A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Smith on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. Those members present were Glenn Ellerbe, David Prytherch, Chantel Raghu, William Snavely and Edna Southard. Jason Bracken arrived at 7:17 p.m.

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, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council.

## ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Snavely moved to adjourn to Executive Session immediately in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 G (1) for the purpose of discussing appointments to Boards and Commissions. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard, Mayor Smith (6)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

## ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Smith requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Southard moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Snavely seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

## PROCLAMATION
## LOWV 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mayor Smith read the Proclamation and presented it to members of the Oxford League of Women Voters who encouraged everyone to register to vote.

**PRESENTATION**
**CENSUS 2020**

**Mr. Andrew Devedjian,** advised he was in attendance with his fellow ambassador Reena Murphy representing the Andrew Goodman Foundation at Miami University along with the student voice regarding the 2020 Census. Mr. Devedjian noted he and Ms. Murphy wanted to inform everyone what students were doing in terms of Census education and what initiatives they have been working on the past 5 months. Mr. Devedjian advised the Andrew Goodman Foundation was founded in 1966 two years after the deaths of Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner, the 3 civil rights activists who were murdered during the 1964 Freedom Summer. Mr. Devedjian noted the non-partisan, non-profit was established by Andrew Goodman's parents in order to carry out the legacy of their son, his work in the civil rights movement and his commitment to non-partisan civic engagement which is being realized with the work being done at Miami University regarding non-partisan voter registration. Mr. Devedjian advised the Andrew Goodman Foundation also does programming for civic engagement which falls within what exactly the 2020 Census is prepping the students for. Mr. Devedjian noted the foundation has been creating a broad coalition between the Miami administration, the Oxford Complete Count Committee and other campus partners in order to ensure there is a complete count within the Oxford community. Mr. Devedjian advised the cornerstone of their plan and in all of the education they were doing is to make sure the students at Miami are aware of not only the civic duty they have in terms of redistricting of all 435 House of Representative seats or the 675 billion dollars of federal funding but also that they understand there is a community interest. Mr. Devedjian noted students were part of the Oxford community and the students have to be aware that the Census directly affects the community.

**Ms. Reena Murphy**, advised the Andrew Goodman Foundation's focus is on student education noting they were students themselves and do not speak for the university. Ms. Murphy advised they speak for themselves in how they are carrying out Andrew Goodman's legacy through civic engagement with the 2020 Census. Ms. Murphy noted the foundation has done a lot to engage students and get information accessible to them by reaching out to student organizations. Ms. Murphy advised a group was created called Red Hawks Count in which students can sign up to be a representative and present to other student organizations about the Census or voter registration. Ms. Murphy noted they currently had 6 people signed up and they are also training members of the Associated Student Government which is a minimum of 51 other students. Ms. Murphy advised these representatives will go to student organizations who will receive a general presentation about why the Census is important, how to fill it out and all of the impacts it has on the Oxford community, stressing that students are part of the Oxford community. Ms. Murphy detailed several other initiatives the Andrew Goodman Foundation was working on to educate students regarding the importance of getting a complete count for the 2020 Census.

Mayor Smith and members of Council commended Mr. Devedjian and Ms. Murphy for their efforts.

**APPOINTMENTS TO**
**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Snavely moved to nominate Hueston Kyger to serve on the HAPC, Philip Russo to serve on the Personnel Appeals Board, and moved to confirm Jason Bracken as the Planning Commission's representative on the Environmental Commission. Ms. Southard seconded. The motions passed 7-0-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mr. Tim Carlin**, advised he has been covering City Council for the Oxford Observer for the past year and informed everyone he would be moving on from that position. Mr. Carlin introduced the new City Council Beat Reporter, Abby Bammerlin.

**Mr. David Brown**, Butler County Auditor's Office, advised for new Council members that he was the representative from the Auditor's Office for their Outreach to Local Governments program noting Auditor Reynolds implemented the program approximately 10 years ago. Mr. Brown advised the purpose behind the program is for those representing individual local governments to become familiar with someone from the Auditor's Office. Mr. Brown noted if Oxford constituents needed assistance from the Auditor's Office they could contact him.

Mr. Brown noted his office works with the Treasurer's Office and reminded everyone the tax bills are due February 25. Mr. Brown advised part of what his office does is distribute those funds collected by the Treasurer's Office to local governments.

Mr. Brown updated everyone on the Auditor's Fuel Quality Testing program noting co-sponsors were sought for legislation and advised the primary sponsors for the bipartisan legislation that will allow auditors to test fuel for quality and octane level are Representative Lane from West Chester and Representative Kelly from Cincinnati. Mr. Brown noted Representative Sara Carruthers from Butler County signed onto that imitative as a co-sponsor and advised 4 other representatives have signed on as co-sponsors making it a robust bipartisan group.

Mr. Brown advised if someone experiences property damage such as a fire, state law allows the auditor to lower the value of the property depending on when the damage occurred and if proper paperwork is completed. Mr. Brown noted his office tries to be proactive in getting those forms out in front of people so they know if they can qualify for tax savings. Mr. Brown advised Chief Detherage has been a great resource for this initiative in his role with the Butter County Fire Chief's Association.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the January 21, 2020 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council)

## REPORTS

Report regarding the January 14, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 16, 2020 Joint TRI Board and Recreation Board Meeting. (Casey Wooddell, Parks and Recreation Director)

Report regarding the January 23, 2020 Environmental Commission Special Meeting. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

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

## RESOLUTIONS

### RESOLUTION
### FUNDING REQUESTS

A Resolution No. 7155 authorizing the City Manager to apply for state and federal funding for the Technology, Entrepreneurship, Creativity Hub Project. (Doug Elliott, City Manager)

Mr. Elliott advised at the Council Work Session of November 18, 2019 President Crawford and Vice President Creamer discussed several initiatives with City Council. Mr. Elliott noted one initiative was the Elm Street innovation building project and advised the project has been further developed by the City and by Miami University. Mr. Elliott advised the project concept includes an incubator, recruiting an anchor company as tenant and multiple campus/community possibilities for economic development. Mr. Elliott noted the first step was to apply for capital funding for building renovations from the state's biennial capital budget and advised an application was submitted on January 10, 2020. Mr. Elliott noted additional funding will be identified and sought at both the state and federal level. Mr. Elliott advised the Resolution on the agenda tonight is in support of this economic development project and authorizes the City Manager to apply for additional funding. Mr. Elliott noted he and City staff are excited about this economic development project and the partnership with Miami University and advised support will be sought from the CIC and the OCAC as well. Mr. Elliott noted this project will create jobs in the community and could serve as a model in the region for rural economic development using a combination of arts and technology. Mr. Elliott advised the actual name of the project is the Northwest Butler County College at Elm and the subtitle is Technology, Entrepreneurship, Creativity Hub Quarter in Oxford Ohio. Mr. Elliott encourgaed Council to adopt the Resolution to further the project.

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

Ms. Southard noted she felt it was a wonderful project and advised she was excited it would move forward.

Mayor Smith advised this project has the attention of Governor DeWine who is very much in favor of this program. Mayor Smith noted he felt there was a very good chance the project would move forward.

Mr. