

A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kevin McKeehan on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 6:45 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. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Sam Perry, Planner; Ms. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blackburn 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. Ms. Rousmaniere 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

Ms. Southard moved to return from Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

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 7-0-0.

PRESENTATION

BUTLER COUNTY

ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM

Ms. Joan Potter-Sommer Executive Director, Oxford Seniors, addressed Council as a representative of the Butler County Elderly Services Program Renewal Committee. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised the program was funded by the tax payers of Butler County via the Senior Services Levy. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted she would share highlights from the Butler County Elderly Services Program Annual Report and answer any questions Council may have. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised the Elderly Services Program (ESP) made it possible for nearly 4,000 Butler County seniors to remain independent in their homes through services such as home delivered meals, homemaking and medical transport.

Ms. Potter-Sommer noted ESP served 96 clients last year in Oxford and Oxford Township. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised without the program many older adults would be forced into nursing homes before it was necessary losing much of their independence, privacy and connection to home and community. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted for those on Medicaid, the cost of their care would be 12 times higher for tax payers. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised the Council on Aging of Southwest Ohio managed the ESP via a contract with the Butler County Commissioners. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted LifeSpan, Inc., a local non-profit organization serving Butler County families and seniors contracted with the Council on Aging to assess and screen potential clients and manage the care of clients in the program. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised a volunteer Community Advisory Council was appointed by the commissioners to help advise and oversee the program. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted to be eligible for the program seniors must be a resident of Butler County, age 65 or older, and be unable to perform certain basic activities without help. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised 92% of the funding came from the Butler County Senior Services Levy and the program would not exist without the levy. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted the levy was first approved in 1996 and it was renewed most recently in 2010 with approval of nearly 70% of the voters. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised a 1.3 mil renewal levy would appear on the November 2015 ballot which would not increase property taxes. Ms. Potter-Sommer provided statistics on the elderly population in Butler County, explained the profile of a typical ESP client and mentioned the ESP services most used including: electric monitoring devices, home delivered meals, homemaker help, home medical equipment and medical transportation. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised throughout Butler County in 2014 the program delivered more than 418,000 meals to about 2,000 homebound seniors and it provided more than 100,000 hours of homemaker services to nearly 1,700 clients. Ms. Potter-Sommer noted Oxford Seniors was a contracted ESP provider for home delivered meals and adult daycare. Ms. Potter-Sommer introduced Mr. John Baker who was featured on the cover of the Annual Report and noted his story was on page 8. Ms. Potter-Sommer invited Mr. Baker to share a brief description of the services he received and the impact of ESP on his life.

Mr. John Baker, advised he and his wife moved to Oxford from Minnesota which was a good place and they discovered Butler County was a good place too. Mr. Baker noted his daughter went to Miami University so they were introduced to Oxford in various ways. Mr. Baker advised his wife had dementia that was getting worse and worse and ESP produced a walker for her as she was having trouble getting around. Mr. Baker noted his wife had to go into a nursing home and she died last year. Mr. Baker advised he was 90 years old and he appreciated ESP helping him get his 'Chariot' which had kept him from falling more than once. Mr. Baker noted ESP provided a few hours of house keeping services each week and three home delivered meals each week. Mr. Baker stated he lived across from Oxford Seniors and he could eat there at lunchtime. Mr. Baker noted he appreciated the help from ESP so much and he wanted Council to know what went on there.

Ms. Rousmaniere advised in addition to Mr. Baker receiving ESP services, he delivered meals on wheels on Fridays with her husband.

Ms. Potter-Sommer noted Mr. Baker gives back as well as receives and she appreciated him coming with her this evening. Ms. Potter-Sommer advised she appreciated the opportunity to speak before Council about the ESP levy.

Mayor McKeehan thanked Ms. Potter-Sommer for her presentation and thanked Mr. Baker for his comments noting they were very enlightening.

PRESENTATION
2015 SHAREFEST

Dr. Carol Michael, noted it was good to be in attendance to share the report this year and several people would be involved in the presentation. Dr. Michael advised she was President of the ShareFest Board.

Ms. Jen O'Brien, Director of Off Campus Outreach and Communication at Miami University noted she was asked to be on the ShareFest Planning Committee as she worked with off campus students who were a huge target for the audience of ShareFest.

Mr. Ben Wright, introduced himself from the Office of Community Engagement and Service, Miami University.

