The Work Session of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Those Council members present were: Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Greig Rutherford, Bob Blackburn, John Harman and Kevin McKeehan.

Staff members present: Doug Elliott, City Manager; John Detherage, Fire Chief; Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Steve McHugh, Law Director and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McKeehan moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council to receive information regarding Fire/EMS Level of Service and discuss funding options.

MASTER PLAN 2011-2020
CITY OF OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Detherage discussed the Master Plan for the Fire Department which was proposed to be a road map for the evolution of the Oxford Fire Department from its days of volunteer service provided by dedicated community members to a fully staffed professional service provider. Chief Detherage discussed emergency response rates noting Oxford had seen an 80% increase in calls over a 19 year period. Chief Detherage discussed fleet management, staffing options, facilities, and summarized the recommended actions for the planning period 2011-2020.

FUNDING OPTIONS

Mr. Elliott discussed the handouts he provided to Council which outlined how the additional staffing of the Fire Department had increased costs which negatively impacted the General Fund and reduced Capital Spending, what the options and objectives were, staffing options, and additional revenue requirement and recommendations which included raising new dedicated property or income tax revenue.

After discussion, the majority of Council favored working towards an income tax increase rather than a property tax increase.

Mayor Keebler requested staff to provide a chart of income tax and property tax levels from other cities at the next meeting.

Council scheduled a Special Meeting on June 29, 2010 to further discuss the issue and allow for public input.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bogard moved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.

A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 7:42 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Bob Blackburn, John Harman and Kevin McKeehan. Greig Rutherford was excused.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McKeehan moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PUBLIC HEARING
TAX BUDGET

Mr. Bogard moved to open the meeting for a Public Hearing regarding the 2011 Tax Budget at 7:43 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Newlin advised this was the first step in the budgeting process. Mr. Newlin noted adjustments were made from the current year budget to allow for the funds the City would receive from Oxford Township for Fire/EMS Service, an adjustment was made since the Western Knolls payment was not due in 2011 and the amount of property tax was reduced based on the December reassessment by the County Auditor. Mr. Newlin advised spending was not increased which would bring the City to a deficit of approximately $450,000. Mr. Newlin noted he budgeted for all of the funds in the Chart of Accounts and the real reason for doing this was to make sure there would be enough property tax coming in to meet the debt service payments.

Ms. Currie moved to close the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

NOTICE TO
LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Notice to Legislative Authority – Transfer permit from Rohan Inc DBA Johnnys Campus Deli 209 E. Sycamore Street Unit A Oxford, Ohio 45056 to Oxford Johnnys Inc 209 E. Sycamore Street Unit A Oxford, Ohio 45056.

Chief Schwein advised Officer Robinson checked the record of Johnnys Deli and found no problems and the Police Department was familiar with Mr. Reddy the new owner.

Mr. Bogard moved to accept the notice without comment. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Diana Durr, Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, reminded everyone it would be a very busy weekend in Oxford with participants of Race Across America coming through, the Music Festival would take place Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Uptown Park with the Hamilton Fairfield Symphony, and Alumni Weekend was being held with visitors starting to arrive on Thursday. Mr. Durr noted the dedication of the Township House building would take place on Friday at 10:00 a.m. at the Pioneer Farm sponsored by the Oxford Museum Association which was open to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 1, 2010 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the June 1, 2010 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the June 2, 2010 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Report regarding the June 2, 2010 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
COX PAVING

A Resolution No. 4545 accepting the bid submitted by Cox Paving, Inc. and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Cox Paving, Inc. for the construction of a temporary sidewalk on US-27 South from Chestnut Street to Southpointe Parkway at a cost of $103,859.82 plus a contingency amount of ten percent (10%) of the contract price or $10,386.00 for a total cost not to exceed $114,245.82. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
TEMPORARY ABATEMENT

A Resolution authorizing a temporary abatement of the Traffic Code, Section 335.09, Display of License Plates (front plate requirement only), on Thursday, July 29, 2010 through Monday, August 2, 2010. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief) **(TABLED)**

