

A virtual meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Smith on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Members participating were Jason Bracken, Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, William Snavelly and Edna Southard. Chantel Raghu was excused.

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

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Smith asked for a motion to amend the agenda by renumbering Resolution number 3 to Resolution number 4 and adding new Resolution number 3 regarding the City's Wi-Fi project. Ms. Southard moved and Mr. Snavelly seconded. The motion was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

Mr. Snavelly moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Sherry House, discussed issues she has had and has observed with people not abiding by the City's Mask Ordinance. Ms. House advised she was getting more concerned with the behaviors she has observed and advised as far as she knows there have been no citations issued for non-compliance of the Mask Ordinance. Ms. House advised she would like to know what Council can do to improve the situation as voluntary compliance was not working.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the October 15, 2020 City Council Budget Work Session. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Minutes of the October 20, 2020 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Report regarding the October 14, 2020 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the October 21, 2020 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Mr. Snavelly moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Prytherch seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

## **RESOLUTION** **REOPENING OXFORD'S DORA**

A Resolution No. 7231 approving the reopening of the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) in the City of Oxford from November 27, 2020 to January 22, 2021. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised City Council approved an application for a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) by adoption of Resolution 7192 on June 16, 2020. Mr. Elliott noted it allows the City Manager to amend the dates and times of the DORA with consent of City Council. Mr. Elliott recommended City Council approve reopening the DORA from November 27, 2020 to January 22, 2021 to provide a Winter Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area for the benefit of Oxford citizens, visitors and Uptown businesses. Mr. Elliott noted this coincides with Miami University's schedule as students will take finals after that time period online. Mr. Elliott advised staff will monitor the DORA operation closely and make adjustments as needed. Mr. Elliott noted he felt everyone would agree the City needs to do what it can to help the restaurants and other businesses during the winter. Mr. Elliott offered to answer any questions.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Snavelly inquired if Uptown businesses were surveyed. Ms. Greene advised she met with many businesses owners and the operation of a winter DORA was well received.

Mr. Snavelly advised he has received negative comments and one individual indicated he would not participate. Mr. Snavelly noted he felt part of the problem was that the DORA would start while students are really still in town. Mr. Snavelly advised he has heard almost everyone living off-campus is going to stay in town since their apartments are paid for. Mr. Snavelly noted he did not believe many people will want to walk around outside with a drink in the winter unless they are students.

Mr. Prytherch noted he felt many students would go home for Thanksgiving and probably not return. Mr. Prytherch advised he supported the proposed Resolution and did not see a problem.

Mr. Bracken advised if the Winter DORA does operate, he would like to see the Mask Ordinance honored more. Mr. Bracken noted since it was outdoors it would be safer than going to other businesses indoors.

Mayor Smith advised he has received a few comments from residents in support of a Winter DORA.

Ms. Southard supported the proposed Resolution noting anything Council can do to encourage the economy to be successful and keep the businesses in business is to be welcomed.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 7231. Mr. Prytherch seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mayor Smith (5)

NAY: Mr. Snavelly (1)

ABS: None (0)

#### **RESOLUTION** **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM**

A Resolution No. 7232 authorizing the donation of seventy four thousand one hundred sixty dollars (\$74,160.00) to the Family Resource Center which shall be used to provide a pilot Cold Shelter and Transitional Housing program in the City of Oxford. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Ms. Greene advised the proposed Resolution was in response to Council's feedback during the CARES Act discussions about the goal of providing a Cold Shelter noting Council realized it would be a difficult use of CARES Act funds due to the timeframe. Ms. Greene advised she explored what could be done using the City's General Fund. Ms. Greene noted this was a concept for a one-year pilot program with three components, \$27,360 toward a Cold Shelter which was a long-term lease at a local hotel of 6 rooms for 120 nights. Ms. Greene advised the second component was \$25,200 toward transitional housing, which consists of two homes in town, a four-bedroom and a six-bedroom home for people who need time to find longer-term housing.

Ms. Greene noted the Family Resource Center would sign the lease for these homes and manage the rentals. Ms. Greene advised the Family Resource Center will also be the City's partner in renting the 6 rooms for 120 nights noting they have contracted to do that through the Budget Inn. Ms. Greene advised the third component which she felt was very important to make the program successful was case management. Ms. Greene noted people in need of cold shelter or transitional housing often need other resources or assistance. Ms. Greene advised the Family Resource Center has asked for a .6 FTE case manager, which is approximately \$21,600. Ms. Greene noted all combined the one-year pilot will cost \$74,160.

**Mr. Brad Hoblitzell**, Executive Director, Family Resource Center, thanked Councilors for their service to the City and the community. Mr. Hoblitzell advised the Family Resource Center (FRC) staff has know that a shelter in the winter has been a need in Oxford. Mr. Hoblitzell noted FRC has spent a lot of their agency resources putting people up in hotels at times and also, not being able to do that because of financial strains on the agency. Mr. Hoblitzell advised the cold shelters in Butler County are often full and FRC has a difficult time transporting Oxford residents to other parts of Butler County. Mr. Hoblitzell noted FRC has communicated with the management at the Budget Inn and advised they have been willing to work with the FRC to make this pilot work. Mr. Hoblitzell advised the FRC was excited about being able to do real case management to help people get the resources they need to achieve levels of self-sustainability. Mr. Hoblitzell noted FRC feels the longer-term transitional housing could be a great program for folks trying to find a long-term solution for housing and provide them an opportunity to be in a safe place working towards self-sustainability. Mr. Hoblitzell advised he was thankful for the forward thinking of City staff and Council in considering this pilot program. Mr. Hoblitzell noted the FRC staff is ready to go and excited to see how they can serve the community in this way in the midst of the economic hardships they are seeing throughout the community.

Mr. Prytherch inquired if CDBG money could be used in the future to fund this program if it is successful. Mr. Elliott advised CDBG funds fit the criteria although that money has been dedicated to completing the handicap accessibility ramps. Mr. Elliott noted there could be more money coming from congress in 2021. Mr. Elliott advised there would be difficult choices ahead although he felt there would be some options.

Ms. Southard advised she felt this was an excellent project noting she would like to see if there was a way to use the Community Foundation as a means for citizens to contribute funds to make this pilot continue if in the future if Council finds the City budget is too strapped to continue it.

Mr. Bracken noted his hope going forward Council will take into account the amount of time and money originally planned for this project. Mr. Bracken advised this project is needed even outside of Covid but the effects of Covid financially and on families is tough and is going to effect people for several years. Mr. Bracken noted he felt this was fantastic and he was glad Council was going in this direction.

Mayor Smith commended staff for providing this solution and advised he would be curious to see what data is gathered. Mayor Smith noted he was glad to see this pilot program.

Mr. Snavelly moved to adopt Resolution No. 7232. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

**RESOLUTION**  
**AGREEMENT WITH POWERNET**

A Resolution No. 7233 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a three year agreement with PNG Telecommunications, Inc. dba Powernet to provide a 1Gig Spectrum Wi-Fi circuit and service maintenance for internet access in the targeted areas of the City's Wi-Fi project at a cost of \$2,600.00 per month. (Jessica Greene, Assistant Manager)

Ms. Greene advised the proposed Resolution was for the City's public Wi-Fi project to cover the ongoing annual cost that will come from the General Fund. Ms. Greene noted the annual cost will be \$31,200 per year or \$93,600 for the three year agreement. Ms. Greene advised this was for the actual internet service noting at the last meeting Council voted on the infrastructure to provide the Wi-Fi publically.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Prytherch inquired if there might be opportunities in the future to get business partnership in paying for the services and Ms. Greene advised yes.

Ms. Southard advised she felt this program was excellent noting her hope it could continue while maintaining a balanced budget moving forward.

Mr. Bracken noted he felt this was fantastic along with the sheltering and business help. Mr. Bracken inquired what would happen after the three-year agreement and if contracting with other service providers would be an option. Ms. Greene advised she would discuss that with Powernet and report back to Council.

Mr. Ellerbe thanked Ms. Greene for the work she has already done on this project noting he was glad to see it moving forward. Mr. Ellerbe inquired if Ms. Greene had an update on providing citywide Wi-Fi, which was a question at the last meeting. Ms. Greene advised she did not have enough information at this time to give Council a clear proposal and asked for a little more time to obtain the information.

Mr. Snavelly moved to adopt Resolution No. 7233. Ms. Southard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

**RESOLUTION**  
**SAFE, HEALTHY, EQUITABLE OXFORD**

A Resolution supporting collaboration between the Oxford Police Division and community partners to address social issues through both targeted recommendations for enhancing police response to social and behavioral health issues and more comprehensive planning for a safe, healthy, and equitable Oxford. (David Prytherch, City Councilor)

Mr. Prytherch advised he would introduce the Resolution noting in Ms. Raghu's absence he would likely entertain a motion to table it tonight although he wanted to get the conversation started. Mr. Prytherch advised this was his attempt to listen to diverse voices that Council has heard across the community around issues of social welfare, policing and social equity. Mr. Prytherch noted national conversations have become local and people have debated about what the proper role of police are in relation to things bigger than just policing. Mr. Prytherch advised the City has received different dueling petitions that he felt ultimately had a great deal of agreement. Mr. Prytherch noted the consensus he has heard is that there is a great deal of support in the community for OPD and the good work they do but recognition that some of the things the OPD faces are bigger than just police as they are societal problems. Mr. Prytherch advised this was the root of a proposal that was recommended to Council by the Police Community Relations & Review Commission (PCRRC). Mr. Prytherch noted he felt any board that makes a recommendation to City Council deserves action by City Council whether it is voted up, down or amended. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt Councilors have to find a way to reconcile those recommendations with other priorities they have. Mr. Prytherch noted the proposed Resolution supports OPD's mission, which already emphasizes community engagement and partnership with the community for things that are bigger than crime. Mr. Prytherch advised he felt the City was lucky to have the PCRRC although their scope was limited to things related to policing which was why creating a task force was recommended to Council. Mr. Prytherch noted the proposed Resolution recognizes OPD will continue to be the primary point of contact for many people around issues of public order although we need to make sure OPD is best prepared as a police department within the framework of policing to deal with social and behavioral health issues. Mr. Prytherch advised the first thing was to ask the PCRRC to explore the issues of optimizing policing to deal with some of those things whether it was through an educational training partnership or something like a police social worker. Mr. Prytherch noted in 2021 the City was moving forward with updating the Comprehensive Plan, during a certain timeframe and advised he felt the best and most productive way to channel the conversation was within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Prytherch advised he felt it could lead to a Chapter in the Comprehensive Plan that helps deal with social and behavioral issues noting the Chapter could be titled “A Safe, Healthy and Equitable Oxford”. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt rather than having conversations everywhere regarding climate, transportation, policing and other issues he would rather pull them all under the tent of the Comprehensive Plan to balance these goals with other ones.

The following e-comment was received prior to the meeting:

Comments submitted on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 - 6:32pm:

- **Name:** Amy Shaiman
- **Address:** 11 Heather Ridge Ct
- **Email Address:** [amyjasonwed@gmail.com](mailto:amyjasonwed@gmail.com)
- **Meeting Date:** Tue, 11/03/2020
- **Agenda Item:** BLM Item 3
- **Comments:**

We are in support of the formation of a working group to evaluate the creation of a program which provides unarmed appropriately trained respondents to calls that do not require an armed officer. Thank you.  
Amy and Jason Shaiman

- **Position:** Support

**Mr. Brandon Humphrey**, 609 Ogden Court, advised he was speaking as a representative of Black Lives Matter – Oxford. Mr. Humphrey noted prior to this meeting BLM Oxford delivered to City Council a letter responding to Mr. Prytherch’s proposed Resolution. Mr. Humphrey read the following into the record:

**Subject:** BLM Statement on the Resolution for a Safe, Healthy, and Equitable Oxford

Dear Mayor Smith and Oxford City Councilpersons,

First and foremost, we would like to thank city council for considering our task force proposal and for working to make it a reality.

The spirit of this resolution reflects the calls for transformative change, coming together as a community, and focusing on our collective core values of equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice. We are excited and encouraged by these steps and want to thank the members of council for all of their hard work during what has already been a stressful and chaotic year. In addition to our excitement, however, we also have some concerns about the specifics of the resolution presented here tonight. These concerns are as follows:

