

Council Minutes

June 3, 2008

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A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Richard Keebler, Alysia Fischer, Doug Ross and Greig Rutherford.

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

**ADJOURN TO
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Rutherford moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 121.22 (G) for the purpose of discussing (1) Appointments to Boards Commissions (3) Pending litigation and (6) Collective Bargaining. Mr. Ross seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Ross, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Rutherford,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

**RETURN FROM
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Bogard moved to return from Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Fischer, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Currie, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Ross,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dana requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Fischer moved to amend the agenda by adding Appointments to Boards and Commissions as Item 3.E. and renumbering Public Comments as Item 3.F. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Ms. Fischer moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

SWEARING IN

Mr. McHugh performed the Swearing-In of Police Lieutenant, Thomas G. Horvath. Lt. Horvath thanked Council for their support and introduced members of his family who were in attendance.

PROCLAMATION **LEN ENDRESS DAY**

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation and presented it to former Fire Chief, Len Endress who retired on May 31, 2008. Mr. Endress thanked Council and members of the Fire Department for their support during his tenure as Fire Chief.

PROCLAMATION **JOHN BUCHHOLZ DAY**

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation and presented it to former Detective Sergeant, John Buchholz who retired on 25, 2008. Mr. Buchholz thanked Council and members of the Police Department for their support during his tenure at the City of Oxford.

PROCLAMATION **MATT FRANKE DAY**

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation for former Police Sergeant, Matt Franke who retired on May 31, 2008. Mayor Dana noted Mr Franke was unable to accept the Proclamation in person.

APPOINTMENTS TO **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Bogard moved to reappoint Marvin Hurston to the Planning Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2013 and to appoint Ted Wong to the Planning Commission effective June 30, 2008 for a term expiring June 30, 2013 and to appoint Richard Norman to the McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jenny Gelber, 5508 Brown Road, noted she was a member of the Oxford Township Land Use Planning Committee although she was speaking to Council as a Township resident. Ms. Gelber advised the Oxford Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan was now on line and interested parties could go to development.butlercountyohio.org to find the link to view it. Ms. Gelber noted the plan was going before the Butler County Planning Commission for adoption on June 10, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the Government Services Building and inquired if anyone from the City would be in attendance to speak to it. Ms. Gelber suggested a joint meeting or Work Session be scheduled for the Township and City Council to discuss the plan.

Mayor Dana advised the City would be represented noting members of Council had not seen the final plan yet. Mayor Dana advised Council was committed to having a joint meeting when the City's Comprehensive Plan Update was complete to discuss joint cooperation and initiatives.

Mr. Larry Frimerman, 292 Ryan Drive, Oxford Township Trustee, thanked Council for appointing a Council representative (Mr. Bogard) to serve on the Oxford Township Land Use Planning Committee. Mr. Frimerman also thanked Council for allowing him to serve on the City's Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. Mr. Frimerman noted on behalf of the Trustees, they could make a presentation regarding their plan at a future Council Meeting or Work Session.

Mr. Dana Saulnier, 4485 Shollenbarger Road, inquired if Council had collectively debated and formed a position regarding the connector road.

Mayor Dana advised this Council had not and noted previous Councils had affirmed the road. Ms. Dana noted a Work Session was scheduled for June 17th to bring the current Council up to speed on what had occurred with regard to the connector road.

Mr. Saulnier inquired if a representative of Council would be in attendance at the June 10th meeting to share their position on the connector road.

Mr. Keebler noted a member of Council could attend to discuss the statements of fact.

Mr. Bogard noted this was an ODOT project and public meetings had occurred and would continue to occur.

Mr. Cal Conrad, 5226 Westgate Drive, inquired what the City's financial commitment was regarding the connector. Mr. Elliott advised that would be discussed during the Work Session on June 17, 2008. Mr. Conrad discussed the recent BZA decision regarding a development at Main and High Streets.

Ms. Connie Elliott, 5201 College Corner Pike, updated Council on the Smoky and Tornado project.

Mr. Jim Robinson, 455 Emerald Woods Drive, advised he wished to discuss the proposal for a fraternity on E. Vine Street. Mayor Dana advised it was an agenda item which would be discussed this evening and public comments were welcome at that time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Fischer requested removal of Item B. Minutes.

