

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Kate Rousmaniere on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:15 p.m. Those members present were Bob Blackburn, Steve Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, Kevin McKeehan, Mike Smith and Edna Southard.

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

Several members of the Oxford Police Division were in attendance for the recognition of K-9 Unit "Cole".

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1) and (3) for the purpose of discussing appointments to Boards and Commissions and pending litigation. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Dana, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rousmaniere requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Dana moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

RECOGNITION **K-9 UNIT "COLE"**

Chief Jones advised he would like to recognize the service of the City's K-9 Unit, Cole and his handler Sergeant Ryan Sikora.

Chief Jones noted Cole came to the City in 2011 and over the course of his career he had over 125 usages, multiple school searches in Oxford and other jurisdictions, many K-9 demonstrations and several tracks for suspects in the City and other area jurisdictions that requested mutual aid. Chief Jones advised Cole was responsible for taking a lot of narcotics off the street and he improved the quality of life in the community. Chief Jones advised Cole suffered from a muscular disorder which limits his strength and endurance and as a result he had to retire from service in November. Chief Jones noted if Cole had a say in the matter he would want to come to work everyday with Sergeant Sikora. Chief Jones advised in 2014 Cole was involved in the alert and seizure of a large quantity of drugs and \$24,000 in cash from a vehicle which resulted in a conviction and the \$24,000 was forfeited to the City's Law Enforcement Trust Fund. Chief Jones noted Cole was also involved in the track and apprehension of a suspect hiding in thick brush 25 yards from the railroad tracks. Chief Jones advised Sergeant Sikora was responsible for much of Cole's success and thanked Sergeant Sikora for his dedication to Cole and to the K-9 program. Chief Jones also thanked Dr. Molly Buckley and the staff at the Animal Care Clinic who cared for the City's K-9 units. Chief Jones noted the Animal Care Clinic sponsored having a certificate made for Cole (and displayed it to Council and the public) so his name would be honored with a place on the Ohio Police K-9 Memorial located in Amelia, Ohio. Chief Jones presented Sergeant Sikora and Cole with an engraved plaque which read "Presented to Oxford Police K-9 Cole by your fellow officers and the citizens of Oxford, Ohio in deepest appreciation for six years of dedicated service 2011-2016"

Sergeant Sikora thanked Council for the opportunity to be the K-9 handler for 5 plus years noting it was very rewarding. Sergeant Sikora noted going forward he would oversee the K-9 Unit. Sergeant Sikora led Cole to the dais to greet each Councilor.

Mayor Rousmaniere inquired if the City would acquire another K-9 Unit. Chief Jones advised yes, later this year.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Ms. Southard moved to nominate Dan Umbstead to the Housing Advisory Commission for a four year term and Dan Haizman to the Student Community Relations Commission for a three year term ending in 2020. Mr. Dana seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

New permit for RF Pizza LLC DBA Rapid Fired Pizza 7 W. High Street Oxford, Ohio 45056.
(Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director)

Mr. Kyger advised in September Council accepted the Notice to Legislative Authority for Rapid Fired Pizza for a beer permit. Mr. Kyger advised the previous application was from Ox Pizza and the one before Council this evening was from RF Pizza. Mr. Kyger explained the owners formed separate LLC's for multiple locations and the bank financing the new locations needed all of the stores to be financed to be under the same LLC.

Mr. McKeehan advised from his banking experience preparing separate loans for each location would be tedious and difficult and preparing one larger loan for a corporation was simpler particularly if the financials were disparate between locations.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 3, 2017 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

REPORT

Report regarding the January 4, 2017 Environmental Commission Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

RESOLUTION

PURCHASE OF NEW EMS COT

A Resolution No. 5038 authorizing the Oxford Division of Fire to purchase one (1) Ferno INX Intelligent Transport Loading System (EMS Cot) and specified appurtenances designed to reduce injuries to Firefighters And Emergency Medical Technicians at a total cost not to exceed \$35,760.35. (John Detherage, Fire Chief)

Mr. Dana moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Blackburn seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION

SELF BOARD

A Resolution No. 5039 reappointing Kate Rousmaniere as Council representative to the Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families (SELF) Board. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mayor Rousmaniere recused herself.

Mr. Elliott advised the proposed resolution would reappoint Mayor, Kate Rousmaniere to the SELF Board which stands for Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families. Mr. Elliott noted the new term would end January 31, 2019.

Mr. Dana asked for additional information regarding the role of the SELF Board.

Mr. McKeehan advised he previously served on the county-wide board which did not participate a lot in Oxford but did facilitate the HEAP program through the Family Resource Center for heat and utility assistance. Mayor Rousmaniere noted they facilitated the Jobs Now program and provided job training. Mayor Rousmaniere advised the SELF Board funneled state and federal grants and enacted them in Butler County.