1. The current delineation of work between Section 1 and Section 2 is not clear. Currently, the resolution proposes that OPD and the PCRRC collaborate to better support OPD and their response to social and behavioral health problems in the community in Section 1, and then in Section 2 proposes a working group composed of departments, commissions, community groups, and diverse community members to engage in conversations and planning to achieve a safe, healthy, and equitable Oxford. As OPD and the PCRRC are represented in both of these proposed groups, with similar goals but disparate timelines, it is not clear how these two groups will work together. In particular, to avoid the possibilities of redundancy, unnecessary time burden, and conflicting proposals (should the two groups reach different conclusions), we suggest that the relationship between the groups outlined in Sections 1 and 2 of the resolution be more clearly defined.
2. The lack of clarity regarding how the groups might work together is compounded by their conflicting timelines. Currently, OPD/PCRRC recommendations are due in June, while the recommendations from the larger working group are due in September. This may lead to contradictory recommendations being presented at different times or redundancy in the work being done by community members and commissions that are already stretched thin.
3. We are excited by the calls in the resolution for public engagement and the involvement of the entire community. In light of this goal, we would caution City Council from allowing any single organization, whether that be BLM-Oxford, OPD, or any other group, to play an outsized role in the task force itself. As we have learned from Dr. Amber Franklin and others' discussion of their work on the PCRRC, there are segments of the Oxford community who hold distrust towards the police. Intentions aside, this has meant that when organizations are seen as answering to or speaking on behalf of police forces, there are members of the Oxford community who become less willing to participate and to speak openly. Similarly, we understand that some members of the Oxford community hold distrust towards the national BLM movement. Thus, it is crucial that neither BLM, OPD, nor the PCRRC be the public representative of or have outsized influence in the working group.
4. Much of the work in a movement towards a safe, healthy, and equitable community requires expertise in areas such as mental health, social work, and the perspectives of the most affected groups. In addition to the engagement of community members, departments boards, and commissions, we ask that council move to include behavioral and mental health workers and representatives from groups like the NAACP, Miami University's Department of Family Science and Social Work, the Interfaith Center, Women Helping Women, and PFLAG as members of the task force. We believe that each of these groups have a stake in the work of the task force and would provide valuable insight for strategies for ensuring public safety and welfare.

We feel that these suggestions will better equip the working groups to meet the goals laid out in the resolution and will help the working groups to meet their stated goals of working towards a safe, healthy, and equitable Oxford. We thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Member, Black Lives Matter - Oxford, OH

**Ms. Shana Rosenberg**, 1036 Arrowhead Drive, advised she supported the idea of an independent task force comprised of community stakeholders and experts to investigate how the City can best help those who are in crisis whether because of mental illness, poverty, homelessness or other social issues that affect individuals and families. Ms. Rosenberg noted many of these crises end up being responded to by OPD due to the traditional way the dispatcher places calls. Ms. Rosenberg advised she knew personally that her life and the life of her family in their lived experience of being in Oxford during their own mental health crises would have been better served by a different model. Ms. Rosenberg referred to the proposed Resolution and noted concern the work might get buried in a Comp Plan Chapter rather than being presented as direct recommendations to City Council to act. Ms. Rosenberg advised she would like to see an independent task force formed with the results going to City Council noting she would be satisfied with whatever results came from a task force after community input and study. Ms. Rosenberg encouraged City Council to make sure this important work is done in the right way.

**Ms. Hannah Stohry**, 626 Brill Drive, advised she would offer her thoughts as a current member of the PCRRC although speaking as an individual representing her own beliefs and values especially as a clinically licensed social worker. Ms. Stohry noted her support for an independent task force with the voices of OPD, PCRRC, PFLAG, Miami University's Family Sciences and Social Work Department, Interfaith Center, Women Helping Women and all the groups mentioned by BLM. Ms. Stohry advised she felt this was a better and more strategic way of identifying community needs. Ms. Stohry noted she felt the results from community input and the results of an independent task force will more closely reflect needs as well as options for future changes. Ms. Stohry advised she hoped it is taken seriously by City Council.

Mr. Snavelly advised it sounded like Mr. Prytherch's proposal throws the matter back to the PCRRC and does not appoint a task force. Mr. Snavelly noted the commission has made it clear this is not something they want to do. Mr. Snavelly advised he did not know that it needed to be folded into the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Snavelly noted the proposed Resolution was problematic for him to support. Mr. Snavelly advised he would like to give Chief Jones an opportunity to address the issue noting he has already made a suggestion. Mr. Snavelly suggested trying the other two proposals from BLM and see the results of those and then Council would be more informed to move forward with a task force or something like that.