Mr. Harman moved to remove the proposed Resolution from the table. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Elliott advised after conferring with Chief Schwein, and as his role of Public Safety Director for the City of Oxford, on June 4, 2010 he issued a directive regarding the motor vehicle law of Ohio for the front license plate requirement that employees of the Oxford Police Division shall no longer issue citations under the City of Oxford Codified Ordinances or Motor Vehicle Law for this violation as a single offense. Mr. Elliott advised a warning shall be issued or a 'fix it' ticket whereby the fine was waived if the offense was corrected within a certain period of time. Mr. Elliott advised if an Ohio motorist was cited for another offense such as speeding, a citation for the front license plate could be issued as well. Mr. Elliott noted his feeling the proposed Resolution was unnecessary and advised Council to remove it from the agenda.

Mr. Chris Courtney, Trenton, Ohio, advised Oxford was his adopted family and home and he had done alcohol and drug counseling in the City of Oxford for the last six years. Mr. Courtney noted two to three nights a week he parked his restored 23 year old collectors car in the handicapped accessible spot in front of the Oxford Police Station. Mr. Courtney noted his car had a vanity Chevrolet logo plate on the front and on April 24, 2010 at 8:30 p.m. during a rainstorm he received a ticket for no front license plate. Mr. Courtney advised he felt this was aggressive and he disagreed with the way it was handled. Mr. Courtney noted his feeling if this was an unenforceable regulation and there was a City issued statement saying it was retracted and would no longer be enforced today it should be retracted six weeks. Mr. Courtney advised he felt his ticket was unfair and just because it was legal didn't make it right.

Mr. Elliott clarified having no front license plate was still a violation of state law and would be enforced but as a secondary offense.

Mr. Harman moved to withdraw his motion to adopt the proposed Resolution. Mr. Blackburn moved to withdraw his second.

RESOLUTION
REVOLVING LOAN FUND

A Resolution No. 4546 approving the Oxford Community Improvement Corporation's recommendation to loan $20,000 to Arabian Nights Authentic Lebanese Cuisine, Inc. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger addressed his staff report as presented on page 33 of the agenda. Mr. Kyger provided background information regarding the Revolving Loan Fund noting it was designated for assisting new businesses. Mr. Kyger advised the CIC recommended approval of the loan application for $20,000 to assist in the redevelopment of the business located at 19 W. High Street for Arabian Nights Authentic Lebanese Cuisine. Mr. Kyger noted the applicants Farrah Akkoub and Michael Tyree were in attendance.

Mr. Michael Tyree, introduced his wife Farrah. Mr. Tyree thanked Council and the CIC for the opportunity to participate in the Revolving Loan Fund program noting it would enable them to bring a family style restaurant with a different culture to the City.

Mr. Harman wished the applicants success noting he had watched their clientele base grow at the Uptown Farmers Market.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution No. 4546. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
REVOLVING LOAN FUND

A Resolution No. 4547 approving a $94,889.00 Revolving Loan Fund loan to One Fourth Oxford, Inc. DBA Quarter Gastropub & Brewery. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Ms. Currie moved to substitute the Resolution for an updated version. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Kyger thanked the CIC Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee and the CIC for expediting the recommendation to approve the loan noting the next step was to take it to Butler County for ratification and he would like to take both loans to them at the same time. Mr. Kyger noted the three principals were in attendance Brandon Ney, Christopher Hensey and Janet Holmes. Mr. Kyger addressed his staff report as presented on page 37 of the agenda.

Ms. Currie asked Mr. Kyger to explain why the original Resolution was replaced with a substitute Resolution. Mr. Kyger referred to page 38 of the agenda and advised condition a and d were removed since the full CIC Board had met and a signed lease for 107 E. Church Street was secured.

Mr. Brandon Ney, introduced his partners Christopher Hensey and Janet Holmes. Mr. Ney thanked Council for participation in the Revolving Loan Fund program and offered to answer any questions concerning their establishment.

Mr. Blackburn inquired when the business was scheduled open and Mr. Ney advised August 14, 2010. Mr. Bogard noted this would be a microbrewery and inquired if other alcoholic beverages would be available. Mr. Ney advised they would operate under an Ohio A1A Tavern license which allowed them to brew and sell beer, and to sell wine and spirituous liquor.

