A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kevin McKeehan on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 7:00 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. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director, 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 McKeehan requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Snyder moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) (1) and (3) for the purpose of discussing appointments to Boards and Commissions, employee evaluations and pending litigation. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blackburn moved to return from Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PRESENTATION
MCULLOUGH-HYDE
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Bryan Hehemann, President and CEO, McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital, advised he would summarize the activities reflective of the challenges of healthcare in general at McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital and all of the wonderful things the medical staff, employees, volunteers, and members of the board were trying to accomplish. The annual report was provided to Council and Mr. Hehemann discussed the hospital accreditation process which was done every three years. Mr. Hehemann noted the hospital scored very well last November and very few deficiencies were identified.

Mr. Hehemann discussed new programming initiatives in 2014 and noted the "Hand Off" program now included the patient at the time of discharge from the hospital. Mr. Hehemann advised the patient now had a better understanding of what their post acute care options were. Mr. Hehemann noted hospital staff worked with other non-profit agencies including the school district, Miami University, and county level agencies. Mr. Hehemann advised in 2013 a Community Needs Assessment was performed as required by the federal government and the two highest rated needs in the community were identified as obesity and mental health care. Mr. Hehemann noted hospital staff continued to lead and stay involved in activities surrounding better health in those two areas.

Mr. Hehemann discussed patient activity in 2014 verses 2013 noting the total number of patient discharges was much lower which reflected a number of factors in the industry and in the local market. Mr. Hehemann noted the number of 'patients admitted' declined and those patients classified as 'observation patients' increased. Mr. Hehemann advised key ancillary services such as emergency visits, surgical procedures, laboratory tests and imaging procedures experienced slight to moderate declines. Mr. Hehemann noted the declines were somewhat offset by continued increases in Rehabilitation/Physical Therapy Services and Urgent Care services in Ross and Brookville.

Mr. Hehemann discussed the hospital margin noting McCullough-Hyde reported a negative margin (revenue over expenses) in the amount of $1,442,000. Mr. Hehemann advised the shortfall was primarily the result of higher Medicaid volumes, lower volume of patients with better-paying commercial insurance, one-time costs associated with the affiliation process and an unusually large number of high claims encountered under the hospital's self insured employee health care plan. Mr. Hehemann noted the hospital had cash flow from non cash depreciation expense and they were still in solid financial shape.

Mr. Hehemann advised the McCullough-Hyde Memorial Trust was completely separated from affiliation activities like it was created in the 1940's and it would only raise funds for the hospital not TriHealth or any other community program. Mr. Hehemann advised the Trust would conduct a Capital Campaign this fall to raise funds toward the Emergency Department, and possibly the Surgery Department, expansion and modernization projects.

Mr. Hehemann noted he would appreciate any feedback on the report and offered to answer any questions.

Mayor McKeehan and members of Council thanked Mr. Hehemann for the report.

PUBLIC HEARING
2016 TAX BUDGET

Mr. Snyder moved to open the Public Hearing regarding the 2016 Tax Budget at 7:56 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Newlin advised the Ohio Revised Code required the legislative body to approve a tax budget prior to July 15 so it could be forwarded to the Butler County Tax Commission by July 20th.

Mr. Newlin noted the tax budget was a preliminary estimate of next year's budget and in August staff would undertake the detailed line item budget analysis and preparation. Mr. Newlin discussed the General Fund Budget Analysis as presented on pages 22 to 34 of the agenda packet.

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

Mr. Snyder moved to close the Public Hearing regarding the 2016 Tax Budget at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

BUTLER COUNTY
AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Mr. David Brown, advised he was addressing Council as part of the Butler County Auditor's Outreach Program. Mr. Brown noted the last time he spoke to Council he talked about the Homestead Exemption program and a double benefit for 100% disabled veterans. Mr. Brown advised the Auditor's Office began to understand the legislation was quite limiting for those who would be eligible for the double benefit and they lobbied the legislature to make some amendments to the original bill. Mr. Brown noted the initiative received support in the legislature and he hoped the amendments would be adopted in the next week or two.

Mr. Brown advised the forfeited land sale usually occurred in July and this year it was pushed back to October 14th. Mr. Brown noted the listing of properties was on the Auditor's website at www.butlercountyauditor.org.

Mr. Brown advised the Board of Revisions received 1,400 filings to contest property values which was a low number considering the complete revaluation which occurred last year. Mr. Brown noted most of those filings were already settled.