Mr. Andrew Wilson, introduced himself from the City of Oxford, Community Development Department.

Dr. Michael read ShareFest's Mission Statement and Purpose as follows: 'ShareFest is a service and environmental nonprofit corporation dedicated to the collection and redistribution of items donated by Miami University students and the Oxford community at the end of the academic year. Collected items benefit residents in need and social service agencies throughout the region. The purpose of ShareFest is to: 1. Help individuals in need by providing them with access to furniture, household goods, clothing and food donated by Miami University students or by other community members at the end of the academic year. 2. Teach sharing and environmental ethics and an awareness of diverse backgrounds to the young people who are students at Miami University. 3. Protect and preserve the environment by preventing usable items from going into the landfill. 4. Help the City of Oxford dispose of unwanted items and help clean the City quickly.'

Mr. Wilson noted the ShareFest Board members as follows: President, Dr. Carol Michael, Vice President, Dr. Kevin Bush of Miami University, Treasurer, Karen Baker, Baker and Associates CPAS LLC, Andrew Wilson, Secretary and Holli Morrish, Talawanda School District.

Mr. Wilson noted the ShareFest Planning Committee members as follows: Rob Abowitz, Miami University, Karen Baker, Gena Bowles, Butler County Children Services, Kevin Bush, Jung-Han Chen, Anna Ginsky, Miami University, Jennifer Kingsley, YWCA Hamilton, Kevin Krumpak, Associated Student Government, Carol Michael, Holli Morrish, Jen O'Brien, Diane Ruth-Vierling, Family Resource Center, Rory Uhler, Family Resource Center, himself and Ben Wright.

Ms. O'Brien advised recipient groups this year were the Family Resource Center and Butler County Children Services and they had both been recipients since Share Fest's inception in 2005. Ms. O'Brien noted this year Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati and the YWCA of Hamilton were added.

Ms. O'Brien advised the Oxford Community Choice Pantry received food donations this year and Ohio Valley Goodwill received donations and they donated the space for ShareFest. Ms. O'Brien noted in addition to 42 residence halls that provided donations, ShareFest had a record number of off-campus pick-ups at 279.

Dr. Michael discussed the types of donations received noting there was a decrease in food and clothing this year. Dr. Michael addressed the impact the donations made on the recipients noting the donations to Butler County Children Services would help approximately 12 individuals, including children and emancipated youth from the foster care system. Dr. Michael advised Habitat would generate approximately \$9,600 in funding from the sale of its ShareFest donations and the proceeds would help 3 low-income Oxford families as well as 35-37 in the Greater Cincinnati area with building new homes. Dr. Michael noted the donations to the YWCA would benefit 39 individuals by helping to furnish 31 apartments in the Residency Department and serve 8 clients in the Dove House in Hamilton. Dr. Michael advised the Oxford Community Choice Pantry received 3,060 pounds of food and toiletries from ShareFest 2015 and those donations would benefit many Oxford residents and families in the Talawanda School District. Dr. Michael noted Goodwill collected 52,220 pounds of merchandise from Share-Fest 2015 and most of the items collected were unwanted or unneeded by the recipient groups. Dr. Michael advised she decided to take some of the backpacks they collected to the Talawanda Middle School and they were very pleased as emergency backpacks were always needed. Dr. Michael noted she would add the elementary and high school in the future.

Mr. Wilson discussed various ways the ShareFest 2015 Planning Committee marketed the event noting an email to off-campus students from the Secretary for Off-Campus Affairs was the number one marketing effort. Mr. Wilson thanked the Secretary, Kevin Krumpak for that email and other assistance he provided. Mr. Wilson advised he, Mr. Chen, Dr. Michael, Councilor Rousmaniere, Jen O'Brien and Alan Kyger attended the International Town Gown Association's conference in Washington D.C. May 31st to June 3rd. Mr. Wilson noted attendees also included staff from Miami University and Ms. Greene from the Oxford Visitors Bureau. Mr. Wilson advised he and Dr. Michael presented on ShareFest during the conference to two dozen attendees and discussed the ins and outs of the event as well as that they had learned over the years.

