A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kevin McKeehan on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. Those members present were Richard Keebler, Mike Smith and Steve Snyder. Bob Blackburn arrived at 6:48 p.m. and Kate Rousmaniere arrived at 6:54 p.m. Edna Southard was excused.

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

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Smith moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) (3) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Mr. Snyder seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder, Mayor McKeehan (4)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Snyder moved to return from Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McKeehan requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Keebler moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PROCLAMATION
'PHI DELTA THETA WEEK'

Mayor McKeehan read the Proclamation and presented it to Mr. Luke Benfield.

Mr. Luke Benfield, Director of Education for the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, thanked Council and the City of Oxford on behalf of the fraternity who was hosting their Emerging Leaders Institute. Mr. Benfield noted in 2010 360 men participated in the program and over the years they found so much value in the leadership education and in the ethics education that 850 men were expected to participate this year. Mr. Benfield advised the fraternity was excited to host the largest educational event in the history of the Phi Delta Theta here in Oxford. Mr. Benfield thanked Council and the City for their continued support.

INTRODUCTION
MS. CANDICE TURPIN
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Mr. Elliott introduced Ms. Candice Turpin, the City's new Human Resources Director. Mr. Elliott advised before joining the City of Oxford Ms. Turpin served as the HR Manager for ATW Automation in Dayton. Mr. Elliott noted Ms. Turpin was a well rounded HR professional with over 12 years of experience in HR management. Mr. Elliott advised Ms. Turpin received her Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Miami University in 1995. Mr. Elliott noted Ms. Turpin was a member of the Miami Valley Human Resources Association and the International Foundation of Employees Benefit Professionals. Mr. Elliott advised Ms. Turpin and her family lived in Gasper Township in Preble County, Ohio and she was also a member of the Preble Shawnee School Board serving as the current Board President. Mr. Elliott noted he was pleased to have Ms. Turpin join the City's management team as Human Resources Director and he was confident that with her background in human resource management she would prove to be a great asset for the City of Oxford's HR operation.

Ms. Turpin thanked the City Manager and the Department Heads for this opportunity and noted she was excited to serve the employees of the City of Oxford. Ms. Turpin advised she felt she had a real zeal for the Human Resources Director position and she was looking forward to learning and growing in the role.

Mayor McKeehan welcomed Ms. Turpin and noted Council was glad to have her on board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ben Wright, 715 W. Chestnut Street, noted students would return to Oxford in one month and the 13th annual welcome back 'Walk About' would take place August 23rd and 24th. Mr. Wright advised Council should have received an email today asking for volunteers. Mr. Wright noted Walk About was a great program where volunteers talked to students about being a good neighbor, civic engagement, how to give back to the community, noise and trash violations and other useful information and community support was needed. Mr. Wright advised last year 64 volunteers visited 700 addresses of the 1300 targeted addresses and 100 volunteers were needed to make the program work. Mr. Wright encouraged those who wanted more information to visit offcampus@miamioh.edu.

Mayor McKeehan asked staff to make sure the Walk About information was on the City's website.

Mr. Jeff MacDonald, Ace Hardware, noted he was addressing Council with regard to an 80 foot strip of curb on the north side of Spring Street across from Ace Hardware's back parking lot. Mr. MacDonald advised there was an initiative to install a bike lane in that 80 foot stretch and he only realized that when the curb was painted yellow. Mr. MacDonald noted Council received a letter from him today addressed to Mr. Elliott and he encouraged them to read it. Mr. MacDonald advised the 80 foot stretch of curb was critically important to him and Ace Hardware employees and customers had used those parking spaces for years. Mr. MacDonald noted Ace Hardware supported cycling safety although he hoped the 80 feet of curb space could be left for Ace Hardware's use otherwise he was not sure where to send his employees and customers.

Mr. MacDonald stated he wished he had been told this was happening and he was the only business owner being affected by this change. Mr. MacDonald asked Council to reconsider this change before going any further. Mr. MacDonald thanked Council noting he appreciated their consideration.