MINUTES

Minutes of the May 20, 2008 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the May 13, 2008 Planning Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the May 15, 2008 Recreation Board Meeting. (Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director)

Report regarding the May 21, 2008 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

A Resolution No. 4354 authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Mutual Aid Agreement with Miami University. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION

UNCLAIMED GLASSES

A Resolution No. 4355 declaring certain unclaimed eyeglasses no longer of value to the City and authorizing the donation of same to the Lion's Club. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION

CONTRABAND DISPOSAL

A Resolution No. 4356 authorizing the Chief of Police and Finance Director to dispose of contraband no longer needed as evidence. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION
RETAIN PROPERTY

A Resolution No. 4357 authorizing the Oxford Division of Police to retain for use by the municipality certain unclaimed property in its possession. (Steve Schwein, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
LAN SOLUTIONS

A Resolution No. 4358 authorizing the City Manager to renew the contract for Information Technology Support Services with LAN Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$49,500.00. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

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

MINUTES

Ms. Fischer requested a correction to the minutes on page 19 of the agenda.

Ms. Fischer moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
POLICE CONTRACT

A Resolution No. 4359 approving the contract between the City of Oxford, Ohio and the Oxford Police Officers, Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 164 and authorizing the City Manager and City Law Director to sign the contract on behalf of the City. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised the City reached an agreement with the Patrol Officers pending Council approval and noted it was a 3 year contract from January 1, 2008 thru December 31, 2010.

Ms. Currie moved to adopt Resolution No. 4359. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
APPOINTING THE
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

A Resolution No. 4360 approving and authorizing an agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto, between the City of Oxford and Dr. Gregory Caulkins, for appointment as the Medical Director for the City of Oxford, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the same. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Chief Detherage advised the proposed Resolution would allow Dr. Gregory Caulkins to be the Medical Director for the Fire Department who would oversee the City's medical operations.

Mr. Ross inquired if Dr. Caulkins was replacing someone and Chief Detherage advised yes.

Ms. Fischer moved to adopt Resolution No. 4359. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
RAILS-TO-TRAILS

A Resolution No. 4361 to support the City of Oxford's participation in the Rails-To-Trails Conservancy's 2010 Campaign for Active Transportation. (Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director)

Ms. Brahier explained the proposed Resolution would allow the City of Oxford to be eligible to receive federal monies for active transportation initiatives if designated as a pilot site.

Council members thanked Ms. Brahier for her efforts and Ms. Brahier noted this was a community-wide initiative.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4361. Ms. Fischer seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross; Mr. Rutherford
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
ODOT LEGISLATION

A Resolution No. 4362 authorizing the City Manager to sign final legislation and other contracts with the Ohio Department of Transportation in connection with the rehabilitation of a portion of High Street (US 27) from Main Street to Beech Street. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised in January Council adopted preliminary legislation for the rehabilitation project and this was the final legislation. Mr. Dreisbach noted this was a federally funded project with no cost to the tax payers.

Mr. Keebler inquired if the bids came in substantially over budget would the City have an opportunity to rethink the project. Mr. Dreisbach advised if that were the case ODOT would likely re- bid the project.

Mr. Rutherford inquired if there was a contingency fund in place for unforeseen conditions and Mr. Dreisbach advised yes. Mr. Rutherford inquired if contractors were including work schedules with the bids or if ODOT was specifying the schedule and Mr. Dreisbach advised there was an ending limit in the contract. Mr. Rutherford inquired if there was a liquidation damages clause in the contract and Mr. Dreisbach advised yes.

Mr. Ross inquired if the bricks were going to be reused and Mr. Dreisbach advised yes. Mr. Ross commended City staff for the preliminary work they performed related to the project.

Ms. Fischer encouraged citizens to visit the Uptown businesses that would be affected by the project by finding alternate parking spaces or by walking to the establishments.

Mr. Bogard moved to adopt Resolution No. 4362. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. due to inclement weather. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Ms. Currie moved to reconvene the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
TAX BUDGET

An Ordinance Authorizing The Tax Budget For The Year 2009 And Directing That The Same Be Transmitted To The Butler County Auditor. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised this was the first step in the budget process and was required by the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Newlin noted municipal income tax was increased based on year to date collection, salaries were raised by 3%, and interest income was reduced since rates were not as favorable as in the past.

ORDINANCE
NEW SECTION 521.12

An Ordinance Repealing Current Section 521.12 Outdoor Furniture Restriction And Adopting New Section 521.12 Outdoor Furniture Restriction, Reducing The Penalty For Violation. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised Council member Fischer requested the proposed legislation to reduce the penalty for violation to a minor misdemeanor.

