A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kate Rousmaniere on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Those members present were Steve Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, Mike Smith and Edna Southard. Chantel Raghu was excused.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Ms. Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. John Jones, Police Chief; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Sam Perry, Community Development Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Mr. Chris Conard, Acting Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public official and appointments to Boards and Commissions. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Dana, Mayor Rousmaniere (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rousmaniere requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised Councilor Raghu would be absent or possibly arrive late for tonight's meeting due to a crisis which occurred today related to her daytime job as a veterinarian.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Dana moved to amend the agenda to add item 5.4. a Resolution opposing House Bill 288. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Ellerbe moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION
"HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH"

Mayor Rousmaniere read the Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Jacqueline Rioja Velarde.

Ms. Jacque Rioja Velarde, thanked Mayor Rousmaniere and members of Council for the Proclamation noting today more than ever it is important to celebrate in our communities. Ms. Rioja Velarde invited everyone to attend the Unidiversity Festival this Friday in the Uptown Parks for the taste of traditional cuisines and music and dance performances. Ms. Rioja Velarde defined the festival as a way to open our life to be more civically engaged. Ms. Rioja Velarde advised the League of Women Voters would be there to assist people in registering to vote and students and City staff would be there to provide information about the 2020 Census.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted she felt this was one of the best events in town.

APPOINTMENTS TO
BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Mr. Dana moved to appoint Steven Elliott to the Environmental Commission, Dana Miller to the Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission, Thor Hogan, George Fisher and Vincent Hand to the Oxford Parking and Transportation Advisory Board and Jonathon Shirley to the Student Community Relations Commission. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the September 3, 2019 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORT

Report regarding the September 4, 2019 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION
CONTRACT WITH
CITATION COLLECTION SERVICES, LLC

A Resolution No. 7104 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Citation Collection Services, LLC for parking citation collections for a period of one year. (John Jones, Police Chief)

RESOLUTION
SURPLUS PROPERTY

A Resolution No. 7105 declaring certain City property no longer needed for any municipal purpose as surplus and authorizing its advertisement and sale to the highest bidder by public auction including internet electronic auction. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dana moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
OXFORD SENIORS
REQUEST

A Resolution No. 7106 of Council authorizing alcoholic beverages to be served free of charge at a private event on Friday, October 18, 2019 held for "Members Only and Invited Guests" at Oxford Seniors, 922 Tollgate Drive Oxford, Ohio 45056. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised staff received a request from Oxford Seniors to serve alcoholic beverages at an October 18, 2019 event at the Senior Center. Mr. Elliott noted an Oxford Codified Ordinance requires approval of City Council. Mr. Elliott advised Council approved this request in 2017 and in 2018.

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

Mr. Smith inquired if this was their Oktoberfest event and Mr. Elliott advised yes.

Mr. Ellerbe moved to approve Resolution No. 7106. Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
TOTAL COST OF
ASSESSMENTS

A Resolution No. 7107 determining the total cost of the assessment by lot, authorizing the list of assessments by lot to be filed with the Clerk of Council and ordering the same be opened for public inspection and authorizing the Clerk of Council to publish notice 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 in order for staff to conduct the assessment program four pieces of legislation are required. Mr. Dreisbach noted Council already adopted the first two and this evening staff is seeking approval to post the actual cost for each parcel owner that elected to have the City perform the curb, gutter and/or sidewalk repairs. Mr. Dreisbach advised there was a period where a property owner may object to the cost and if any objections are received Council will hear the complaint and make a determination.

Mr. Dreisbach noted 80% of the actual costs were lower than what staff estimated and advised he doubted there would be cause for challenge on this matter.

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

Mr. Dana inquired what percentage of property owners elected to have the City perform the repairs and Mr. Dreisbach advised approximately 40%.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 7107. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
AUDIT SERVICES

A Resolution No. 7108 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. to complete the audit of the annual financial statements for each of the five years ending December 31, 2019 through 2023. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised the Finance Department recommends approval of the contract with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co. for the years ending 2019-2023. Mr. Newlin noted the Auditor of State, Keith Faber, implemented a contract extension process, assuming all parties agree and a reasonable fee is set, whereby the incumbent firm may be awarded a one-time contract extension without utilizing the bidding process for a period not to exceed the same number of years as the original contract, nor to result in an individual or combination of IPA firms performing the audit of the public office for greater than a ten year period. Mr. Newlin discussed pricing for the auditing services as detailed on page 44 of Council's packet.