Mr. Wright thanked the donors from Miami University and the Oxford area and the volunteers noting they were essential to the success of ShareFest. Mr. Wright thanked Ohio Valley Good Will Industries noting the facility was perfect for ShareFest. Mr. Wright read the list of companies, organizations and offices that provided financial support, staff to help with planning, volunteers, and other assistance and thanked each one of them. Mr. Wright thanked everyone who participated in ShareFest 2015 and noted the contributions helped individuals in need, taught sharing and environmental ethics and awareness of diverse backgrounds, protected the environment, and helped keep Oxford Clean.

Dr. Michael thanked Mr. Wilson for preparing the presentation and offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Blackburn inquired if anyone from the Town Gown conference was interested in doing a ShareFest event in their town. Mr. Wilson advised yes, and noted the City of Cincinnati was looking at doing an event with Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati next year.

Mayor McKeehan inquired if the recipient groups were listed in the order of what they received in terms of quantity. Mr. Wilson advised the Family Resource Center and Butler County Children Services were listed first as they participated each year and the other groups were not actively picking up donations. Mayor McKeehan noted it appeared Good Will was a great partner and inquired if they would participate next year and Mr. Wilson advised yes, as would Habitat for Humanity. Dr. Michael advised the Family Resource Center received more than half of the donations.

Mayor McKeehan thanked everyone for their efforts.

Dr. Michael thanked the City and City Council for their support.

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

New permit for Miami University 610 Oak Street Oxford, Ohio 45056. (Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger gave Dr. Michael and Mr. Wilson kudos for their presentation at the International Town Gown Association's conference noting it was a good session with a lot of questions being asked and a lot of information was shared.

Mr. Kyger advised a restaurant on High Street changed hands in the Spring and the new owners did not take the D1 beer permit so one was available for 610 Oak Street which was the Goggin ice arena. Mr. Kyger noted Goggin had a club seating area where they wanted to serve alcohol for various events.

Ms. Rousmaniere inquired why Yager Stadium didn't have to come before Council for a liquor permit but Goggin did. Mr. Kyger advised Yager used temporary liquor permits like for the annual Wine Festival and Goggin would be used as a banquet facility with a lot of scheduled events.

Mr. Keebler moved to accept the notice without comment. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 21, 2015 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the July 14, 2015 Planning Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Planner)

Report regarding the July 15, 2015 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Sam Perry, Planner)

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

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
NEW SECTION 1143.10

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1143.10 Entitled Uptown District, And Adopting New Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1143.10 Entitled Uptown District. (Sam Perry, Planner)

Mr. Perry advised the Ordinance was a proposed text amendment from the Planning Commission for changes to the Uptown zoning regulations. Mr. Perry noted the matter came forward as a result of a Board of Zoning Appeals case and staff and the Planning Commission felt some clarification was needed. Mr. Perry referred to page 23 of the agenda and advised the words 'stairways, hallways and elevators' were added as part of the Gross Floor Area Ratio. Mr. Perry advised the proposed amendment made it clear that stairways, hallways and elevators must be included and calculated in the building floor area ratio. Mr. Perry noted the floor area ratio was a mathematical calculation which allowed for a predictable sized building based on the lot size.

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

Ms. Rousmaniere noted the Planning Commission spent a lot of time talking about stairways, hallways and elevators. Mr. Keebler advised he didn't think those needed to be defined as part of the building but apparently the Board of Zoning Appeals felt otherwise.

ORDINANCE
NEW SECTION 1159.07

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1159.07 Entitled Definitions (Beginning With The Letter "F") And Adopting New Oxford Codified Ordinance Section 1159.07 Entitled Definitions (Beginning With The Letter "F") (Sam Perry, Planner)

Mr. Perry advised the definition of Gross Floor Area Ratio was modified to reflect the changes in the previous Ordinance.

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

ORDINANCE
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

An Ordinance Approving A Conditional Use Permit To Allow For The Alteration Of An Existing Fraternity House In A R2MS (Single and Two Family Mile Square Residential) District At 110 E. Spring Street, Oxford, Ohio 45056 With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Planner)

Mr. Perry advised there had never been a Conditional Use review for the existing fraternity house on Spring Street and since the proposed alteration was substantial a review by the Planning Commission and Council was required. Mr. Perry noted a site plan was submitted to construct two bedrooms in what was currently a breezeway. Mr. Perry advised the alteration would not increase the building footprint or the number of occupants and noted the permitted occupancy was 12. Mr. Perry advised a patio was shown on the site plan that was not part of this approval and there was a lot with no street frontage that needed to be consolidated with the main lot.

