A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Bob Blackburn, John Harman, Kevin McKeehan, Kate Rousmaniere and Steve Snyder.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
'RACE ACROSS AMERICA DAY'

Mayor Keebler read the Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Lisa Brunckhorst.

Ms. Lisa Brunckhorst, thanked Council for the Proclamation. Ms. Brunckhorst noted she felt the Race Across America participants were the most amazing athletes in the world. Ms. Brunckhorst advised the race was 2,993 miles and teams finished it in 8 days and individuals had 12 days to finish the race. Ms. Brunckhorst noted 2 wounded warrior teams from the USA were being challenged by the wounded warrior team from the UK this year. Ms. Brunckhorst advised there were 344 riders participating in the race this year from 31 countries comprised of cancer survivors, hiv positive people, organ donors, organ receivers, police departments and a massive amount of amazing people. Ms. Brunckhorst noted the Race Across America organization was very impressed with the support the City of Oxford had shown for their event. Ms. Brunckhorst presented Mayor Keebler with a finisher's plaque for the City from the organization which thanked the City of Oxford for its continued support.

RECOGNITION
OXFORD EMTs

Chief Detherage advised he wanted to recognize employees of the Fire Department for their role in saving the life of a Miami student at the recreation center pool on March 19, 2012. Chief Detherage noted a young man suffered a sudden cardiac arrest in the pool during a philanthropy event and the lifeguards on duty pulled him from the pool and began CPR. Chief Detherage advised Miami University Police Officer, Walt Schneider, applied an AED which shocked the patient and restarted his heart. Chief Detherage noted City employees finished the chain of survival by providing the medications needed to help keep the patient's heart at a normal rhythm. Chief Detherage presented Johnny Smith, Jordan Gula and Mark Johnson with a certificate of appreciation and a life saving medal.

Chief Detherage noted subsequently, the patient had an electrical device implanted in his chest and returned to school.

Mayor Keebler thanked Chief Detherage for bringing the men forward to be recognized for a job well done.

PRESENTATION
MCCULLOUGH-HYDE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Bryan Hehemann, President and C.E.O., noted it was his pleasure to address Council and summarize the activities of 400 plus employees, 60 physicians, and 300 volunteers last year in the 5 locations McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital provided services. Mr. Hehemann noted Council members received a 9 page summary of the annual report prior to the meeting. Mr. Hehemann advised the hospital received "Full Accreditation" for 3 years as awarded by the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, which was sponsored by the American Osteopathic Association and involved a rigorous 3 day on site inspection. Mr. Hehemann noted patient quality and patient satisfaction outcomes continued to be very favorable compared to national and state outcomes. Mr. Hehemann advised the hospital continued to invest in the hospital-wide information system as incentivized by the federal government. Mr. Hehemann discussed new programs and services including the addition of an Urgent Care at the Brookville Outpatient Service location and a sports medicine program at the Ross location. Mr. Hehemann advised the hospital initiated an employer wellness program for Miami University and they hoped to roll out the program to include other area employers including the City of Oxford. Mr. Hehemann discussed improvements to facilities noting the hospital purchased and installed a new state of the art CT scanner and continued to do minor remodeling throughout the hospital to make the environment as friendly and healing as possible including the "Oncology Healing Garden" near the main entrance. Mr. Hehemann referred to page 3 of his summary which listed improvements with regard to employee development, engagement and retention. Mr. Hehemann advised the hospital remained successful in fundraising and attracting enthusiastic volunteers noting the Auxiliary operated the gift shop and donated thousands of dollars each year to the hospital.

Mr. Snyder inquired how much longer the software improvement program would take. Mr. Hehemann advised 80% of the improvements had been made and there were still some major software applications the hospital wanted to implement. Mr. Snyder noted he had used hospital services recently and from a patient's perspective, staff members had adapted to the new system very well.

Mr. Harman noted several citizens had expressed to him how much they appreciated the hospital's staff and doctors and that they were doing an incredible job. Mr. Harman noted everyone including himself was thankful that the hospital was here in Oxford.