Mr. Blackburn inquired when the next tax bills were coming. Mr. Brown advised the tax bills were generated by the Treasurers Office and he did not know the exact date but it was generally in August.

APPOINTMENTS TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Keebler moved to appoint James Burchyett and Brian Martin to the Civil Service Commission for terms expiring in 2018, Paul Brady and Roger Ames to the Board of Zoning Appeals for terms expiring in 2018, Dan Umbstead to the Community Relations Commission for a term expiring in 2018, Vincent Hand to the Environmental Commission for a term expiring in 2019, Richard Daniels and Robert Benson to the Planning Commission for terms expiring in 2020, and Marguerite Moul and Seth Geisler to the Student Community Relations Commission for terms expiring in 2018. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Keebler advised there were still some appointments under consideration for the next meeting.

Mr. Snyder thanked the appointed citizens for their service to the City.

Mayor McKeehan noted there were additional vacancies on the Community Relations Commission, Environmental Commission, Board of Appeals/Building and Housing, Income Tax Board of Review and the Records Commission. Mayor McKeehan encouraged interested citizens to contact Ms. Eaton.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Deb Clark, Oxford, addressed Council as a representative from "Bring Amtrak Back to Oxford". Ms. Clark noted the City of Oxford and Miami University needed to find a site for an Amtrak stop and her group located a very nice site with room for expansion to put the station in before the administration changed at Amtrak. Ms. Clark advised once the administration changed at Amtrak there was a possibility that Oxford would have to start the process all over and the work done by her group and others would be like it never happened. Ms. Clark noted 1,236 signatures were obtained last Parents Weekend in support of an Amtrak stop in Oxford and she had 3 petitions on line. Ms. Clark advised over 1,000 people indicated they would like to donate funds or materials for building a station on Dr. Zipko's property which was close to hotels, stores, pharmacies, other merchants, and it was located next to the railroad tracks. Ms. Clark noted this would be a flag stop and the depot would be either solar or gas powered and could be built for less than $10,000. Ms. Clark advised her group talked to people all over the country who had done similar projects and directed them in the right direction so a grant would not be needed and taxes did not need to be raised for Oxford's project. Ms. Clark noted the next step was for Council to decide on a site and then Amtrak would approach CSX who by law would allow the stop because the tracks existed and from there it would be a 6-12 month process. Ms. Clark asked Council on behalf of all the people who wanted an Amtrak stop in Oxford to look long and hard at this site and move forward before the opportunity was lost and the process would have to start over.

Ms. Rousmaniere asked Ms. Clark to clarify the administration changes. Ms. Clark advised if new administration came in at Amtrak they may not support this initiative. Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if Ms. Clark was working with Mr. Kyger on the Amtrak initiative. Ms. Clark noted she had spoken to Mr. Kyger many times and members of "All Aboard Ohio"

Mayor McKeehan advised Mr. Kyger was working with a committee who identified 6 potential sites and Dr. Zipko's property was one of them.

Mr. Kyger advised Amtrak was looking for two things, a site and a source of funding. Mr. Kyger noted the committee was looking for sites to develop for the least cost with regard to property acquisition and a site that could expand if a Hoosier Line eventually came through Oxford.

Mayor McKeehan noted the initiative was being worked on diligently.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Keebler requested removal of item D. A Resolution to purchase a new Fire Department vehicle.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 2, 2015 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the June 3, 2015 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the June 3, 2015 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Blackburn moved to approve consent agenda items A., B., and C. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE

A Resolution No. 4920 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Lebanon Ford Commercial for the purchase of a 2016 Ford Expedition and specified options at state contract pricing at a cost not to exceed $40,257.00. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Chief Detherage advised the proposed Resolution would authorize the purchase of a new vehicle for the Fire Department and allow for the disposal of a 1999 Crown Victoria. Chief Detherage noted from there vehicles would be moved down the line.

Mr. Keebler noted when this vehicle purchase was approved in 2014 it was to be used as the Advanced Life Support vehicle and inquired why it was going to be used as the Fire Chief's vehicle. Chief Detherage advised his vehicle was too small for the amount of equipment he carried and it was better suited to be used as the Advanced Life Support vehicle which only carried 3 bags. Mr. Keebler noted he liked consistency in the fleet and asked for the new vehicle be lettered to match the ambulances.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No. 4920. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS
AGREEMENT WITH
VOGELPOHL FIRE EQUIPMENT

A Resolution No. 4921 accepting the group bid of Vogelpohl Fire Equipment and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Vogelpohl Fire Equipment for the purchase of twenty (20) self contained breathing apparatuses and associated equipment at a cost of $117,587.00. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Mr. Keebler recused himself from the discussion.