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

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if a five year contract was typical and Mr. Newlin advised yes.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 7108. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
OPPOSING HB 288

A Resolution No. 7109 of Oxford City Council resolutely opposing Ohio House Bill 288 which violates the public interest and urging all members of the House Civil Justice Committee to vote against Ohio House Bill 288. (Steve Dana, Councilor)

Mr. Dana advised he wanted to draw everyone's attention to this Resolution because it involves the State of Ohio preempting municipal eminent domain law. Mr. Dana read the Resolution into the record as follows:

"WHEREAS, legislation regarding local property is strictly a matter that should be dealt with the existing legal framework; and

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 288 threatens municipal control over eminent domain; and

WHEREAS, this bill limits the public uses to which property taken pursuant to the Eminent Domain law may be put; and

WHEREAS, municipalities rarely employ eminent domain, and they do so only as a last resort.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXFORD, OHIO, HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:

SECTION 1: Council having reviewed Ohio House Bill 288 hereby strongly opposes the same and further urges all members of the House Civil Justice committee to vote against Ohio House Bill 288."

Mr. Dana advised one particular legislator in the General Assembly has his eyes on a trail similar to Oxford's OATS trail and does not want eminent domain to be used for recreational trails. Mr. Dana noted Oxford does not want to be interfered with by a State that takes over local eminent domain procedures. Mr. Dana advised he felt this bill was outrageous which was why he took the opportunity to present this Resolution to Council.

Ms. Janis Dutton, Vine Street, thanked Mr. Dana for his comments and noted Oxford was a Charter Municipality and under the Ohio Constitution Oxford has Home Rule. Ms. Dutton advised what the legislature was trying to do was unconstitutional and further erodes Home Rule of municipalities.

Mayor Rousmaniere re-capped part of the actual bill and noted it prevents municipalities from utilizing eminent domain for recreational trails.

Mr. Prytherch noted he felt the current law has plenty of safeguards for the use of eminent domain and advised it was used as a last resort and the landowner has a lot of protections. Mr. Prytherch noted there were specific uses for which eminent domain can be considered and there were boundaries.

Mr. Ellerbe noted he felt it was a special interest bill and he did not like it.

Mr. Conard advised eminent domain is not always an adversarial action noting many times it happens because the parties believe it is in the best interest for all involved. Mr. Conard advised it includes cooperatives with townships on occasion because there is something they perceive to be of greater good, and determine who needs to manage those projects and what resources are available to maintain something.

Mr. Dana noted the legislator overlooks the fact an amicable arrangement is just as possible.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 7109. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ORDINANCE
PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT &
PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION APPLICATION

An Ordinance No. 3535 Accepting The Recommendation Of The Planning Commission And Approving The Preliminary Planned Development And Preliminary Subdivision Applications For South Farm Section Two With Conditions. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Mr. Ellerbe recused himself due to the proximity of his residence to the proposed development.

Mr. Perry provided a PowerPoint noting this was the second reading of the proposed Ordinance which was reviewed by Council at the last meeting and it was reviewed by the Planning Commission. Mr. Perry advised the application was for a Planned Development and a Subdivision so it follows both sets of codes. Mr. Perry noted the applicant was Etta Reed with Bayer Becker engineers. Mr. Perry advised the proposed development would be located on 7 acres off of Kehr Road Drive noting it was currently platted for 13 lots. Mr. Perry noted the proposal was to re-plat it as 25 lots. Mr. Perry showed slides of the proposed development describing the proposal further and offered to answer any questions. Mr. Perry referred to page 49 of Council's packet and advised a 12th condition was added to accommodate the turn around to meet the requirements of the Fire Chief.

Ms. Etta Reed, Bayer Becker, advised she and the developers were in attendance to answer any questions and noted they had no new information to present.

Mr. Bill Snavely, Planning Commission Chair, advised the Planning Commission supports this project noting two changes were made in the conditions for approval since the Planning Commission's recommendation and he felt they were very consistent with the Planning Commission's discussion.