Mayor Keebler noted McCullough-Hyde was a major asset to the community and a City the size of Oxford was fortunate to have such a hospital.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Steve Dana, 6314 Fairfield Road, President of the Board of Trustees, Oxford Community Choice Pantry, encouraged everyone to participate in the "Farm to Table" event which would take place June 30, 2012. Mr. Dana noted the event was sponsored by the Choice Pantry, local chefs and the Farmers Markets in Oxford. Mr. Dana advised the Farmers Markets would donate food, and the chefs would prepare box lunches for the event at a cost of $10.00.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the May 15, 2012 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the May 2, 2012 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen Community Development Director)

Report regarding the May 24, 2012 Civil Service Commission Meeting. (Donna Heck, Human Resources Director)

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
CDBG STREET RESURFACING &
IMPROVEMENTS

A Resolution No. 4678 accepting the bid and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with John R. Jurgensen, Co. for the resurfacing of designated streets and alleys set forth on Exhibit "A" and for additional improvements at a cost of $116,626.00 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the contract price or $11,662.60 for a total cost not to exceed $128,288.60. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the proposed Resolution was one of two street maintenance contracts on the agenda this evening. Mr. Dreisbach noted John R. Jurgensen was a lowest and best bidder for both projects. Mr. Dreisbach advised this project would be funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Mr. Dreisbach noted the focus of this project was for Tallawanda Road from High Street to Sycamore Street and some of the alleyways in the Uptown District.

Ms. Rousmaniere noted it was her understanding that CDBG funds were federal funds and inquired how the City obtained those funds and how the funds were to be used.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the CDBG federal funds went to Butler County and the City had an agreement with Butler County to receive a percentage of the funds. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City would be able to use $113,000 from the CDBG funds for this project and the difference would be funded with the CIP appropriation for paving.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4678. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
2012 STREET RESURFACING
AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

A Resolution No. 4679 accepting the bid and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with John R. Jurgensen, Co. for street resurfacing and maintenance work set forth on Exhibit "A" at a cost of $271,642.00 plus a contingency amount of five percent (5%) of the contract price or $13,582.10 for a total cost not to exceed $285,224.10. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the target areas for this contract were Foxfire Drive including Day Circle and also High Street to compliment the brick reconstruction work currently being done. Mr. Dreisbach noted approximately $60,000 would be spent on repairing failed base rather than just resurfacing the roadways.

Mayor Keebler noted the two contracts combined were $512.00 over the budgeted amount and inquired if a budget adjustment would need to be made. Mr. Dreisbach advised staff was asking Council to approve a 'not to exceed amount' and the purchase order would be reduced to match the budgeted amount.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4679. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
CURB, GUTTER AND
SIDEWALK REPAIRS

A Resolution No. 4680 accepting the bid and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Jackson Construction Co. for the improvement and replacement of defective curb, gutter, and sidewalk at a cost of $28,422.65 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the contract price or $2,842.27 for a total cost not to exceed $31,264.92. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised in February, Council approved a Resolution authorizing the curb, gutter and sidewalk assessment program which was the first step of several needed to complete the program. Mr. Dreisbach noted many property owners repaired their defective curb, gutter and sidewalks after receiving the notice of assessment from the City which would reduce the burden on the City. Mr. Dreisbach advised staff developed specifications and advertised for bids for the curb, gutter and sidewalk work and Jackson Construction was the lowest bidder.

Mr. Dreisbach noted the City had contracted with Jackson Construction in the past and staff looked forward to working with them again.

Mr. Dreisbach advised once the work was complete an assessment Ordinance would come before Council and at that time owners could pay in cash for the amount owed for repairs or they could choose to have the amount added to their property taxes.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4680. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCE
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
2013 TAX BUDGET

An Ordinance Authorizing The Tax Budget For The Year 2013 And Directing That The Same Be Transmitted To The Butler County Auditor. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised the submission of the tax budget was the first step in the 2013 budgeting process. Mr. Newlin noted the submission of the tax budget was a requirement of the Ohio Revised Code and it was due to the county by July 20, 2012. Mr. Newlin advised the 2013 tax budget was level funded based on the 2012 budget except for a few line items. Mr. Newlin discussed the adjustments made for 4 line items.

Mr. Bogard noted the state was putting forth a bill to try to centralize income tax collection and inquired if any progress was being made with the bill or if it was 'on the shelf'. Mr. Elliott advised he would discuss the issue during his announcements this evening.

Ms. Rousmaniere referred to page 24 of the agenda and noted Local Government Revenue Sharing was reduced by $86,223 to reflect the State's biannual budget and inquired if that was for the current year or next year. Mr. Newlin advised it was through June of 2013.

