Oxford**

☐ **Student**

☐ **Other**

* **Comment(s)**

My wife and I were the first people to build a new home 2 years ago off of Charity Path; an extension off of Olde Farm Road. We are constantly needing to do maintenance of our plumbing system due to the extremely hard water we are getting from the City of Oxford. Our water tests at approximately 30 grains of hardness which is far more than we have experienced at any time in our lives in any location. We had a Culligan water softening system installed in our home during construction, but even this system is having difficulties addressing this level of hardness. We were pleasantly surprised a number of months ago when the Oxford newsletter mentioned that a study was being done to look into providing softened water to the city. Since that time, we have not heard of any updated information about this project. We were advised to document our concerns to this website and that this would be the best way to make our needs known. My wife Jane and I would be most grateful if you could provide any update to and and we would like it to be known that we are strong supporters of this softening project. Please feel free to contact us if you might need any more information from us or would like any clarification. Thank you very much for your time looking at this issue for us.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

Public Comment to Council Form

Print

Submitted by: DONALD REECE

Submitted On: 2022-05-31 13:45:45

Status: Acknowledged

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: Heather Barbour

Due Date: Open

Public Comment To Council



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* I am a...

☐ Visitor

☒ Resident

☐ Business Manager

☐ Business Owner

☐ Employee in Oxford

☐ Student

☒ Other

* Comment(s)

I am also a building permit applicant. I am having an extremely difficult time obtaining one.

Make a public comment for review by City Council

