A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kevin McKeehan on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 7:15 p.m. Those members present were Bob Blackburn, Richard Keebler, Kate Rousmaniere, Mike Smith, Steve Snyder and Edna Southard.

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

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

AYE: Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler, Mayor McKeehan (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Southard moved to return from Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McKeehan requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
'HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH'

Mayor McKeehan read the Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Kim Peterka, Chair, Oxford Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission.

Ms. Kim Peterka, Chair, Oxford Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission, (HAPC) thanked Council for their support and diligence with cases they assisted the HAPC with and the processes they went through. Ms. Peterka noted historic preservation was an important part of Oxford and the HAPC looked forward to continuing that important work.

PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR USE OF THE UPTOWN PARKS

Ms. Amy Macechko, Health and Wellness Coordinator, Talawanda School District, and Project Coordinator, Coalition for a Healthy Community, thanked Council for the opportunity to address them. Ms. Macechko reminded everyone the Coalition's primary mission was to raise awareness, develop strategies, support initiatives and influence policies that promoted a healthy community for everyone who lived, worked and played in the greater Oxford community. Ms. Macechko noted based on the community needs assessment conducted by the coalition and one conducted by McCullough-Hyde 2 years ago the coalition identified 3 primary areas they wanted to focus on which included alcohol and other drug use, mental health and obesity prevention. Ms. Macechko advised three volunteer work groups were formed and they were committing their time and energy to move this work forward. Ms. Macechko noted the mental health work group spent their time this year focusing on raising awareness about the resources available to help with mental health concerns in the community. Ms. Macecho advised the group compiled a listing of all mental health professionals, and they partnered with United Way of Oxford and Vicinity to help promote and market the 211 resource. Ms. Macechko noted the 211 resource could help link individuals to health and human services agencies to assist them in getting basic needs met before addressing other mental health issues. Ms. Macechko advised the alcohol and other drug use work group spent the last year looking at local data and conditions that were leading to the problem and decided to take a strong look at prescription drug abuse in the community. Ms. Macechko noted the group looked at the factors of access and un-monitored supply of prescription drugs. Ms. Macechko advised the coalition had great success over the years partnering with the Oxford Police Department the and Miami University Police Department to host 'Take Back' days and they had received a lot of pounds of medication. Ms. Macechko noted last April 70 pounds of medication was collected. Ms. Macechko advised removing un-needed medications from of your home was a really good thing because un-monitored supply was where some people were accessing these drugs. Ms. Macechko noted the group was looking at a campus/community initiative which might involve the availability of lock boxes for residents and Miami students and working with physicians to teach people the importance of securing and monitoring prescription drugs.

Ms. Sharon Kline, Director of Wellness, McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital, and Chair, Community Obesity Prevention Work Group, advised the Community Obesity Prevention Work Group had been very productive over the last year. Ms. Kline noted the group hosted a Healthy Living Kick-Off in the fall that included a community walk and signing a pledge for living healthier lives. Ms. Kline noted the group developed and introduced a mascot named "Rocs" designed by Autumn Taylor, a Talawanda Middle School student. Ms. Kline advised the mascot would be used in their social marketing campaigns as a symbol throughout the community to remind people to make healthy choices. Ms. Kline noted at this year's Fresh Air Fair, the annual Education, Health and Safety Youth Fair, jump ropes and hula hoops were given to all of the children to encourage active play and activity. Ms. Kline advised the group started coordinating as a community instead of as an organization for healthy activities and noted for National Walk Day, the Talawanda School District, the City of Oxford, Miami University and McCullough-Hyde had a week long walk and the participants walked 14 million steps in that week. Ms. Kline advised Miami University opened their Team Miami training program up to the entire community. Ms. Kline noted a Healthy Fun Hunt for the community would be held in Oxford this spring.