Mr. Alan Kyger, 6164 Contreras Road, Oxford Economic Development Director, advised he wanted to speak about Oxford's need for more housing. Mr. Kyger noted Oxford needed affordable housing for all ages and all incomes. Mr. Kyger referred to page 84 of Council's packet showing a chart with census data from 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010. Mr. Kyger brought to everyone's attention the fact that Oxford's student population represents 74% of the total population. Mr. Kyger noted Oxford's population would not have increased had it not been for the increase in Miami University's enrollment. Mr. Kyger advised 74% of the population is between the ages of 15 and 25 noting new businesses in town would cater to that age group. Mr. Kyger advised Oxford's population in the 30 to 64 year old age group has decreased noting people have left the City. Mr. Kyger noted 30-64 year olds were the core value and core people needed in a community, the highest wage earners, they have the most disposable income, they are the ones that get involved and volunteer in the community. Mr. Kyger advised Oxford was losing people not because employers were laying off people but because people are choosing not to live here for several reasons.

Mr. Kyger noted some of the factors people choose where to live are employment and quality of life issues (school systems, safety, recreation, leisure, healthcare, culture, shopping, dining and transportation) noting another key factor was affordability. Mr. Kyger noted he did some research which indicated 30% of people said the cost of housing would determine where they live. Mr. Kyger referred to supply and demand noting when there is a low supply it creates a higher demand which drives prices up. Mr. Kyger advised when more housing is available it produces a higher supply and bring prices down to meet the market. Mr. Kyger noted Oxford needs more housing, bottom to top, top to bottom. Mr. Kyger advised Oxford needs affordable low income housing. Mr. Kyger noted the proposal Council was considering was not affordable low income housing it was housing needed by a segment of the community. Mr. Kyger commended the Housing Advisory Commission, Mr. Perry and Mr. Moore noting they were creating policies that will bring in affordable housing and promote it and advised it was going to happen although it will take some time. Mr. Kyger advised Oxford needs more housing and more fulltime residents. Mr. Kyger noted he was here to speak in favor of all housing in Oxford including the proposed subdivision. Mr. Kyger advised if Oxford continues to have very sparse housing stock it will force more and more people to live other places.

Mr. Dana agreed with Mr. Kyger's comment that this proposal is not affordable housing but it is housing for a segment of people that Council wants to attract very much. Mr. Dana referred to the conditions for approval on pages 48-49 of Council's packet and advised he felt they were reasonable and add flexibility to the construction of the project. Mr. Dana noted he felt reserving space for natural areas is a big plus. Mr. Dana noted the reduced setback allows vegetation to be preserved and contributes to the clustering effect which was a key ingredient in this proposal. Mr. Dana noted the proposed major collector roadway is a plus and the neighborhood overlay district is definitely a plus as well as the intersection with the trail. Mr. Dana noted he felt the decision standards were met and that this was a good project.

Mr. Smith inquired if there was a timeline for starting the project if the proposal is approved and the developer advised he would like to sell lots next year.

Mayor Rousmaniere asked Mr. Perry to address the issue of a traffic study. Mr. Perry referred to page 101 of Council's packet and advised a preliminary traffic analysis was done by Ms. Reed. Mr. Perry noted the proposed singe family lots will generate an additional 13 trips in the a.m. peak and 14 trips in the p.m. peak hour over the originally approved 13 lots.

Ms. Southard inquired if Kehr Road was on the radar for eventual study and redevelopment, repaving or expansion. Mr. Dreisbach advised staff has discussed the need for a traffic control signal at the intersection. Mr. Dreisbach noted there would be significant costs for the study and evaluation on how to improve Kehr Road with the creek on one side and limited land on the other noting there are not a lot of good choices. Mr. Prytherch advised Kehr Road may not be the best solution for providing multi-model access into the City noting it may be a spur to the Oxford Area Trail. Mr. Prytherch advised Kehr Road already lacks pedestrian access and should be on Council's radar. Ms. Southard noted another discussion involved a cut through to Locust Street. Mr. Perry advised that recommendation was removed from the thoroughfare plan noting an extension of S. Main Street to Kehr Road was approved.

Mr. Elliott referred to pages 48-49 of Council's packet and advised condition number 6 was omitted. Mr. Perry noted that was not intentional and advised a corrected copy would be prepared for the Mayor's signature provided the Ordinance was approved.

Mr. Prytherch advised the Housing Advisory Commission (HAC) was working from the comprehensive plan on the idea of looking for diversity and affordability in housing noting not all developments will provide affordability as defined by HUD. Mr. Prytherch advised Council has heard from a number of groups that housing such as a landominium provides a need that we believe is here. Mr. Prytherch noted Council recently approved a revision to the Planned Development Ordinance that has criteria about diversity and affordability and he felt this proposal meets that. Mr. Prytherch advised he understood the concerns about affordability and the HAC was working on that. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt this proposal meets a lot of Council's goals and does what planned developments are supposed to which is to cluster and preserve open space. Mr. Prytherch advised when he approaches this within the language of the code he was also thinking about the functionality of this development as a resident. Mr. Prytherch provided a handout to Council and discussed his rationale for some proposed amendments as follows:
Add to condition 04 "The Landscape Plan shall specify the future management of the natural open spaces, providing for retention of natural landscapes and access to and through the open space for passive recreation (i.e. footpaths), for incorporation in the Homeowners Association documents."
New Condition 12: A privately owned active recreation area shall be provided on or adjacent to the site, including amenities such as but not limited to walking trails, play fields, ball courts, benches, lighting, and/or dog walking areas.
New Condition 13: Hoover Drive shall be reduced in width to approximately 30 ft. and that equivalent area dedicated to open space elsewhere in the development.
New Condition 14: An ADA-compliant mid-block crossing shall be provided.

Mr. Dana asked for clarification regarding Mr. Prytherch's comment about "giving up a lot" or "maybe giving up a lot". Mr. Prytherch advised there is no active recreation space anywhere in that part of town which creates a public need. Mr. Prytherch noted it would be reasonable to require one lot in the middle to be public open space or to carve out some public open space in the development. Mr. Prytherch advised there was an adjacent development that has a pond that these residents are likely going to want to use and if the developer could work with them they might share the cost of the open recreation area and not give up a lot.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted she was reluctant to do anything without hearing from the owners referring to the 4 proposed amendments at the second reading of the Ordinance. Mayor Rousmaniere advised she felt the ADA compliant mid-block crossing was significant. Mayor Rousmaniere noted active recreation space that would take the place of a house seems to be something the developers would want to address. Mayor Rousmaniere advised some people want smaller houses without much lawn.

Ms. Reed advised she spoke to the developers and they feel they can work with the suggested amendments. Ms. Reed noted her client has spoken to their legal counsel and they are required to join the adjacent HOA so the 25 residents will be part of that HOA. Ms. Reed advised they would also have a separate HOA to pay for maintenance that the original residents do not get.

Ms. Reed noted she felt the HOA's could work together to do something with the pond which she felt would give the best quality open space and preserve the vegetation already on the property. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt that was the logical place to do it. Ms. Reed advised the developer has no hesitancy in narrowing the street by 5 ft. and inquired if they could also narrow the right-of-way from 60 ft. to 50 ft. Mr. Elliott noted narrowing the street would only allow parking on one side of the street and asked Council to keep that in mind. Ms. Southard advised she did not think narrowing the street was a good idea for getting emergency vehicles in and out of the development.

Ms. Southard advised the goal of the development was to have diverse housing for young professionals and empty nesters and noted she wondered why additional open space needed to be in the Ordinance.

Mr. Glenn Ellerbe, 158 Silverleaf Drive, advised he wanted to address a couple of things because he lived near the proposed development. Mr. Ellerbe noted he was familiar with the traffic pattern on Kehr Road and advised the only time he has ever seen Kehr Road be a danger is on Sunday mornings when Cobblestone Church is in session or out of session. Mr. Ellerbe noted other than that traffic is pretty much a non issue. Mr. Ellerbe referred to entertainment and open spaces around this particular development and advised Cobblestone Church has an entertainment area, a play area for members of the church that other people have used when church is not in session and the church is perfectly ok with that noting it is in very close proximity to the proposed development. Mr. Ellerbe referred to a slide Mr. Perry provided of the Oxford Area Trail and noted eventually there is going to be a thoroughfare for multi-model transportation. Mr. Ellerbe advised he was not sure about a 30 ft. roadway as he lived on a 35 ft. road and had zero issues crossing the street noting he doubted the traffic pattern in that particular area is going to increase with any additional significance. Mr. Ellerbe advised it was his understanding as a Councilor that the second reading of an Ordinance was to make sure there are no appreciable changes from the first reading of the Ordinance.

Mr. William Ollier, 221 Morgan Circle, noted he was the President of the South Farm HOA. Mr. Ollier noted one of their goals in accepting this idea was that they would have the continued tree line or open space between the backyards of Hoover and the yards on Morgan Circle. Mr. Ollier advised if the undergrowth is cleaned out and trails are put in there might as well be one big yard which the existing owners are not fond of. Mr. Ollier referred to recreation areas and noted because Section 2 will be part of the HOA which already maintains all of the property along Kehr Road and around the pond and the church maintains other parts of the pond he feels that is as much open space as they are going to get.