Chief Detherage advised the City partnered with the West Chester Fire Department to submit a bid for the self contained breathing apparatuses and associated equipment. Chief Detherage noted they received very good pricing from Vogelpohl Fire Equipment and asked for Council's approval of the proposed Resolution.

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

Ms. Rousmaniere referred to the staff report on page 16 of the agenda and inquired how the equipment being removed from service would be disposed of. Chief Detherage advised if another Fire Department needed the equipment it would be donated otherwise it would be auctioned on line.

Mayor McKeehan noted the pricing was considerably lower than what was budgeted and inquired if all the necessary equipment was being purchased and Chief Detherage advised yes.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No.4921. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCE
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 noted this was the annual code update which included legislation adopted by Council through June of 2015 as well as changes to the State Traffic and General Offense Codes.

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

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
2016 TAX BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3315 Authorizing The Tax Budget For The Year 2016 And Directing That The Same Be Transmitted To The Butler County Auditor. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised he had nothing further to discuss.

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

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3315. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The Ordinance was adopted 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)

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance No. 3316 Amending Ordinance No. 3286. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 4 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2015. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin discussed the proposed Supplemental Budget as presented on pages 40 and 41 of the agenda.

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

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3316. Mr. Smith seconded. The Ordinance was adopted 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 Council's Annual Strategic Planning Retreat would be scheduled for August and he would confirm the date soon.

Mr. Elliott noted the City was asked from time to time about providing bus service during the summer. Mr. Elliott advised the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) provided contracted bus service to Miami University for $1.6 million per school year and Miami did not fund the service during summer months. Mr. Elliott noted bus service for 13 weeks during the summer would cost between $39,000 and $51,000 depending in how many days per week and how many hours per week it would be used for the campus core route. Mr. Elliott advised he was not recommending the City budget for the service but he wanted Council to have the information.

Mr. Elliott advised staff was busy working on filling open positions including three Fire Captains. Mr. Elliott noted one offer was made for a Fire Captain and the other two should be sent offer letters soon. Mr. Elliott advised Donna Heck, Human Resources Director, would retire on June 25th. Mr. Elliott noted Ms. Heck began her employment with the City in 1993, retired from her full-time position in 2009 and returned on a part-time basis. Mr. Elliott advised the Human Resources Director position was advertised and the City received 42 applications. Mr. Elliott noted interviews took place with the top candidates and he hoped to make an announcement regarding that position soon. Mr. Elliott advised it would be a busy year as there were many upcoming retirements.

Mr. Kyger advised he would invite Ms. Clark to attend the next Amtrak Committee meeting. Mr. Kyger noted the committee identified potential sites and they would carefully review each one of them.

Ms. Rousmaniere noted the July 1st Environmental Commission Meeting was cancelled.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised cyclists in the Race Across America would be riding through Oxford June 22 through June 28 and a 24/7 Time Station would be set up in the TJ Maxx parking lot. Ms. Rousmaniere noted TJ Maxx donated $1,000 to the Oxford team's charity which was autoimmune disease. Ms. Rousmaniere advised the participants rode their bikes as fast as they could from California to Maryland. Ms. Rousmaniere encouraged everyone to stop by the Time Station to wish the riders well.

Mr. Keebler noted the Fire Department had a difficult fire yesterday on campus at Swing Hall. Mr. Keebler advised there was good response from surrounding fire departments including Reily Township, Milford Township, Ross Township, Fairfield Township and the City of Hamilton. Mr. Keebler noted everyone did a good job and the fire could have been much worse.

Mr. Blackburn noted the Porsche Car Show would take place in Oxford on Saturday with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Blackburn advised the Lions Club would donate water and snacks for the Race Across America cyclists and teams.

Mr. Blackburn referred to the violence and other issues happening in different cities and across the country and noted we in Oxford were lucky to have our Police Department host a Fishing Derby for Oxford kids. Mr. Blackburn advised this weekend the Oxford Police Department, Hamilton Police Department, Butler County Sheriff's Department and the State Highway Patrol would hold the 19th annual Respect for Law Camp in Oxford for 150 kids from Butler County. Mr. Blackburn noted we were fortunate to have the Oxford Police Department represent the City and take care of its residents.

ADJOURN

Mr. Keebler moved to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.