Mayor McKeehan advised the matter would be considered and thanked Mr. MacDonald for his comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 7, 2015 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Mr. Snyder moved to approve consent agenda. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
NOTICE OF COSTS FOR
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

A Resolution No. 4922 determining the total cost of the assessment by lot, authorizing the list of assessments by lot to be filed with the Clerk of City Council and ordering the same be opened for public inspection and authorizing the Clerk of City Council to publish in a newspaper of general circulation that the list of assessments by lot is available for public inspection. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised this was the third of four steps necessary to levy an assessment on properties the City improved in terms of curbs, gutters and sidewalks in the right-of-way. Mr. Dreisbach noted this process began in October of 2014 and was necessary prior to the reconstruction of High Street between Poplar Street and Campus Avenue. Mr. Dreisbach advised Council passed a Resolution agreeing the work was necessary and another Resolution to contract for the construction. Mr. Dreisbach noted the Resolution tonight would verify the notice of cost for each property as shown on page 18 of the agenda. Mr. Dreisbach advised the City estimated the cost of the improvements for each property and in all cases but one the actual cost was lower than the City's estimate. Mr. Dreisbach noted the last step was the assessing Ordinance after notice of actual costs were published in the newspaper giving property owners an opportunity to contest the charges, pay them in cash or have them assessed to the property tax bill. Mr. Dreisbach offered to answer any questions.

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

Mr. Keebler noted the proposed legislation was straight-forward and part of the process.

RESOLUTION
REVOLVING LOAN FUND

A Resolution No. 4923 approving the Oxford Community Improvement Corporation's recommendation to loan $20,000.00 to Root Yoga, LLC. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger advised Root Yoga LLC applied for a $20,000 loan from the Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Kyger noted the Revolving Loan Fund was a separate pool of money the City held that came from HUD to be used to help with business start-ups and it was meant to be gap financing for someone who could not get 100% of the financing on their own. Mr. Kyger advised there were 5 locations in town currently using Revolving Loan Fund money. Mr. Kyger noted $2,000,000 in projects had been created in town using $600,000 from the Revolving Loan Fund and the fund was paid down to approximately $300,000. Mr. Kyger advised Root Yoga was seeking a $20,000 loan for a $41,000 yoga studio to be located at 22 W. Park Place (formerly Seaview Outfitters) and Seaview Outfitters was moving to 32 E. High Street. Mr. Kyger noted the Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee recommended approval of the loan with conditions as outlined on page 20 of the agenda. Mr. Kyger introduced Steve Thomas, one of the Root Yoga LLC business owners.

Mr. Steve Thomas, referred to the Revolving Loan Fund loan he received to assist in opening Seaview Outfitters and advised it was an extremely important opportunity for him and he wanted to thank everyone involved in the City of Oxford for providing such an opportunity. Mr. Thomas noted it was clear that Seaview Outfitters was a thriving business and he could not be happier. Mr. Thomas advised he and his business partner were excited about opening Root Yoga and they would be located in the same 22 W. Park Place location that Seaview Outfitters occupied until recently. Mr. Thomas noted they were very familiar with the space and they were doing some great enhancements to the space including the installation of new wood flooring throughout. Mr. Thomas advised the business should be open before the school year started and it was not just a student focused business. Mr. Thomas noted they would offer yoga for kids, yoga for the elderly, and yoga for mentally challenged and handicapped individuals and several instructors were already lined up who had the certifications to provide those services. Mr. Thomas thanked Council for considering the loan for this opportunity noting he felt it would be an awesome addition to the Oxford market.

Mr. Snyder advised he knew the origin of the name 'Seaview Outfitters' and inquired what the origin of the name 'Root Yoga' was. Mr. Thomas advised with yoga a person was rooted into the ground, roots were the signs of new beginnings and the mind set was to be simple, sweet and short. Mr. Snyder was in favor of the loan and noted the loan for Seaview Outfitters was in very good standing. Mayor McKeehan advised the Revolving Loan Review Committee looked at their payment history as well. Mayor McKeehan noted a second Seaview Outfitters was opened in Bloomington, IN and it was doing well. Mr. Thomas noted the Bloomington store opened a year ago and it continued to thrive.