Mr. Bill Snavely, Dana Drive, noted with all due respect to Mr. Prytherch he supported the previous two speakers and their comments. Mr. Snavely advised he was particularly concerned about narrowing the street noting when people have guests they are not always going to park in the driveway meaning they will park on the street. Mr. Snavely noted when emergency vehicles need to enter a development you err on the side of more space and advised 35 ft. was not a super wide street. Mr. Snavely encouraged Council not to change the width of the street.

Mr. Prytherch noted he felt we typically over-engineer our streets and they cost in terms of open space and infrastructure costs noting he thought that would serve some of Council's other goals.

Mr. Prytherch advised it would reduce the cost of the development which would reduce the cost of the units. Mr. Prytherch referred to his proposed amendments and advised if there was a second great and if there was no second he felt one of the issues has been addressed with the HOA.

Mr. Smith advised he supported the proposed development and he supported more housing in Oxford noting if this development lures 25 families to Oxford he will go out and cut the ribbon. Mr. Smith referred to the proposed amendments noting he felt some of them were great ideas and inquired where Mr. Prytherch was during the two Planning Commission meetings. Mr. Smith advised if Council was going to consider the proposed amendments he felt the application should be remanded back to the Planning Commission so it can be considered in a proper hearing with proper advertisement and proper public notice. Mr. Smith noted he did not think making these type of amendments at the second reading of an Ordinance was at all proper.

Mayor Rousmaniere and Ms. Southard agreed with Mr. Smith.

Mr. Prytherch moved to amend the Ordinance as stated during his earlier discussion with 4 additions. The motion failed for the lack of a second.

Ms. Southard moved to add condition number 6 from the staff report to the Ordinance on page 48 of Council's packet. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3535. Ms. Southard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Dana, Mayor Rousmaniere (5)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

Mr. Ellerbe returned to the dais.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott updated everyone on the City's Electric Aggregation program.

Mr. Elliott advised a Civil Rights Commission meeting was held on September 12 in the Municipal Building and noted they decided to move to quarterly meetings. Mr. Elliott advised the CRC was meeting monthly during the academic year and it was decided to meet quarterly unless a Special Meeting was required. Mr. Elliott advised a representative from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission would be a guest at the CRC's December 12, 2019 meeting.

Ms. Greene invited everyone to a ground breaking ceremony for the second phase of the Oxford Area Trail on Tuesday, October 1st at 4:30 p.m. Ms. Greene noted the event will take place at the DeWitt Log Cabin parking lot on SR73.

Ms. Greene advised the new segment of trail will go from SR73 behind western campus and come out at Peffer Park. Ms. Greene noted the new segment was scheduled to open in the fall of 2020.

Ms. Greene noted the City Manager's Office has a new intern, Gretchen Blackwell, who has been helping with communications. Mr. Greene advised Ms. Blackwell will work on a public education piece each week and noted they hoped to have a FAQ on the Electric Aggregation program next week to share with the community. Ms. Greene encouraged Council to let her know if they had ideas for the community education piece.

Mr. Kyger advised a representative from Lime was interested in attending the next Council meeting to give a state of the scooter update.

Mr. Kyger noted Scotty's Brew House was morphing into the Gaslight Brew House and advised local owners were keeping control of the establishment. Mr. Kyger encouraged those who have not been to the Cru Gastro Lounge in a while to go there noting the chef has completely redone the menu and he felt it was a very nice place to take a candidate for dinner.

Mr. Kyger provided an update on new restaurant openings and re-openings of restaurants that were closed over the summer months.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised at one of the last Work Sessions Ms. Raghu recommended that the City divest itself from fossil fuels noting Finance Director, Joe Newlin did an extensive study of fossil fuel divestment and found it is a complex issue in a variety of ways including the kinds of funds that an Ohio municipality can invest in and what it can do with those investments. Mayor Rousmaniere suggested creating an ad-hoc subcommittee of Council to get a better understanding of the fossil fuel divestment issue so they can figure out where they stand on it and how they want to move forward on it. Mayor Rousmaniere suggested the ad-hoc subcommittee meet once or twice and at least once with the City Investment Committee which consists of the City Manager, Finance Director and the Law Director. Mayor Rousmaniere noted there are Cities that have divested from fossil fuels but none of them are in Ohio and many of them are larger cities. Mayor Rousmaniere advised the cities that have divested may have a totally different kind of investment portfolio than Oxford has. Mayor Rousmaniere commended Mr. Newlin for his study noting it was complicated.