Ms. Kline advised the group applied for and received a Thriving Community Grant for Active Living in Oxford which was a 5 year grant providing funds and technical assistance to the community. Ms. Kline noted to obtain the grant, the group evaluated the community's current status as an active living community using a marketing tool provided by Interact for Health, they developed 1st year goals, and looked at events and programs to encourage healthy living. Ms. Kline advised the group would like to use the grant funds to sponsor a 'Yoga in the Park' program and asked for permission from Council to use the Uptown Park for more than the allowable 3 days. Ms. Kline noted the concept of free yoga in a community park had been successfully used across the United States. Ms. Kline advised the program would be sponsored by McCullough-Hyde or by the Thriving Community grant at no cost to the City or to the participants. Ms. Kline noted the group was requesting use of the Uptown Park due to the high visibility and community members could drop by on Saturdays from 9-10 a.m. where qualified yoga instructors would lead the class. Ms. Kline noted her hope Council would recognize the positive impact of such a program in the community and grant permission of the request.

Mr. Snyder inquired which park the group wished to use and what time of the year the event would take place. Ms. Kline advised they would like to use the pavilion every Saturday in June, July and August for their first year with a goal of holding the event from spring to fall. Mr. Snyder noted the group would have to be flexible if events were already scheduled in the Memorial Park.

Mr. Keebler advised he appreciated the initiative but expressed his concern with monopolizing the stage for 3 months. Mr. Keebler noted a lot of events occurred there and sometimes they set up prior to 9:00 a.m. Mr. Keebler suggested approving the request on an ongoing basis but if another group asked to use the pavilion area the Yoga group would have to move elsewhere. Mr. Keebler again expressed concern with monopolizing the pavilion and what trend it might set.

Mr. Snyder moved to grant the request with the provision the applicant works with the City Manager's Office and the Visitors Bureau to insure flexibility and scheduling that will not prevent other groups from using the Memorial Park and pavilion from 9-10 a.m. on Saturdays in June, July and August of 2015. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mayor McKeehan thanked Ms. Macechko and Ms. Kline for their efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Caroline Croswell, Executive Director, Oxford Community Arts Center, 10 S. College Avenue, advised historic preservation initiatives would occur soon at the OCAC including roof renovations, brick repairs and the rebuilding and replacement of windows on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

Ms. Croswell distributed the OCAC's 2013-14 Annual Report and the 2014-15 Case Statement for Historic Preservation to members of Council and staff. Ms. Croswell discussed the OCAC's income and operating expenses and noted it took $254,728 to get 18,000 people through their building last year. Ms. Croswell advised the building was rented frequently for weddings and other events which helped sustain them and the community especially when visitors from out of town were spending at least one night in Oxford. Ms. Croswell noted the OCAC could only do what they did because of their many citizen and Miami University volunteers.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if the number of weddings at the OCAC were increasing each year and Ms. Croswell advised yes, and noted until recently they had done no advertising. Ms. Southard advised the Visitors Bureau had a link to potential wedding sites including the OCAC and the Black Bridge. Ms. Croswell noted there was very little competition between the non-profits in Oxford and they referred clients to each other to meet the client's specific needs.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the May 5, 2015 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the May 5, 2015 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

RESOLUTION
SALVAGE VEHICLES

A Resolution No. 4917 rescinding Resolution No. 4910 adopted May 5, 2015 and adopting a revised Resolution authorizing the sale of salvaged motor vehicles. (Bob Holzworth, Police Chief)

Mr. Snyder moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
AGREEMENT WITH
BAYER & BECKER, INC.

A Resolution No. 4918 accepting the proposal and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a professional services agreement with Bayer & Becker, Inc. for the design, surveying and contract management of the Oxford Recreational Trail Phase I project at a cost of $52,570.00 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the professional services agreement price or $5,257.00 for a total cost not to exceed $57,827.00. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised early in the year the Oxford Visitors Bureau received on behalf of the City a $500,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to construct Phase I of the Oxford Recreational Trail. Mr. Chen noted to move the project forward an engineering firm was needed to conduct a survey, do the design work and help manage the construction. Mr. Chen advised a Request for Qualifications was published on April 29, 2015 with 4 firms responding. Mr. Chen noted staff determined Bayer Becker was most qualified and negotiated a proposal from them for the project. Mr. Chen added staff determined Bayer Becker could meet the expectation for the constriction, survey and design work to be completed by June of 2016. Mr. Chen advised the proposed trail would be a 10 foot wide paved trail from the intersection of Kelly Drive and SR732 to Bonham Road, then unpaved to SR73.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if a survey was done 10 or 15 years ago. Mr. Chen advised a schematic alignment was done to determine which connections were the most feasible and now an accurate survey needed to be done.