ORDINANCE
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3174 Amending Ordinance No. 3159. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 2 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised there were no changes to the proposed Ordinance since the first reading.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3174. Mr. Snyder seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Keebler (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised the state legislature had held hearings on efforts to reform the municipal income tax code and the focus was on centralized collection and uniformity. Mr. Elliott noted centralized collection had not been part of the discussions recently but he felt it would return to the discussions. Mr. Elliott advised the impact of the state phasing out tangible personal property tax, the elimination of estate tax and the reduction of local government funding had severely eroded the City's General Fund revenue over the last several years. Mr. Elliott noted in fiscal year 2008 the local income tax provided 58% of the General Fund revenue and in 2012 local income tax would provide an estimated 70% of General Fund revenue due to the loss of those three revenue sources. Mr. Elliott advised this was not due to any increase in local income tax revenues and the City would rely more heavily on municipal income tax for General Fund expenditures and capital improvements. Mr. Elliott noted it was imperative for the City to carefully monitor the legislative efforts to provide for centralized income tax collection and uniformity of the municipal income tax. Mr. Elliott advised he and Mr. Newlin met with representatives from the Regional Income Tax Agency last week who administered the income tax collection for the City as well as for 189 other municipalities in Ohio and they performed those duties effectively and efficiently. Mr. Elliott noted if the legislature brought centralized collection back to the table the City would have concerns with administrative costs, frequency of receiving revenues and compliance. Mr. Elliott advised the City could not face any more revenue losses without impacting the services it provided.

Mr. Elliott advised the Butler County Commissioners approved the establishment of a Butler County Land Bank without county delinquent real property tax funding. Mr. Elliott noted the cities of Hamilton and Middletown would fund the local share required to match the available state funding and the county would establish the organization. Mr. Elliott advised the City and the Talawanda School District would not be negatively impacted by the creation of the Land Bank. Mr. Elliott noted if the City of Oxford had a need to utilize the process for acquiring a foreclosed property the mechanism would be available. Mr. Elliott congratulated the Commissioners for creating a plan to assist the cities of Hamilton and Middletown.

Mayor Keebler noted fantastic progress was being made on the High Street brick restoration project and asked Mr. Dreisbach to bring Council up to date.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the City's Water Distribution crews installed 2 blocks of water main in advance of this project. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City's concrete contractor was doing a fantastic job and they dedicated lots of people and lots of heavy equipment for the project.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the contractor would likely pour final sections of concrete tomorrow and the brick layers were following quickly behind them. Mr. Dreisbach noted the contractor's deadline to complete the job was July 15th which they would easily surpass.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the City's portion of the Patterson Avenue (US 27) improvement project was complete and City crews installed nearly 3,000 feet of 12" water main. Mr. Dreisbach noted Miami University would restore the roadway.

Mayor Keebler advised the Executive Director of the VCB resigned a little more than a week ago and with that vacancy there had been discussion as to whether or not that group should continue to exist as a separate entity. Mayor Keebler noted there may be ways to work the City's tax dollars more efficiently through the bed tax and a meeting would take place with himself, members of the VCB Board, the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Elliott and Councilors to discuss the governance of the VCB prior to filling the vacancy. Mayor Keebler advised the group would report back to the full Council after the meeting.

Ms. Rousmaniere referred to the Proclamation that Mayor Keebler read this evening for Race Across America and noted this was an incredible athletic event in which approximately 3,000 bicyclists would ride coast to coast across the country and one of their stops would be in Oxford. Ms. Rousmaniere noted the riders had stopped in Oxford the last couple of years and this year members of the community pulled together to "beef up" the Welcome Center in the parking lot of the former Wal-Mart store. Ms. Rousmaniere advised a tent would be set up and 3 to 4 volunteers would be there 24 hours a day from June 18 through June 22 to welcome the bicyclists. Ms. Rousmaniere encouraged citizens to stop by the Welcome Center to visit the volunteers and the bicyclists.

Mr. Harman advised he had received many positive comments about the City's deer harvesting program and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

Mr. Harman encouraged everyone to participate in the Farm to Table fundraising event on June 30 for the Oxford Community Choice Food Pantry. Mr. Harman noted the Board for the food pantry worked very hard and there was still a dramatic need for donations.

Mr. Blackburn noted the City needed volunteers to fill vacancies on various Boards and Commissions. Mr. Blackburn advised those interested could apply at the City Building or on-line.

Mayor Keebler advised Council would make appointments to Boards and Commissions at the next meeting and encouraged citizens to submit applications to fill the vacancies which were listed the City's website. Mayor Keebler noted applications could be downloaded from the website.

Mr. Bogard noted Mr. Blackburn's birthday was tomorrow and Mr. Harman's was on Friday and wished them a Happy Birthday.

Mr. Bogard encouraged everyone to attend the Arts and Craft Festival at the Pioneer Farm this weekend.

Mr. McKeehan noted the annual Music Festival would begin this week and encouraged everyone to attend on Thursday to hear Robin Lacy & DeZydeco.

ADJOURN

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.