A Regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Keebler on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Greig Rutherford, Bob Blackburn, John Harman and Kevin McKeehan.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Bob Holzworth, Interim Police Chief; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Ms. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; 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 in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of discussing appointments to Boards and Commissions. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Mr. Harman, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Keebler (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bogard moved to return from Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Keebler called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**PRESENTATION
2011 MUSIC FESTIVAL
AND PIG ROAST**

Ms. Diana Durr, Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, noted the 2011 concert series was successful and they were already working on obtaining sponsors for next year. Ms. Durr introduced Jacob Schlichter who created and presented a PowerPoint depicting a recap of the 2011 Music Festival including the sponsors, and the annual Pig Roast.

Ms. Durr thanked all of the sponsors and noted the DVD would be shared with them and with future sponsors. Mayor Keebler thanked the sponsors and thanked Jacob for his efforts in providing the DVD.

PROCLAMATION
'RASKALS DAY'

Mayor Keebler read the Proclamation regarding Random Acts of Simple Kindness Affecting Local Seniors and presented it to Ms. Joyce Stewart.

Ms. Joyce Stewart, thanked Council for allowing her to come before them again this year. Ms. Stewart noted the Raskals program was very successful last fall and 19 clients were served. Ms. Stewart advised the program was so much appreciated and she hoped it would grow each year. Ms. Stewart left brochures for those wanting more information regarding the Rascals program.

PROCLAMATION
'CHANGE YOUR CLOCK
CHANGE YOUR BATTERY DAY'

Mayor Keebler read the Proclamation which reminded everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms when setting their clocks back this weekend. Mayor Keebler presented the Proclamation to Chief Detherage.

APPOINTMENTS TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Bogard moved to appoint Chris Weaver as a Talawanda School District representative to the Recreation Board for a term ending June 30, 2014 and Hannah Ruby as an ex-officio student representative for a term ending June 2012. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Steve Dana, 6314 Fairfield Road, member of the Board of the Oxford Community Choice Pantry, advised the Oxford Community Choice Pantry was a non-profit collaborative community effort of local faith communities, civic organizations, businesses, Miami University and caring individuals whose mission was to alleviate food insecurities among residents of the Talawanda School District. Mr. Dana noted they respected and served all members of the community without regard to race, gender or religious affiliation. Mr. Dana advised the pantry sought to empower families and honor their dignity by giving them responsibility for their food choices while highlighting healthy options and providing nutrition information. Mr. Dana provided a profit and loss report to Council and noted monetary donations were down 8% from last year and food expenses were up 58% this year partially due to cutbacks in federal and state food available through Shared Harvest. Mr. Dana noted payroll expenses had increased 20% as an additional part-time person was needed to pick-up and stock food. Mr. Dana advised with the decrease in donations and increases in expenses coupled with an increase in new families visiting the pantry they had a deficit of over $11,500.

Mr. Dana asked Council to include $7,200 or $600 a month for the Oxford Community Choice Pantry in the City's 2012 budget.

Ms. Amy Greenbaum, 316 Sandra Drive, noted the OCCP was very grateful for the volunteers who made it possible for the pantry to address the hunger needs of the community.

Ms. Joan Potter Sommer, Executive Director, Oxford Seniors, noted with her this evening was the President of the Board, Jean Dockery, Second Vice President, Marilyn Young, Trustee, David Brooks, family members of clients, Mary Glasmeier and Gerardo Brown. Ms. Potter Sommer advised the group would provide additional information to Council as they prepared next year's budget and would answer any questions Council may have regarding Oxford Seniors.

Ms. Marilyn Young, 704 David Drive, noted she was a member of the Oxford Seniors and attended functions there on a regular basis. Ms. Young discussed the many activities, programs and services available at Oxford Seniors including: stain glass making, wood carving, quilting, water color painting, knitting, book club, bible study, line dancing, ballroom dancing, exercise class, pool and shuffleboard games, receiving a hand or foot massage, receiving assistance with computer usage, tax returns and healthcare forms, flu shots, hot lunches, enjoying a movie or TV with friends, signing up for trips to Wal-Mart, Jungle Jim, Cincinnati museums, malls and other special events. Ms. Young noted the center was a very active place with 556 members ranging in age from 50 to 103. Ms. Young discussed the needs or desires of many of the members including: those who wanted to learn something new, those who were alone and wanted companionship and activity, those with an aging body who wanted to keep it strong and flexible, caregivers who needed a break, those who liked to sing, dance, play games and have a hot lunch or supper and a movie with friends, those who needed help planning the care of an elderly parent, those with no transportation, those looking for intellectual stimulation with persons their own age and those who did not feel old but wanted to remain active. Ms. Young inquired what Oxford senior citizens would do and where they would go to find a single affordable place with a program that met their needs and concerns if Oxford Seniors was forced to reduce services or to close.