Ms. Fischer noted the proposed Ordinance would bring violations in line with the litter and noise violations. Ms. Fischer noted when a person was cited for an outdoor furniture violation they needed to obtain a lawyer to represent them in court and this was not what Council intended when they chose to raise the penalty to a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Ms. Fischer noted the reduction of litter violations to a minor misdemeanor did not result in an increase of violations.

Mr. Bogard advised he supported the proposed Ordinance as when a person was found guilty it reflected on their criminal record.

Ms. Fischer noted the office of Off Campus Affairs commitment to work with students on these issues.

ORDINANCE

NEW CHAPTER 1301

An Ordinance Amending The Oxford Code Of Ordinances By Repealing Chapter 1301, Ohio Building Code And Adopting New Chapter 1301, Ohio Building Code. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised Council directed staff to look at inconsistencies between the Zoning Code and Building Code as the current language did not allow architectural projections into the right-of-way. Mr. Chen outlined the four major changes as listed on page 107 of the agenda. Mr. Chen noted Ms. Fischer and Mr. Keebler were instrumental in helping staff with the revised language.

Mr. Keebler noted there were two parts to this issue. Mr. Keebler advised the second part was included in the next Ordinance in which a paragraph would be added to the zoning code as follows: 'No part of a building shall project into the public right-of-way unless specifically allowed by the Oxford Codified Ordinance Chapter 1301, Building Code; or by Chapter 1151, Signs. Mr. Keebler advised without this language the zoning code was silent regarding encroachments.

Mr. Rutherford noted concern with a maximum encroachment of two feet into an ally suggesting it may not be enough. Mr. Rutherford also noted concern with encroachments being permitted to the curb line suggesting maximums should be set such as 'to the curb line or 5 feet whichever was less.

Mr. Keebler and Mayor Dana suggested Council look at the Building Code and determine if maximums should be set prior to the next meeting.

ORDINANCE

NEW SECTION 1141.03

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Zoning Code Section 1141.03, Supplemental Regulations, And Adopting New Section 1141.03, Supplemental Regulations. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen reiterated the addition to the Zoning Code as mentioned by Mr. Keebler.

ORDINANCE

PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION

An Ordinance Accepting The Planning Commission's Recommendation To Deny The Preliminary Subdivision Application For A Residential Subdivision On South Campus Avenue In The R2MS (Single And Two-Family Mike Square Residential) District. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Keebler moved to table the proposed Ordinance as requested by the applicant. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Ross, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Bogard
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
SECOND READING

An Ordinance Approving A Conditional Use Permit To Permit A Fraternity House In the R2MS (Single And Two-Family Mile Square Residential) District Located At 320 E. Vine Street, Oxford, Ohio. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director) **(Tabled)**

Mr. Rutherford moved to remove the proposed Ordinance from the table. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Chen advised the proposed Ordinance was tabled due to issues with the site plan which had been rectified.

Mr. Bob Dearth, Applicant, Agent, explained the corrections which were made to the site plan and advised his hope Council would look favorably upon the request.

Mr. Jim Robinson, 455 Emerald Woods Drive, advised he was opposed to the granting of the Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Robinson noted a multi-family house on the southeast corner of Campus and Vine which was abandoned by a Fraternity. Mr. Robinson stated his friends in the Greek Community at Miami had told him their pledges were down and the number of people living in Fraternity houses nationwide and at Miami was down. Mr. Robinson inquired what would happen to the house if through attrition, trends, or the number of people wanting to live in the Mile Square, the house was abandoned. Mr. Robinson noted the increase in traffic by adding 23 additional people to that location. Mr. Robinson noted his feeling the Conditional Use application was not consistent with the Comprehensive Plan or the conversations regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update. Mr. Robinson noted concerns with trash removal and police and fire vehicles being able to traverse the street. Mr. Robinson advised he was involved in a Mile Square initiative with Council's help and others in which people and groups were looking for donors and contributors to buy homes in the mile square and convert them back to single-family homes and he could not face them and tell them the City was behind them if Council granted this application. Mr. Robinson noted his concern with density and advised his feeling this plan did not fit on that block.