Ms. Southard inquired what the next step of the process was. Chen advised the survey would be done to determine the alignment of the trail and then the design work would begin. Mr. Chen noted his hope by August the design would be sent to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Butler County Engineer's Office, Butler County Metro Parks and Miami University for their comments to make sure any of their concerns were addressed. Mr. Chen noted once the final design was complete the bidding process for the construction would occur. Mr. Chen advised he hoped construction would begin this year although it could be next spring.

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

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No. 4918. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCE
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3314 Amending Ordinance No. 3286. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 3 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2015. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Elliott advised the proposed Ordinance would permit the City to purchase salt under the contract that expires May 31, 2015. Mr. Elliott noted effective June 1st the price would increase 11.15%. Mr. Elliott advised this would allow staff to fill the salt shed in preparation for next winter.

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

Mr. Keebler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3314. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mayor McKeehan (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised Ms. Brahier asked him to report on the municipal pool schedule. Mr. Elliott note the pool would open Saturday, May 23 at 11:00 a.m. and a pool party with a DJ would begin at noon. Mr. Elliott advised the hours would be 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. the rest of the weekend and 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. during the school week. Mr. Elliott noted beginning May 30th normal summer hours would be noon until 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Elliott advised the budget and CIP calendars were circulated to staff and to Council for fiscal year 2016 with the CIP Work Session scheduled for Thursday, August 20th and the Budget Work Session scheduled for Thursday, October 8th. Mr. Elliott asked Council members to let him know if they had conflicts with those dates as he would like for all of them to be present.

Chief Holzworth referred to a serious offense that occurred on Sunday and advised the investigative team was working hard to develop information and he would keep the City Manager informed of the progress and the Manager would inform Council.

Mr. Chen advised ShareFest ended today and there were a total of 299 scheduled pick-ups and noted last year there were 274 pick-ups.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if Rumpke was making extra pick-ups due to the students moving out and Mr. Elliott advised yes.

Mr. Smith noted there were still two historic tours this month and advised Saturday's tour would be on North College Avenue and May 30th would be a Town/Gown tour on Tallawanda Road. Mr. Smith advised approximately 40 people had participated in each tour.

Ms. Rousmaniere acknowledged Ms. Haiyan Chen and Ms. Hongying Qin who were in attendance and visiting from China.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised the Alternative Transportation Sub-Committee of the Planning Commission met today. Ms. Rousmaniere noted Mr. Dreisbach was at the meeting and informed them that Spring Street would be repaved and repainted this summer from Main Street to Elm Street. Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if Council wanted to consider extending the bike lane on Spring Street since the repaving was already going to take place. After a lengthy discussion of Council and staff including parking issues, the cost of special paint, the difficulty of the intersection of College and Spring, the opening of a new housing development with added traffic and the Street Department's summer construction schedule, Ms. Rousmaniere withdrew the question.

Ms. Southard noted in June Council would get a full report of what was achieved during ShareFest this year. Ms. Southard noted she volunteered on Friday and it was an amazing event. Ms. Southard advised it was an important event for the community as it helped people who really needed the donated items.

Mayor McKeehan advised there would be vacancies on Boards and Commissions effective June 30, 2015. Mayor McKeehan noted the upcoming vacancies as follows:
Planning Commission – 5 year term – 2 vacancies

Board of Zoning Appeals – 3 year term 2 vacancies
Civil Service Commission – 3 year term – 2 vacancies
Recreation Board – 3 year term – 1 vacancy
Student Community Relations Commission – 3 year term – 2 vacancies
Board of Appeals (Building/Housing) 4 year term – 3 vacancies
Community Relations Commission – 3 year term – 2 vacancies
Income Tax Board of Review – 3 year term – 2 vacancies

ADJOURN

Mr. Snyder moved to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.