Ms. Mary Glasmeier, 4420 Oxford Trenton Road, advised her mother had a stroke approximately 7 years ago and could not be left alone. Ms. Glasmeier noted she chose to keep her mother at home with her rather than putting her in a nursing home and she found out about the Adult Day Care service. Ms. Glasmeier advised utilizing the Adult Day Care allowed her to focus on her job during the day knowing her mother was being well cared for. Ms. Glasmeier noted the program was amazing and she and her mother felt like they had an extended family which included the staff at the Adult Day Care.

Mr. Gerardo Brown-Manrique, 947 Silvoor Lane, advised his father was 95 years old and attended the Adult Day Care. Mr. Brown-Manrique noted the service provided there may seem innocuous to the rest of us and they did look after their members. Mr. Brown-Manrique advised he received an email or phone call from the Adult Day Care if anything was wrong with his father. Mr. Brown-Manrique noted he didn't think everyone approaching that age necessarily thought ahead about the kind of service the Oxford Seniors provided and they needed to be supported the most.

Ms. Anna Dragovich, Graduate Student at Miami, addressed Council on behalf of Parking and Transportation Services, Faculty Health Services and Miami's Sustainability Committee. Ms. Dragovich invited members of the community to participate in Miami's "On the Move Green and Healthy Transportation Day" on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Shriver Center. Ms. Dragovich noted this was an open house format for students, faculty, staff and community members to learn about the current transportation system and the issues Miami was facing, review plans to expand pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, plans to improve Miami Metro and plans to promote smart parking policies on campus. Ms. Dragovich advised participants would be able to provide feedback on the plans and make comments on how they felt the system could be improved. Ms. Dragovich noted participants could experience alternative transportation by riding the Miami Metro, riding the smoothie blender bike and checking out an electric car.

Mr. Tom Schaber, North Patterson Avenue, brought to Council's attention his concern with the red light at Patterson and High Streets. Mr. Shaver noted he felt the intersection was dangerous because of 18 wheelers turning left with cars going to the right of them to make the green light and students crossing to go to the business school. Mr. Shaver advised students could not see beyond the 18 wheeler and he was certain someone may get hit in the intersection. Mr. Shaver noted he felt the intersection should be turned back into a 4 way stop.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the October 4, 2011 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the October 18, 2011 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the September 28, 2011 Civil Service Commission Meeting. (Donna Heck, Human Resources Director)

Report regarding the October 5, 2011 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, service Director)

Report regarding the October 26, 2011 Civil Service Commission Meeting. (Donna Heck, Human Resources Director)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
ADVANCED PROPERTY
TAX PAYMENT

A Resolution No. 4637 authorizing the City Manager to request advanced payment of property taxes to the City in 2012 from Butler County. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

RESOLUTION
2012 CDBG PROGRAM

A Resolution No. 4638 authorizing the City Manager to submit to Butler County the following eligible project (s) designated as the City's portion of the 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION
TRI LEASE

A Resolution No. 4639 granting the Talawanda Recreation, Inc. (TRI) a two (2) year lease and authorizing the City Manager to execute the new lease. (Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director)

RESOLUTION
ENGINEERING SERVICES
AGREEMENT

A Resolution No. 4640 authorizing the City Manager to sign Amendment No. 3 of the agreement for engineering services with Arcadis U.S., Inc. extending the expiration date from December 31, 2011 to December 31, 2015. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Ms. Currie moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTION
ADDENDUM TO
EXISTING AGREEMENT

A Resolution No. 4641 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an addendum to the agreement between the City of Oxford and D&B Family Limited Partnership to amend a nonconforming agreement regarding 221 E. Vine Street, Oxford, Ohio 45056. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed Resolution would allow an amendment to be accepted to take care of an existing housing agreement executed in 1999 which allowed for a non-conforming lodging house use to continue. Mr. Chen noted the owner would like to demolish the lodging house and build a 2 family conforming use on the same lot.