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

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 5039. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION **SALE OF PROPERTY**

A Resolution No. 5040 by Oxford City Council authorizing the City Manager to obtain professional services from Oxford Real Estate, Inc. for the sale of City owned property located at 18 Gardenia Drive and at 4134 Millville Oxford Road. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Ellerbe recused himself.

Mr. Dreisbach advised the two properties were surplus and staff tried to sell them by accepting scaled bids and had not been successful. Mr. Dreisbach noted staff would like Council's authorization to list the two properties with a reality firm so they could be advertised through the Multiple Listing Service to broaden the audience. Mr. Dreisbach advised three local firms were contacted with the best commission schedule being provided by Oxford Real Estate, Inc. Mr. Dreisbach requested Council's approval to engage the services of Oxford Real Estate to dispose of the two properties.

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

Mr. McKeehan noted it would be beneficial to liquidate the properties.

Mr. Dana advised it was a logical next step.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised 4134 Millville Oxford Road was across the road from the Talawanda High School entrance and Gardenia Drive was a vacant lot.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 5040. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

RESOLUTION
OXFORD AREA TRAIL

A Resolution No. 5041 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of Butler County, Ohio, the Board of Township Trustees of Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio, and the Oxford Museum Association, Inc. establishing conditions for the City's use of certain right-of-way and public infrastructure for purposes of the Oxford Area Trail. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed Resolution dealt with the Oxford Area Trail and the agreement explained the trail will use public infrastructure (Corso Road), a parking area and the Black Covered Bridge as a segment of the trail and also the use of a portion of right-of-way controlled by the county (north end of the Black Covered Bridge to SR 732). Mr. Chen advised Oxford Township maintained Corso Road, the Museum Association had a maintenance agreement with the county for the bridge and the county had right-of-way that was vacated when SR732 was relocated to its existing location. Mr. Chen noted multiple entities had to be part of the proposed agreement for the trail project to move forward and to secure the access permit which was critical for the construction of Phase I. Mr. Chen advised the bid opening for the construction of Phase I of the Oxford Area Trail was this Friday and the deadline for construction was June 30, 2017.

Ms. Jessica Greene, Oxford Visitors Bureau, addressed Council in support of the proposed Resolution noting she had worked on the trail system for many years and helped draft the grant to bring it to the City. Ms. Greene thanked Mr. Elliott for his leadership and advised the multi entity issue regarding infrastructure and right-of-way was a major road block for the project. Ms. Greene noted there was already a one year extension on the grant and to miss a deadline would not be favorable for receiving future grants.

Mr. Elliott noted the project had been a team effort all along and everyone wanted the project to come to fruition. Mr. Elliott advised he felt this was a good resolution of the issue with infrastructure and right-of-way. Mr. Elliott thanked Ms. Greene, City staff and Mr. McHugh who worked with the county to negotiate the agreement. Mr. Elliott noted the City was under the gun to get Phase I done.

Ms. Liz Woedl, Executive Director, Three Valley Conservation Trust, advised in 2011-2012 Three Valley Conservation Trust raised thousands of dollars to purchase what remained of the Fryman Farm and eventually all of the property was put into conservation easements and now the property along Morning Sun Road would be a combination of agricultural lands and a county park. Ms. Woedl noted the covered bridge was a crown jewel of that area being located over the county park property and she felt it was important to look at what the trail would add to make the park a place people would seek out. Ms. Woedl noted her hope Council would vote for the Resolution to help make Oxford Township and the City of Oxford a better place to live.

Mr. Jon Ralinovsky, Peabody Drive, advised he had been involved in the area trails for a while and noted he felt the path would be a real asset to the community. Mr. Ralinovsky encouraged Council to adopt the proposed Resolution.

Mr. Dana referred to number 5 of the agreement on page 27 of Council's packet "the City's insurance shall be primary and any insurance maintained by the County, the Township, or the Association shall be secondary" and asked for clarification of the statement.

Mr. Elliott advised the City accepted some additional responsibility and had some additional maintenance costs. Mr. Elliott noted this was the City's trail project and the City had primary insurance liability. Mr. McHugh advised there was a lot of negotiation over paragraph 5 as a way to resolve this in a reasonable fashion. Mr. McHugh noted the City was the driving factor in the project and listing additional insureds was not uncommon in this situation.

Mr. McKeehan inquired if the bridge was in good repair and if the City was inheriting a lot of problems. Mr. Dreisbach advised in general the bridge was in good condition but there would be some costs associated with it.