Mr. Ellerbe advised he appreciates the effort everyone has put in over the course of this year recognizing societal issues and presenting those as something the City needs to work on so we can all move forward together. Mr. Ellerbe noted his interpretation of the proposed Resolution is that we have now seen the public talk about various issues surrounding first response and the desire to include social services and mental health programs within the first response unit. Mr. Ellerbe advised the City has received this and acknowledges that noting he as a Councilor has received this and acknowledges that. Mr. Ellerbe advised he felt the proposed Resolution is the official statement by Council saying we as City Councilors have recognized these desires and are acknowledging them and that the City is now going to move forward on those issues.

Mr. Ellerbe noted he felt this was a symbolic Resolution stating to the public that Council recognizes these issues and is going to work on them. Mr. Ellerbe advised when another social group presents their request to the City about independent review in his mind Council was not stopping them and they can start doing that independent review on their own and report their findings to Council. Mr. Ellerbe noted he supported the proposed Resolution because he understands its symbolism.

Mr. Bracken advised he agreed with most of the criticisms of the proposed Resolution noting he felt it was a bit confusing and that there were some timeline issues. Mr. Bracken advised he felt there was some competing between the different groups noting overall he supported the original recommendation from the PCRRC to Council. Mr. Bracken advised he was generally against the proposed Resolution although he agreed with the spirit and the attempt for consensus on moving forward on these issues.

Ms. Southard advised she supported Mr. Ellerbe's comments noting she felt they were well thought out. Ms. Southard advised this was not only a police issue it was an EMS issue, which is why she felt it should be part of a larger study. Ms. Southard noted she was concerned with the deadlines as stated in the proposed Resolution and advised she hoped they could be flexible should there be more unexpected problems to deal with in the coming months. Ms. Southard noted she supported the spirit of the proposed Resolution and thanked Councilor Prytherch for bringing it forward. Ms. Southard thanked City staff for working hard and making changes noting she would like to know what other changes Oxford might possibly need.

Chief Jones thanked Councilor Prytherch for bringing the proposed Resolution forward noting he was interested in hearing the feedback on it. Chief Jones referred to Section 1 and Section 2 of the proposed Resolution and advised he felt it made perfect sense. Chief Jones noted when this conversation began OPD did not wait for Council to act; they started using an officer to improve collaborations with social service agencies. Chief Jones advised he felt the things he is doing now perfectly fit such as talking to PCRRC about having the right type of trainings. Chief Jones advised he felt OPD was already having the same conversations BLM wants them to have whether it is called a task force or a work group that is part of the Comp Plan. Chief Jones noted every organization mentioned such as the Interfaith Center, PFLAG, etc. have already spoken in favor of the BLM proposal and advised he would like to include professionals OPD is already working with such as the Mental Health Group at McCullough Hyde and the Oxford Coalition for a Healthy Community where he is already having these conversations. Chief Jones advised Council can keep debating this issue although OPD is going to keep working on it. Chief Jones noted he and Mr. Elliott want to have a community-wide police survey done because they hear the exact same voices at each City Council meeting. Chief Jones advised he would like to hear from business owners and from people who do not take the time to come to Council meetings.

Mr. Elliott advised he sent information to Council regarding a service that Polco and the National Research Center perform called a Police Services Survey. Mr. Elliott noted he and Chief Jones felt it was time to complete a survey of resident's opinions concerning the services OPD provides.

Mr. Bracken reiterated his support for the original proposal from the PCRRC. Mr. Bracken advised he was in favor of surveying the public and noted he would like Council, the PCRRC and other members of the community have the opportunity to add additional questions to the survey. Mr. Bracken advised he would like Council to go forward with the original recommendation from the PCRRC noting he felt it accomplishes the same goals and it might be able to inform Council going forward in terms of the Comp Plan.

Mr. Prytherch stated if in 2021 the City is doing a Comprehensive Plan that is meant to be comprehensive why have a task force that is separate from that process. Mr. Prytherch advised he looked forward to the Work Session on November 17 regarding the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Ellerbe moved to call the question. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion failed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Ms. Southard, Mayor Smith (3)

NAY: Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snively, Mr. Bracken (3)

ABS: None (0)

Mr. Snively and Mr. Bracken indicated they would like Ms. Raghu to have an opportunity to speak to the proposed Resolution at the next meeting.