Mr. McHugh referred to page 38 of the agenda and suggested an amendment to add Item C. as follows: 'The property lies within the R2MS Single and Two Family Mile Square Residential Zoning District'.

Mr. Rutherford moved to add the amendment. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Ms. Currie asked for clarification as to why the agreement was needed. Mr. Chen advised the original document was recorded and an amendment needed to be attached to the original document stating the use of the property was conforming.

Mr. Rutherford referred to item 11 on page 41 of the agenda 'This Agreement shall be binding on the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the parties and shall continue in full force and effect as long as the Property is used and occupied as contemplated herein' and inquired if the modification of the agreement would render the agreement null and void. Mr. McHugh advised the original 1999 agreement was recorded and placed in the chain of title and staff was attempting to place in the chain of title a new document still binding but stating it would be a conforming use once the two family dwelling was constructed.

Mr. Blackburn commended the property owner and the Community Development Department for working together to resolve the issue.

Mr. Rutherford advised he viewed the BZA meeting online as they discussed the variances that were granted and they felt as the housing stock aged in Oxford they would have many more discussions regarding non-conforming uses and that section of the Planning and Zoning Code would become increasingly relevant. Mr. Rutherford noted he believed it was incumbent upon Council and the Planning Commission to look at that section of the code when the BZA publically stated they expected to see many more of these applications and something needed to be done to remedy the problem with that section of the code.

Mr. Blackburn moved to adopt Resolution No. 4641. Mr. Harman seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
2012 BUDGET

An Ordinance To Make Appropriations For Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of Oxford, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Elliott advised a Work Session was held on October 18, 2011 and Council reviewed the proposed budget and heard funding requests from local agencies. Mr. Elliott noted the proposed budget did not include any new full-time positions and did not eliminate any existing positions. Mr. Elliott advised the propose budget included a 2% pay adjustment for employees in line with the Police Contracts. Mr. Elliott noted the General Fund operating expenditures were up 2.8% over the previous year at 8.7 million dollars total. Mr. Elliott advised the General Fund transfers were up by 40.5% and reflected increased transfers to the Capital Improvement and Equipment Funds which included $300,000 for street resurfacing. Mr. Elliott advised with the increased General Fund transfers the proposed budget was balanced with an operating surplus of $21,521. Mr. Elliott noted the proposed General Fund budget was based on several declining revenue estimates. Mr. Elliott noted he believed staff presented a fiscally responsible and sustainable budget and staff was happy to recommend it to Council this evening.

Mr. Newlin referred to pages 45-48 of the agenda and explained adjustments/corrections made to the proposed budget since Council's Work Session on October 18, 2011.

Mr. Paul Brady, 5427 College Corner Pike, noted he didn't think the proposed budget was sustainable since the General Fund operating budget increased 2.8% for the next year and at the same time the operating income decreased. Mr. Brady referred to the 1 ½% increase in income tax and noted Miami University employees received a small raise, Snyder Electric added a few people and construction within the City was even. Mr. Brady noted he felt to get to 1 ½% the general business population would have to be level and he felt the budget was a little too aggressive. Mr. Brady discussed his concerns with the City's ability to maintain and improve infrastructure. Mr. Brady noted historically the City kept a reserve out of the operating budget for future needs and uses and the City did have some fund balances but some of that was stranded and the city had to be concerned about what fund balances could actually be used. Mr. Brady reiterated his concerns with maintaining and improving the City's infrastructure.

Mr. Larry Rankin, 610 French Drive, noted he was a retired Accounting Professor from Miami University and had a working knowledge of budgets, finances and financial statements. Mr. Rankin advised he appreciated Mr. Newlin and his staff for doing the hard work of putting together budgets and keeping track of the accounts and monies. Mr. Rankin noted his concern with the growing cost of the government activities part of the budget which was now 2/3 of the budget and the other 1/3 was business activities. Mr. Rankin advised he looked at growth in the government activities expenses for a six year period and his calculations suggested an average increase of 7% per year. Mr. Rankin noted he looked at the government activities revenue over the same time period and they grew approximately 5% per year. Mr. Rankin advised he felt this suggested some real budgetary issues and noted over the six year period there was little population change and little inflation which concerned him. Mr. Rankin stated the revenue side of the budget was gloomy and suggested looking at user charges. Mr. Rankin inquired if the City looked at the efficiency of how services were delivered now that the Fire and EMS operation was expanded. Mr. Rankin also noted concerns with labor costs including health care insurance and pension benefits.