Ms. Southard suggested Council have a Work Session rather than creating an ad-hoc subcommittee noting she felt this was so important that all Councilors need to be involved and engaged in this topic.

Mr. Dana agreed with Mayor Rousmaniere that a subcommittee should be appointed because it lends itself well to a deep investigation. Mr. Dana thanked Mr. Newlin for the study noting he has seldom anything as exhaustive as this study noting he felt a very fair conclusion was reached.

Mayor Rousmaniere suggested the ad-hoc subcommittee figure out where Council stands on the issue and then have a Work Session and receive suggestions from the public. Mayor Rousmaniere noted she really wanted Council to get a better understanding of what divesting from fossil fuels might mean for the City.

Mr. Ellerbe advised the Housing Advisory Commission met on Monday and talked about affordable housing. Mr. Ellerbe noted he believed Mr. Kyger hit the nail on the head when he commented that when Oxford increases its housing inventory regardless of what market it is targeting it will make all Oxford housing a little more affordable because of supply and demand. Mr. Ellerbe advised a great many people do want to live in Oxford noting it was difficult to find a place to live due to lack of inventory. Mr. Ellerbe thanked Council for adopting the Ordinance to allow the proposed subdivision to be built because it will increase the stock by another 25 homes and give the City another 50 to 100 people who will shop, entertain themselves, engage in town events and hopefully encourage other investment in housing stock in Oxford. Mr. Ellerbe referred to affordable housing and diverse housing and noted many people focus on the lower end of the socioeconomic spectrum although there does exist a high end of that spectrum. Mr. Ellerbe advised plenty of people were looking for a higher end type of home and noted housing diversity includes the kind of houses proposed for the South Farm Section Two development. Mr. Ellerbe advised some people are over mowing lawns and doing landscaping so these kinds of developments are very appealing as they do not exist in other municipalities in Butler County which is a draw to bring people to Oxford. Mr. Ellerbe advised the HAC is working on diverse and affordable housing noting South Farm Section Two was an actual diverse and possibly affordable housing option if looked at from a very macro point of view.

Mr. Dana agreed with Mr. Ellerbe's comments noting he had those thoughts in mind when he proposed acceptance of the Ordinance.

Mr. Smith advised in conjunction with the ribbon cutting for the next phase of the Oxford Area Trail the Black Covered Bridge is repaired and open for business, better than ever.

Ms. Southard advised there was a new water fountain at Leonard Howell Park and thanked Mr. Dreisbach and the Service Department for installing it for people and for dogs. Ms. Southard noted the fountain was funded by the IGTA award that was presented to Miami University and to the City of Oxford for their wonderful Town Gown initiatives. Ms. Southard noted Ivy Crawford was one of the dogs enjoying the fountain on Sunday morning with her owner.

Ms. Southard noted she attended the Oxford Township Trustees meeting and advised Councilors were attending township meetings to find out what they were doing just as a Township Trustee usually attends Council meetings so information can be shared. Ms. Southard reported the township approved a $2,000 purchase for equipment and discussed their road resurfacing wish list. Ms. Southard reported the township also discussed the efforts to lower the speed limit in the Shadowy Hills area and on Brookville Road.

Ms. Southard advised there is a call for entries for the "*Changing Climate, Changing Communities*" exhibit at the Oxford Community Arts Center and encouraged those interested to contact the OCAC.

Ms. Southard advised the Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission was working on historic houses and thinking about clusters of houses that may deserve special attention as well as areas of the community that are historical but not necessarily architecturally historical.

Mr. Prytherch thanked those who were appointed to Boards and Commissions this evening for volunteering their services.

Mr. Prytherch noted the discussion this evening about South Farm section Two points back to the idea why the Oxford Parking and Transportation Advisory Board was reinvigorated. Mr. Prytherch advised perhaps the OPTAB could take a big picture look at those links. Mr. Prytherch noted an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan talks about the trail and also about the spokes and how to connect into town. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt the Kehr Road area was one of those places with a historic deficit that needs to be addressed. Mr. Prytherch noted the OPTAB was one place to have that conversation noting his hope everyone thinks hard about what the best connection is and whether the levy can help support the links or if they are funded another way.

ADJOURN

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.