Mr. Harman thanked Mr. Kyger on behalf of Council for his efforts to expedite the loan process.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution No. 4547. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
CODE UPDATE

An Ordinance To Approve Current Replacement Pages To The Oxford Codified Ordinances. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Ms. Eaton advised Council received the Code Update in their Friday Packet which contained 90 changed pages in the Traffic and General Offense Code and 70 changed pages in the Zoning Code.

Mr. Harman noted the updated code was available on the City's website.

Mayor Keebler noted the update included updated state statutes as well as Ordinances adopted by Council through June 1, 2010.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

TAX BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3117 Authorizing The Tax Budget For The Year 2011 And Directing That The Same Be Transmitted To The Butler County Auditor. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mayor Keebler advised the proposed Ordinance had been discussed at the last meeting and again tonight during the Public Hearing.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3117. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3118 Amending Ordinance No. 3089. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 5 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2010. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on pages 58 and 59 of the agenda.

Mr. McKeehan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3118. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted b the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Keebler (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott referred to item E. on the Consent Agenda which was a contract with Cox Paving for the temporary sidewalk on US-27 South from Chestnut Street to Southpointe Parkway and noted this was an important project with the new High School being built as well as an agreement with the developer of Southpointe to install the temporary sidewalk. Mr. Elliott thanked Mr. Dreisbach and his staff and Miami University for saving $45,000 by negotiating with Miami for the use of the existing pedestrian bridge at Peffer Park.

Mr. Elliott advised effective July 1, 2010 Frontier Communications would be the new service provider for Verizon landline and internet customers.

Mr. Elliott advised the owners of Wildberry located at 5475 College Corner Pike had been meeting with staff over the last month to discuss their plans for expansion. Mr. Elliott noted the City had maximum lot coverage of 33% in the Light Industrial District which was problematic for the expansion project. Mr. Elliott suggested the Planning Commission review this restrictive provision and noted other cities he was familiar with allowed 75% to 80% maximum lot coverage in industrial districts.

Mr. Elliott noted Council had a Work Session this evening regarding Fire/EMS Level of Service and Funding Options and a City Council Special Meeting regarding the same would take place June 29, 2010.

Mr. Kyger updated Council with regard to the Job Ready Sites application for the Miami Heritage Technology Park and the status of the Request for Proposals regarding a marketing study and the Western Knolls property.

Mr. McKeehan requested an update regarding the High Street construction project.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the contractor was on schedule to meet their deadline. Mr. Dreisbach noted staff realized the inconvenience to the public and to the businesses and were encouraging the contractor to finish as soon as possible.

Mr. Bogard encouraged everyone to participate in the July 3rd and 4th activities.

Ms. Currie advised there would be special events all day on July 3rd in the Uptown Parks starting with the Farmers Market. Ms. Currie encouraged groups and organizations to participate in the July 3rd parade for the City's Bicentennial. Ms. Currie noted on July 2nd a special issue of the Oxford Press would detail all of the Bicentennial and July 3rd and 4th events.

Mr. Harman noted he was the Council representative on the HAPC and advised sometimes it was a challenge to approve colors for painting buildings in the Uptown District. Mr. Harman thanked Mr. Chen and Ms. Dale for creating a color palette for the Uptown District and advised members of the HAPC would volunteer their time to show owners how to use the color palette. Mr. Harman noted staff and the HAPC had developed solutions to keep the Uptown District looking historic but yet progressive at the same time.

Mr. Blackburn noted Law Camp would take place June 25th through the 27th with 50 participants from the Oxford and Butler County Police Departments and 150 youth from Oxford and Butler County. Mr. Blackburn advised the Lions Club would cook for the group on Sunday.

Mr. Blackburn thanked Mr. Dreisbach for using local contractors for the work on High Street and US-27 North and noted the City should use local companies for all its needs.

Mayor Keebler advised Council would hold a Special Meeting on June 29, 2010. Mayor Keebler requested that legislation be brought forward at the next meeting to strike the front license plate requirement from the administrating ticketing Ordinance.

Mayor Keebler reminded everyone that the dedication of the Township House would take place on Friday at 10:00 a.m. at the Pioneer Farm.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Currie moved to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.