Mr. Elliott noted he appreciated Mr. Rankin's and Mr. Brady's thoughtful comments. Mr. Elliott advised the City wanted to do its best to provide the services the community felt they needed in a sustainable manner. Mr. Elliott noted the proposed budget showed the General Fund operating expenditures at 8.7 million dollars which did not include transfers as that depended on how much was transferred to the Capital Equipment and Capital Improvement Funds. Mr. Elliott noted in 2009 that number was 9 million. Mr. Elliott advised he constantly challenged the City's Department Heads to find ways to save money and he would continue to do that. Mr. Elliott noted the 2% pay increase for employees would be offset somewhat by the rather large increase in the employee's contribution towards healthcare insurance. Mr. Elliott advised there were no increases in the employee's contribution to healthcare insurance last year but the benefit level was drastically changed. Mr. Elliott noted the City was doing its best to continue to provide all services to the community in a cost effective manner and he did appreciate the comments received tonight as the budgeting process was very challenging.

Mayor Keebler advised Council needed to discuss whether or not they wanted to increase the community assistance funding as another group asked for funds in the amount of $7,200.

Mayor Keebler noted the Senior Center asked for a significant increase in funding and advised they received additional support as the building was owned by the City and utilities and maintenance was paid by the City. Mayor Keebler noted these were trying times for the City and for the agencies and in many cases the City didn't have a lot of control over what services were offered by the agencies yet there was an expectation that tax dollars would be used to help support the agencies. Mayor Keebler suggested that Council discuss the level of funding and how to support the agencies long before budget time next year. Mayor Keebler advised Council should decide tonight whether or not to increase the proposed $142,145 budgeted for community assistance funding.

Mr. Bogard suggested maintaining the proposed amount budgeted for community assistance and noted the City Manager provided funding options for each agency for a total of $142,145. Mr. Bogard advised Council would need to decide whether to include the Oxford Community Choice Pantry in the mix. Mayor Keebler inquired when the community assistance funding decisions should be made and Mr. Bogard advised either tonight or at the second reading on November 15, 2011.

Ms. Currie noted she felt the funding should stay at $142,145 as difficult as that would be. Ms. Currie noted it was important to address these issues long before the next budget season as she felt Council had fallen into a long pattern of funding whatever was funded to each agency the year before. Ms. Currie advised now Council was presented with a funding request from the Oxford Community Choice Pantry who was no less in need or deserving of assistance than the other agencies.

Mr. Harman agreed with Ms. Currie and added he felt the decisions should be made by this Council rather than the new Council.

Mr. Blackburn advised he felt the funding should stay at $142,145. Mr. Blackburn noted some of the entities were only supposed to be funded once and suggested researching past minutes or gaining knowledge from previous Council members regarding the issue.

Mr. McKeehan advised he felt the total amount of funding for community assistance should not be increased. Mr. McKeehan noted the pantry did a wonderful job, was a valuable asset to the community, and it might be worthwhile to adjust some funding to assist them.

Mr. Rutherford noted at some point everyone would need the services offered by the Senior Center. Mr. Rutherford advised he didn't know how many people in attendance ever faced the problem of not knowing where or when their next meal was coming from but it was a heart wrenching situation that deserved Council's attention. Mr. Rutherford noted Council's obligation was to the citizens of Oxford and the citizens entrusted Council in regard to issues of being their moral arbiters. Mr. Rutherford advised he felt it was too easy to say $142,145 was the number Council should stick with because $600 per month for the Oxford Community Choice Pantry would require an extremely minor reduction in every other line item of the budget. Mr. Rutherford noted it may be that some agencies could reduce their budgets as the responsibility didn't just fall on the City; it fell on others being funded.

Mr. Bogard noted the need to look at the history of what Council's role had been regarding the funding of agencies and establish what the criteria was and whether Council should be in the business of funding agencies. Mr. Bogard advised Council needed to look at their obligation to agencies that had been funded every year for many years.

Ms. Currie disagreed with Mr. Rutherford's comment about the easy option being to stay at the proposed $142,145 for agency funding. Ms. Currie noted Council didn't have the option of asking agencies to reduce their funding requests; it was Council's job to take the funds and reallocate them which was a terrible decision to have to make.