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

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Resolution No. 4923. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCE
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

An Ordinance Temporarily Suspending The Limit In Section 2 C Of Ordinance 3290 And Granting Authority Authorizing The City Manager To Increase The Salary Of The Current Chief Of Police By $1,011.00 Per Month Effective July 1, 2015. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised when Bob Holzworth was appointed Chief of Police in 2012, it was agreed he be reimbursed $1,011 each month to cover the cost of his health insurance premium through the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund. Mr. Elliott noted this was the same amount the City contributed each month for each full-time employee to the City's Health Benefits Fund. Mr. Elliott advised provisions of the Affordable Care Act did not permit the City to continue this reimbursement. Mr. Elliott noted an option to avoid reducing Chief Holzworth's total agreed compensation was to add this amount to his salary. Mr. Elliott advised when added to his current salary, it exceeded the maximum amount permitted by the Salary Ordinance, and the amount the City Manager may increase compensation in one year (limited to 5%). Mr. Elliott recommended Council adopt the proposed Ordinance upon the second reading authorizing him to exceed the Salary Ordinance for the current Chief of Police.

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

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired if there was a simple way to explain why provisions of the Affordable Care Act did not permit the City to continue this reimbursement.

Mr. McHugh advised in approximately 1961 the IRS made regulations that allowed this type of reimbursement plan. Mr. McHugh noted the Affordable Care Act now had a provision through the IRS that required employees to belong to an authorized group medical plan. Mr. McHugh advised employers could compensate someone for not taking the plan but it had to be paid in such a manner that it went to the employee, it could not go to actually purchase insurance. Mr. McHugh noted the City had to find an alternative and the best way to address it was through a salary increase realizing there would be additional tax on the additional salary.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

An Ordinance No. 3318 Accepting The Planning Commission's Recommendation And Granting A Zoning Map Amendment To Establish A Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District In A R-1B (Single Family Medium Density Residential) District For 84 Parcels Located On Dana Drive, Ryan Drive, Josie Lane, Randall Drive And Oxford Reily Road In The City Of Oxford, Ohio. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Department)

Mayor McKeehan recused himself from the discussion and the vote.

Mr. Chen noted this was the second reading of the proposed Ordinance and he had no new information regarding the application.

Vice Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if there were any comments from the petitioner or from the public and there were none.

Mr. Snyder inquired how many overlay districts had been established and Mr. Chen advised this would be the 10^{th} one.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3318. Mr. Keebler seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

Mayor McKeehan returned to the dais.

ORDINANCE
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

An Ordinance No. 3319 Accepting The Planning Commission's Recommendation And Granting A Zoning Map Amendment To Establish A Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District In A R-1B (Single Family Medium Density Residential) District for 49 Parcels Located On Autumn Drive, Harvest Court, and Brookville Road In The City Of Oxford, Ohio. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen noted this was the second reading of the proposed Ordinance and he had no new information regarding the application.

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

Ms. Rousmaniere noted this would be the 11th Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3319. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mayor McKeehan (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
CONDITIONAL USE

An Ordinance No. 3320 Approving A Conditional Use Permit To Permit A Mini Warehouse Facility At 50 W. Central Avenue Oxford, Ohio With Conditions. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen referred to page 79 of the agenda and advised language was added to condition d. per Mr. Keebler's request at the first reading.

Mr. Scott Webb, Applicant, Agent, advised this process began a year ago with the Pulley family and it had since transitioned to the Brower/Sadler family noting Mr. Sadler was in attendance this evening. Mr. Webb thanked the Planning Commission and Council for their constructive comments over the past year. Mr. Webb advised he and his clients felt the project was well vetted during the Planning Commission's review and they were more than happy to meet the conditions that were added to the Conditional Use Permit approval. Mr. Webb noted he and his clients were looking forward to getting the project started. Mr. Webb offered to answer any questions.

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

Mayor McKeehan advised a number of questions had been answered during the first reading of the proposed Ordinance.

Ms. Rousmaniere moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3320. Mr. Keebler seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Smith Mayor McKeehan (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS : None (0)

ORDINANCE
SPEED LIMIT AUTHORIZATION

An Ordinance No. 3321 Authorizing A Speed Limit Of Thirty Five (35) Miles Per Hour On Bonham Road From Shadowy Hills Drive To The Eastern Lot Boundary Of The Beta Theta Pi Foundation Property. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised the existing bridge over Four Mile Creek on Bonham Road was nearing the end of its useful life and the Butler County Engineer was going to replace the bridge at no cost to the City in 2016. Mr. Dreisbach noted the engineer approached the City to see if the City was willing to change the speed limit to 35 mph through the annexed area to simplify design requirements and to reduce costs for the new bridge. Mr. Dreisbach advised staff concurred 35 mph was the proper speed limit for the annexed section of Bonham Road.

Mr. Elliott advised an issue was raised at the last meeting about the speed limit on Bonham Road and especially on the existing bridge. Mr. Elliott clarified that the current yellow and black sign reading 20 mph was an advisory sign to indicate the maximum recommended speed through the bridge and the horizontal alignment. Mr. Elliott advised the sign would stay in place until the new bridge was constructed.

Mr. Snyder noted this issue would go away at some point because the new design would be much more straight.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired what the timeline was for construction of the new bridge. Mr. Dreisbach advised this was one of the last steps for ODOT to approve the design. Mr. Dreisbach noted if Council adopted the proposed Ordinance the final design would be approved and the project would be ready to bid.

Mr. Snyder noted he recently read an article about national problems with infrastructure including bridges and highways in the country and thousands and thousands of bridges needed work. Mr. Snyder advised Oxford was fortunate the County Engineer looked at infrastructure in Oxford's part of the county and Oxford would receive new infrastructure when there was a shortage of money.

Mayor McKeehan noted the Bonham Road bridge was important for the surrounding neighborhoods and during Miami football games.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3321. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Rousmaniere, Mr. Smith, Mr. Snyder
Mayor McKeehan (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised the City received a letter from Glenwood Energy on July 8, 2015 regarding the annual reconciliation of the Tax Adjustment Rider in accordance with the City of Oxford's Ordinance No. 3298. Mr. Elliott noted based on this reconciliation the Tax Adjustment Rider would reduce from its current level of $.3945 to $.2410 effective with the September 2015 meter usage and bills rendered the first of October 2015. Mr. Elliott advised for a gas utility customer with 100 CCF of consumption per month, the savings would be $1.53 and for an average household with an annual consumption of 850 CCF, the savings would be $13.01 per year.

Mr. Elliott advised the City of Oxford's website was updated regarding the progress on the improvements to US 27 South and the completion date was July 11, 2016. Mr. Elliott noted a lot of curbing had been laid and there was a section on both sides of the bridge that needed to be done. Ms. Rousmaniere referred to the closure of Chestnut Street and inquired if it would occur during Miami's move-in and school starting for the Talawanda School District. Mr. Elliott advised the traffic had to be switched to the eastern lane before the intersection of Chestnut Street and US 27could close. Mr. Elliott noted ODOT indicated August 10th was the tentative date and if it was pushed out to August 17th, the City would ask them to postpone closing the intersection. Mr. Dreisbach advised ODOT was conducting regular meetings with representatives from the City, the Talawanda School District, Peterman Bus Transportation and Miami University to discuss when the traffic would switch to the new pavement. Mr. Dreisbach noted he wasn't sure if August 10th was a realistic date given the rainy weather conditions. Mr. Dreisbach advised the agencies would continue to meet and the next meeting would take place on August 5 to discuss the implications of Closing Chestnut Street. Mr. Dreisbach noted the closure would be difficult and each agency was making plans and contingencies for how to best handle it.

Mr. Dreisbach updated Council and the public on other construction projects.

Mr. Snyder inquired how Council would proceed with the parking request made this evening from a local business owner.

Mayor McKeehan requested staff to review the options and to review the commitments made 14 years ago and report back to Council.

ADJOURN

Mr. Blackburn moved to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.