Mr. Snively moved to table the proposed Resolution. Mr. Bracken seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Mr. Snively, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

## **ORDINANCES** **FIRST READING**

### **ORDINANCE** **2021 APPROPRIATIONS**

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, 2021. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Elliott advised a Budget Work Session took place in October to review the City Manager's proposed budget for fiscal year 2021. Mr. Elliott noted the proposed budget is an essential sustainable and balanced budget, which does not eliminate any programs or services which the City presently provides.

Mr. Elliott advised it includes contracted pay adjustments for the three police unions and a pay adjustment for all other employees excluding the Firefighter/Paramedic positions since the City expects to negotiate a contract with them in the near future. Mr. Elliott noted in the General Fund the proposed operating expenditures are \$11,027,448. Mr. Elliott advised General Fund revenues excluding advances and transfers for fiscal year 2021 are estimated overall to decrease from the fiscal year 2020 budget by \$721,222 due to an estimated 5.3% decrease in income tax revenues. Mr. Elliott noted given the challenges and unique opportunities the City faces he feels this is a fiscally responsible, sustainable and balanced budget for 2021.

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on pages 39-40 of Council's packet and offered to answer any questions.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Prytherch commended staff for all the work they did to put the proposed budget together and balance it despite difficult times. Mr. Prytherch advised Councilors would like to have substantive input on the budget and inquired if now was the right time. Mr. Elliott advised if Councilors wanted to propose amendments to the proposed budget, they could do it this evening or during the next meeting.

Mr. Newlin asked Councilors to let him know ahead of time if they planned to suggest amendments to the proposed budget.

#### **ORDINANCE** **BUDGETED TRANSFERS**

An Ordinance Outlining Budgeted Transfers For The City Of Oxford, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report line by line as presented on pages 47-49 of Council's packet as required by the State Auditor's Office and offered to answer any questions.

There were no comments or questions from the public or from Council.

#### **ORDINANCE** **BUDGETED ADVANCES**

An Ordinance Outlining Budgeted Advances For The City Of Oxford, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report line by line as presented on pages 52-53 of Council's packet as required by the State Auditor's Office and offered to answer any questions.

There were no comments or questions from the public or from Council.

**ORDINANCE**  
**2021 FEES**

An Ordinance To Adopt Fees And Charges For The Fiscal Year 2021. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin referred to the proposed Fee Ordinance as presented on pages 57-70 and advised any questions should be directed to the respective department head.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Smith advised he felt the increases in fees were reasonable and not out of the ordinary.

**ORDINANCE**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 3538. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 8 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2020.

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on pages 71-72 of Council's packet and offered to answer any questions.

There were no comments or questions from the public or from Council.

**ORDINANCE**  
**2021 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, 2021 Through December 31, 2021. (Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager)

Ms. Greene addressed her staff report as presented on pages 75-76 of Council's packet.

There were no comments or questions from the public or from Council.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Elliott provided a detailed update on the Citywide Covid-19 response and local statistics.

Mr. Elliott updated everyone of the City's electric aggregation program.

Ms. Greene discussed Miami University's disciplinary report she received regarding violations of their Code of Conduct related to Covid-19 safety measures.

Ms. Greene advised City staff and Miami University officials were exploring grant opportunities for renovating the Elm Street building to create a Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Creativity Hub noting she would keep Council apprised of their findings.

Mr. Conard advised there has been no definitive word on whether the Ohio legislature will extend the ability to hold virtual meetings. Mr. Conard noted he should have information by the next meeting so Council can make plans accordingly.

Mr. Snavelly advised he was exasperated with people not following the Mask Ordinance noting there was clear data showing a dramatic difference when everyone wears a mask verses when they do not. Mr. Snavelly advised this was not rocket science and strongly encouraged people to wear a mask.

Ms. Southard advised 12 people took advantage of a free ride from Oxford Seniors to their polling place or to the Board of Elections. Ms. Southard thanked Oxford Seniors for offering the service and making it possible.

Mr. Bracken encouraged everyone to wear a mask.

Mr. Prytherch thanked everyone he spoke to in preparation of the proposed Resolution he presented this evening.

Mayor Smith thanked OPD and the Butler County Sheriff's Office for making some passes by the polling places today so everyone would feel safe.

Mayor Smith encouraged everyone to keep wearing a mask, keep washing their hands, keep avoiding mass gatherings and to plan their holidays accordingly.

### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Snavelly moved to adjourn at 9:24 p.m. Mr. Prytherch seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Snavelly, Ms. Southard, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)