Mr. Dan Mawer, 19 Bull Run Drive, Chelsea Moore Commercial Real-estate, advised they had been pleased to work with the Chi Phi Fraternity and realtor partner Melissa Friede to locate housing for the Fraternity. Mr. Mower noted areas where the zoning code permitted fraternities comprised approximately 4% of the land area in Oxford and all of those areas were fairly close to the University. Mr. Mower stated the areas shared the same character as Vine Street with regard to density, volume of students, and volume of parking. Mr. Mower noted the zoning code was helpful in their search as it clearly laid out the regulations for lot coverage, density, and parking. Mr. Mower stated that Miami University supported the Greek Community and Oxford's Comprehensive Plan promoted cooperation with the University. Mr. Mower noted the fraternity would invest approximately \$1,000,000 in improvements to the property which would benefit the immediate community. Mr. Mower noted his feeling this area would be dense under any circumstance and Oxford was no different than other university communities such as UC, OSU, or Xavier. Mr. Mower concluded by noting their project complied with the zoning code, building code, and a conditional use was permitted in this zoning classification. Mr. Mower thanked Council for their consideration.

Ms. Kathleen Zien, 6060 Joseph Drive, addressed points made by Mr. Mower noting the conditional use was included in this district to be utilized when appropriate. Ms. Zien noted her feeling Council should discuss each decision standard individually to determine how short the project would fall meeting them. Ms. Zien noted her feeling the project especially did not meet standards 2,5,10, and 11 as listed on pages 176 and 177 of the agenda. Ms. Zien referred to the Police Chief's comments on page 171 where he did not recommend the project due to the increase of vehicles in the area. Ms. Zien noted her concern with trash pick-up due to the congestion which would result in overflow. Ms. Zien noted the correspondence included in the agenda from citizens who opposed the project and read comments from other citizens who were opposed. Ms. Zien noted at the last meeting Mr. Rutherford suggested the possibility of conditional use renewals and periodic checking of properties to see if the intended use worked for the community and if not it could be rescinded for a specific time period. Ms. Zien noted once this house was transformed into a fraternity it would always remain a 3 story apartment house. Ms. Zien noted the City did not owe anyone their housing and fraternity members could live apart. Ms. Zien requested Council to maintain 320 E. Vine Street's current use as a residence intact and not as a fraternity.

Mr. Bob Dearth, Applicant, Agent, addressed Council clarifying some of the previous comments noting Chi Phi tried to purchase property on E. High Street but were unsuccessful. Mr. Dearth noted they had taken pains to be in compliance with the zoning and building codes and tried to present the project in a clear and concise manner. Mr. Dearth cited some of the accomplishments of the Phi Chi Fraternity noting they were made up of young men and alumni who were dedicated to developing leaders. Mr. Dearth noted his feeling this would be a proud addition to university life and if Council didn't want anymore fraternities it shouldn't be in the zoning code. Mr. Dearth respectfully requested Council's approval of the conditional use.

Mr. Jim Robinson, 455 Emerald Woods Drive, clarified statements made by Mr. Dearth regarding property on E. High Street.

Mr. Rutherford noted it was impossible to return this house to a single-family house once the addition was complete and advised there were strategies that could be taken to return it to a single-family house in the future and ways it could become a fraternity now. Mr. Rutherford advised he was concerned with traffic and felt perhaps the alley should be opened up to Sycamore Street. Mr. Rutherford inquired if the City had any recourse if the fraternity did not stay a 'dry' house. Mr. Rutherford noted concern with adequate water resources in connection with a sprinkler system.

Mr. Bogard noted concern with access for fire equipment. Mr. Bogard noted the desire to return the mile square to single-family homes could take fifty plus years. Mr. Bogard noted the difficulty of purchasing these homes and then making the necessary renovations. Mr. Bogard advised the proposal did comply with the zoning code and building code.

Ms. Fischer noted she wanted to see a commitment from Rumpke that they would pick-up refuse from the specified location. Ms. Fischer noted concern with access for fire equipment. Ms. Fischer discussed concerns with decision standards C, E, and J or 3, 5, and 10 noting her feeling the project did not meet the standards. Ms. Fischer discussed zoning code section 1143.05a noting her feeling the project did not comply with that part of the zoning code.

Mr. Keebler inquired where fraternities should be located as some people felt the proposed location was too dense already and others didn't want them spread out. Mr. Keebler noted the house in question was run down in its current state and this proposal would be better for the community as a whole. Mr. Keebler noted the project would not change the neighborhood unless you defined a neighborhood as one street. Mr. Keebler noted his feeling the requirements were met and a 'no' vote would mean Council didn't want anymore fraternities in the City.

Ms. Currie noted she had concerns with the same decision standards Ms. Fischer mentioned as well as decision standards C, F, H, and K or 3, 6, 8, and 11 noting her feeling this was not the directive in the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Currie noted she walked this area constantly and did not think adding more people was the direction to go. Ms. Currie noted as a person progressed on foot through this area it became more and more oppressive with traffic, noise and litter. Ms. Currie also expressed concern with parking and fire equipment access.