Mayor Keebler asked Council to think about the funding options and noted the final decisions would be made at the next meeting. Mayor Keebler advised he would like to know who the Oxford Community Choice Pantry served noting if the agencies served citizens in the townships, the townships should take some responsibility as well.

ORDINANCE
BUDGETED TRANSFERS

An Ordinance Outlining Budgeted Transfers For The City Of Oxford, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin referred to his staff report as presented on pages 55-57 of the agenda and noted a separate Ordinance was required to make the transfer of money from one fund to another to help fund projects or the actual operations of a certain fund. Mayor Keebler noted the transfers were already approved in the proposed budget.

ORDINANCE
BUDGETED ADVANCES

An Ordinance Outlining Budgeted Advances For The City Of Oxford, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin referred to his staff report as presented on pages 60-61 of the agenda and noted the advances were incorporated in the proposed budget. Mr. Newlin noted advances were usually done when revenue was expected through state or federal means. Mr. Newlin advised the money had to be available to be encumbered and once it was spent and received it would be repaid to the fund it was advanced from.

ORDINANCE
2012 FEES

An Ordinance Adopting Fees And Charges For Fiscal Year 2012. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin advised department heads proposed various changes to the fee structure and if Council needed the rationale for those changes they could ask the department heads who were in attendance this evening.

Mayor Keebler referred to pages 63-80 of the agenda and noted the changes were highlighted in bold. Mayor Keebler advised the major changes were in the refuse fund due to the 2.5% increase in the City's contract with Rumpke.

ORDINANCE
2012 SALARIES

An Ordinance Establishing Salaries And Certain Benefits For Salaried And Hourly Full-Time And Part-Time Employees Within The Service Of The City Of Oxford, Ohio Paid From January 1, 2012 Through December 31, 2012. (Donna Heck, Human Resources Director)

Mr. Elliott referred to the staff report as presented on page 81 of the agenda and noted the proposed Ordinance included a 2% pay increase for full-time employees and an increase in the employee's contribution to healthcare insurance from $29.61 for family coverage each pay period to $59.23 for family coverage each pay period. Mr. Elliott advised that was a substantial increase coupled with the changes made in benefits last year which were necessary since the City was self insured.

Mayor Keebler noted there were still some authorized positions that were not filled and Council appreciated that. Mayor Keebler advised the proposed Ordinance was in line with what Council discussed at their Work Session.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott advised he provided Council with 5 community assistance funding options keeping the same level of spending. Mr. Elliott noted a breakdown was requested from the Senior Center regarding programs that were wholly or partially funded by City of Oxford tax payer dollars. Mr. Elliott noted of the 18 participants in the Adult Day Care program only 6 were residents of the City of Oxford. Mr. Elliott noted he didn't think believe the townships were contributing to the program. Mr. Elliott offered to assist Council in any way he could to help make the funding decisions.

Mr. Elliott referred to Mr. Brady's comments regarding maintenance of the City's infrastructure. Mr. Elliott advised within the sewer fund the City would spend 3.2 million dollars in 2012 for capital improvement projects including 2.4 million for the digester rehabilitation and 800,000 for other capital improvement projects. Mr. Elliott noted within the water fund 1.6 million dollars would be spent to upgrade the water main on High Street and the water main on US-27 South. Mr. Elliott advised in 2011 $689,000 was spent on capital equipment and capital improvement projects.

Mr. Elliott advised the annexation petition for the Miami Heritage Tech Park property was filed with the Butler County Commissioners yesterday. Mr. Elliott noted the township would continue to receive property tax under the Expedited Type II Annexation procedure.

Mr. Elliott advised he and members of staff had met with the director of the Lane Library to discuss potential sites for a new library. Mr. Elliott noted he felt this was an exciting project for the community.

Mr. Dreisbach noted he perceived a negative aura in discussions regarding the budget, the lack of road resurfacing and the comment that $300,000 wasn't included in this year's budget. Mr. Dreisbach reminded everyone that the North US-27 Phase III project was completed this year which was a project that had been talked about for decades. Mr. Dreisbach noted the nearly 15 million dollar project finally came to fruition and much of it was funded by other sources. Mr. Dreisbach advised much of Main Street was reconstructed and repaved which was a $600,000 project. Mr. Dreisbach noted in December a contract for reconstructing a block of High Street would be coming to Council and the funds were already encumbered. Mr. Dreisbach advised he wanted to point out some of the good things that had been done this year and would continue to be done. Mr. Dreisbach advised in talking to his colleagues in Butler and Hamilton counties Oxford was the envy of many other cities that wouldn't have an approved budget by the end of the year which was difficult in terms of morale and motivation. Mr. Dreisbach thanked Mr. Elliott, Mr. Newlin and Council for giving city departments the tools to make their jobs much easier.

Mayor Keebler thanked Mr. Dreisbach for his efforts in obtaining transportation grants which were successful as a result of his diligence.

Ms. Brahier thanked the business community and the public for participating in the Halloween event last week.

Ms. Brahier noted the Veterans Day ceremony would take place next Friday at noon in the Uptown Park to recognize veterans locally.

Ms. Brahier advised the Holiday Festival would take place December 2, 2011.

Mr. Kyger advised MOON Market was open which was a Revolving Loan Fund project. Mr. Kyger noted in 2 ½ years Council had helped five new businesses get started through the City's Revolving Loan Fund program.

Mr. Kyger referred to Mr. Rutherford's comments regarding the zoning code and noted there were property owners who wanted to demolish existing structures and build new structures with less density. Mr. Kyger noted in many cases it couldn't be done because the new structure would be nonconforming.

Mr. McHugh advised there would be two Resolutions on the next agenda pertaining to the Miami Heritage Tech Park annexation.

Mr. Blackburn added to Mr. Dreisbach's comments noting 200 trees were being planted along US-27 North.

Mr. Blackburn advised the Kehr Road stabilization project was estimated at 1 million dollars and the City did the project in house for $40,000. Mr. Blackburn noted City employees and Department Heads were looking for ways to save money and people may not see or hear about that.

Mr. Blackburn encouraged everyone to vote next Tuesday.

Mr. Harman noted there were 5 agencies looking for funding from the City and Council only asked 1 to provide usage numbers. Mr. Harman suggested that Council obtain that information from all 5 agencies. Mayor Keebler noted the information was included the Community Foundation's report to Council and the Family Resource Center included the information in a monthly report that Council received. Mayor Keebler asked Council to look at their draft budget documents and let the City Manager know as soon as possible if they needed additional information.

Mr. Harman suggested that Council reevaluate and review the budget again in mid-year noting Mr. Brady and Mr. Rankin brought up some good points. Mr. Harman suggested Council develop a plan 'B' and if revenues weren't what were estimated there would be other ideas to consider for cost cuts and revenue streams.

Mr. McKeehan encouraged everyone to enjoy the pleasant weather and to make sure they voted next Tuesday.

Mr. Rutherford referred to a letter Council received from Ox-Dog letting Council know they were moving into an advisory position with regard to the 'Bark Park'. Mr. Rutherford thanked Ms. Glasmeier and everyone involved in the community driven effort to establish a dog park. Mr. Rutherford noted as they moved away from the maintenance of that facility he wasn't sure how the Parks and Recreation budget would be affected.

Mr. Rutherford referred to the OKI Water Quality Management Plan document that Mr. Bogard provided to Council and encouraged all Council members to read the document. Mr. Rutherford noted the document spoke to the Clean Water Act and some requirements that would be incumbent upon the City to pay attention to. Mr. Rutherford requested that the Planning Commission and Environmental Commission members received an electronic copy of the document. Mr. Dreisbach noted the document was available on the OKI website.

Mr. Rutherford noted Council wished they could do more with the City's infrastructure and he would like to provide more. Mr. Rutherford advised his time on Council taught him that City employees did a great job and Mr. Dreisbach's department did a fantastic job with the resources provided to them.

Mr. Bogard referred to the water study and noted to the east of Oxford was one of the largest aquifers in the State of Ohio. Mr. Bogard noted with population growth, more homes and increased water usage, the quality of water could become a big problem even in Butler County especially with the expansion of housing to the east of Oxford.

Mr. Bogard advised Mr. Newlin provided Council with quarterly financial reports which would give Council signals as to what they needed to address in the budget throughout the year.

Mr. Bogard noted as Council looked at infrastructure and expenses they needed to move incrementally in improving infrastructure and services based on the budget so the City remained fiscally stable.

ADJOURN

Ms. Currie moved to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.