Mr. Ellerbe inquired what condition Corso Road was in. Mr. Dreisbach advised the pavement was in good condition and he did not see any major problems with it.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised this was a complicated Resolution and thanked staff for working on it. Mayor Rousmaniere noted being able to work well with the other agencies was great. Mayor Rousmaniere advised the first link of the trail would be done by June 30, 2017.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Resolution No. 5041. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

ORDINANCES **FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE **CODE UPDATE**

An Ordinance To Approve Current Replacement Pages To The Oxford Codified Ordinances.
(Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

Ms. Eaton advised the annual code update included legislation adopted by Council through 2016 as well as changes to the state codes for traffic and general offenses.

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

Mr. Dana referred to pages 31 and 32 of Council's packet and pointed out a substantial percentage of the general offenses were drug related. Mr. Dana reminded everyone of the serious issue with opiate addiction in Ohio and especially in Butler County.

ORDINANCE
NEW CHAPTER 7
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

An Ordinance Repealing Oxford Property Maintenance Code Chapter 7 Entitled Fire Safety Requirements And Adopting New Oxford Property Maintenance Code Chapter 7 Entitled Fire Safety Requirements. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed legislation would amend the Oxford Property Maintenance Code to reflect changes made to the Ohio Residential Code in 2016 dealing with new and remodeling work on one to three family dwelling units. Mr. Chen noted the Ohio Residential Code requires photoelectric and ionization detectors on each level, while the Oxford Property Maintenance Code only required photoelectric. Mr. Chen advised it was necessary to amend the Oxford Property Maintenance Code to conform to the 2016 Ohio Residential Code which governs the residential building construction requirements.

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

Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Fire Code was updated a couple of years ago and this was a new requirement since then.

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3381. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2017. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin discussed the proposed Supplemental Budget as presented on pages 38-39 of Council's packet which dealt with health care reimbursements, OVI Task Force reimbursements and a one time City contribution for a lasered claim.

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

Mr. Elliott addressed questions from Council with respect to health insurance and the City's self insured medical benefits program for fulltime employees and their dependents.

ORDINANCE
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
PRELIMINARY PLANNED
DEVELOPMENT

An Ordinance No. 3391 Approving The Planning Commission's Recommendation For Preliminary Plan Approval For Phase I Of A Planned Development At 5728 College Corner Pike To Allow A Self Storage Facility With Conditions And Phase II Use To Be Determined. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised he had no additional information since the first reading of the proposed Ordinance and asked for Council's approval of the Preliminary Planned Development on College Corner Pike.

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

Mr. Dana referred to pages 46-47 of Council's packet and noted this was an infill project and it was within the corporate limits which supported common goals for a Planned Development. Mr. Dana referred to item C. on page 47 of Council's packet and advised the proposed project would help keep development from sprawling to and beyond the municipal boundaries of Oxford. Mr. Dana noted he felt the issues raised by the Planning Commission and by the City Engineer had been addressed satisfactorily.

Mr. Dana moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3391. Mr. McKeehan seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. McKeehan, Mr. Smith, Ms. Southard, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Dana
Mayor Rousmaniere (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Elliott thanked Council for supporting the Resolution with various entities to keep the Oxford Area Trail project moving forward.

Mr. Elliott advised the Community Relations Commission met on January 12th and discussed bystander training and the 2016 Ohio Civic Index Report. Mr. Elliott noted the next meeting would be held on February 9, 2017.

Mr. Elliott reminded Council members of the Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet on January 26th and asked them to let him or Ms. Eaton know if they were attending or not.

Mr. Kyger congratulated Arby's on their opening last week and noted Anytime Fitness moved to their new location this week. Mr. Kyger advised Scotty's Brewhouse would have a soft opening this weekend.

Mr. Ellerbe noted he was looking forward to going to Scotty's this weekend.

Mr. Dana referred to the meeting on February 7th with Candice Keller, the newly elected State Representative from Ohio District 53. Mr. Dana noted this was an opportunity for citizens to tell what's on their minds and especially to seek for help in committing the state to address the opioid issue. Mr. Dana advised Butler County was number 1 among all counties in opioid addiction.

Mr. Dana quoted “The drug epidemic is fought at the local level and resources in public health, mental health, addiction services and public safety were thin”. Mr. Dana noted we were struggling to solve these problems without much encouragement or support from the state. Mr. Dana suggested asking Representative Keller to bond with the City and share in addressing this very serious issue.

Mayor Rousmaniere noted the Work Session with Candice Keller was February 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Rousmaniere advised she was meeting with Jackson Gray tomorrow, a student from Miami’s Hamilton campus in a Civic and Regional Development Program. Mayor Rousmaniere noted Mr. Gray had an 8 hour practicum and chose to work with the City of Oxford. Mayor Rousmaniere advised a number of Councilors had projects for him to work on. Mayor Rousmaniere noted Mr. Gray attended an earlier Council meeting and discussed his suicide prevention fundraising efforts.

ADJOURN

Mr. Dana moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.