Ms. Dana noted she supported the proposal because it was a good group of people who followed guidelines set forth by the Greek Community as well as Miami University. Ms. Dana noted the proposal met all of the technical requirements of the lot. Ms. Dana advised she did not support the proposal due to the density of the mile square in that area and because of discussions with people who owned large student complexes with serious vacancy rates. Ms. Dana noted her feeling Council wanted fraternities in town and needed to address the issue in the zoning code and Comprehensive Plan Update as to where and how to organize them.

Additional conversation took place with regard to the alley being extended to Sycamore Street.

Ms. Fischer moved to extend the meeting until 11:15 p.m. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Rutherford inquired if the applicant was willing to make significant revisions to the plan so the house could be returned to a single or two-family residence in the future and whether or not the applicant would consider this a preservation opportunity.

Mr. McHugh advised Council was considering the application before them.

Mr. Rutherford inquired if the applicant was willing to construct the alley from Vine Street to Sycamore Street and Mr. Dearth advised only with the assistance of the other property owners.

Mr. Ross called the question.

Mr. Keebler moved to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Ross seconded. The motion failed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard (3)

NAY: Ms. Fischer, Mr. Ross, Ms. Currie, Ms. Dana (4)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott noted the Work Session earlier this evening regarding vacated right-of-ways was productive and staff would bring some options to Council for consideration. Mr. Elliott advised a Work Session was scheduled for June 17th at 6:00 regarding the Butler County/Oxford Connector project. Mr. Elliott noted City of Oxford Annual Reports were mailed to all Oxford residents and two Miami University student interns did an excellent job in preparing it.

Ms. Fischer requested that Mr. Elliott follow up with Mr. Cagwin regarding the notion that the City would retain Kramer School as green space should the Talawanda bond issue pass. Ms. Fischer requested Council's consensus regarding the issue and the consensus was to support it. Ms. Fischer encouraged the use of the phrase 'year round resident' as opposed to 'families' when referring to mile square residents so as not to offend retired and single citizens.

Mr. Bogard advised the City should look into obtaining free CPR Kits that were available. Mr. Bogard congratulated Mr. Dreisbach, Mr. Popescu and ODOT for the completion of improvements to US 27N and also South Locust Street.

Mr. Rutherford encouraged everyone to attend the Farmer's Markets in Oxford.

Mr. Ross noted the dumpster at 111 E. Spring Street did not need to be in front of the house and requested staff to investigate the situation.

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Ms. Dana noted this was National Home Ownership Month and advised a telethon would take place tomorrow on WCET noting anyone fearing foreclosure could call for assistance.

Ms. Dana shared thank you notes she received from a third grade class following a recent visit to the elementary school.

ADJOURN

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn at 11:15 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

A work session of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. Those Council members present were, Ken Bogard, Alysia Fischer, Kate Currie, Richard Keebler and Greig Rutherford. Doug Ross arrived at 6:13 p.m.

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

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

Mr. Keebler moved approval of the Agenda. Ms. Fischer seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

The purpose of the Work Session was for Council to receive information and history regarding vacated right-of-ways in the Uptown District and to discuss options for handling requests to use the right-of-way in the future.

Mr. Elliott provided a brief history of the vacation by the City of 16.5 feet on several Oxford Streets noting the City gave up rights to the property with restrictions. Mr. Elliott noted there had been several requests to use the vacated areas for development and Council's input on the matter was needed. Mr. Elliott inquired if Council wanted these requests to continue going before the BZA for variance consideration.

Council discussed restricting these requests to the Uptown District and Mr. Bogard noted residential and commercial requests would be different. Mr. Bogard noted the need for flexibility for renovations.

Ms. Fischer inquired if this would be a ballot issue and Mr. McHugh advised no.

Mr. Rutherford suggested establishing a 10 foot conditional use permit and Council discussed the difficulty of defining the decision standards for such a permit.

Mr. Rutherford also suggested creating an Urban PUD.

Mr. McHugh inquired if 16.5' was a proper set-back.

Ms. Fischer suggested contacting the people who worked on the streetscape initiative for their input.

Mr. Elliott asked Council to consider a reduction in the 16.5' set-back or a conditional use with reduction in the Uptown District.

Mr. Bogard advised funds were available through OKI for streetscapes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rutherford moved to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Ross seconded. The motion carried 7-0-0.