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

Ms. Southard inquired if the 15 by 8.5 foot bedrooms were a standard size. Mr. Perry advised 70 square feet was the minimum the proposed bedrooms were larger than the minimum. Ms. Southard referred to the three conditions on page 41 of the agenda and inquired how staff made sure the conditions were met. Mr. Perry advised the building permit would not be issued until the lots were consolidated and staff had evidence of the consolidation from Butler County. Mr. Perry referred to condition number 3 regarding the patio not being part of the Conditional Use approval and advised that would be taken care of through an inspection prior to an occupancy permit being issued. Mr. Perry referred to condition number 2 regarding approved occupancy and advised the rental property was inspected yearly. Mr. Keebler noted the conditions were one time issues and stated the lots were either consolidated or not and staff would not approve the building permit unless the lots were consolidated. Mr. Keebler noted the approved occupancy was the permitted occupancy and the fraternity was grandfathered at 12 and they were not getting more occupancy by building the bedrooms. Mr. Keebler advised the patio shown on the site plan was large and the Planning Commission felt if it was reduced to half the size shown it could be approved administratively as a minor amendment.

ORDINANCE
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

An Ordinance No. 3322 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 he had nothing to add since the first reading of the proposed Ordinance and recommended adoption by Council.

Mr. Snyder clarified Chief Holzworth was in a situation where the City could not pay his health insurance premium directly to the provider due to provisions of the Affordable Care Act so it would be paid through a salary increase. Mr. Elliott noted the salary increase would be subject to tax deductions. Mr. Elliott advised Chief Holzworth's salary would be increased by the same amount the City contributed each month for each full-time employee to the Health Benefits Fund.

Mr. Snyder moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3322. Ms. Rousmaniere seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

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

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised he, Ms. Eaton and Mr. Kyger met with representatives from the Butler County Board of Elections last week as they were seeking the City's assistance in recruiting volunteers for polling locations in Oxford. Mr. Elliott noted there were 13 precincts in the City and 3 for the township residents. Mr. Elliott advised the Board of Elections was most in need of volunteers for the polling location in the Shriver Center. Mr. Elliott noted volunteers were required to attend a 2-3 hour training session prior to the election, attend an organizational meeting the day before the election and work from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on election day. Mr. Elliott advised volunteers were paid \$165 and they could choose to participate in a program called 'Work a Day – Share Your Pay' and donate their pay to a charity. Mr. Elliott encouraged citizens to become involved.

Mr. Elliott advised on Friday he visited the new Oxford Lane Library and Smith Library of Regional History noting they were transitioning to the new facility at 441 S. Locust Street. Mr. Elliott advised a grand opening would take place Saturday, September 26 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Elliott noted the new facility was an exciting addition to the community.

Mr. Elliott advised the three year contract with Oxford Township for the provision of Fire and EMS services would expire at the end of the year and a meeting was scheduled with the Oxford Township Trustees to begin those negotiations.

Mr. Elliott referred to the 27 South improvement project and advised the 30 day closure of the Patterson Avenue and Chestnut Street intersection would not occur until the week of August 24th.

Mr. Perry noted he expected to receive a construction estimate for the Recreational Trail by the end of August and the project was moving forward on schedule.

Ms. Brahier advised the Parks and Recreation Department had been very busy and there were still fun events taking place before school started.

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Ms. Brahier noted the Community Yard Sale would take place August 8th on the lawn of the TRI facility with 23 vendors participating, August 12th was the Pre-School Open House, August 13th was the Perseid Meteor Shower Show at the Community Park from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., and Friday, August 14th was Family Night at the pool from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Ms. Brahier advised the pool was open until Labor Day.

Ms. Eaton asked Council members to see her if they needed a parking permit for the Council Retreat on Thursday.

Mr. Smith noted at 2:00 p.m. today while proceeding South on U.S. 27 asphalt was being laid near the intersection of Southpointe Parkway.

Ms. Rousmaniere thanked Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for repaving and striping Spring Street and noted bicyclists appreciated the new safety measures.

Mr. Blackburn advised the Porsche Show with 200 cars coming to Oxford would take place on Saturday. Mr. Blackburn encouraged everyone to attend.

Mayor McKeehan advised he would provide information to the Lions Club, Rotary, Kiwanis, Masons and possibly the League of Women Voters regarding the Board of Elections needing volunteers.

ADJOURN

Mr. Keebler moved to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.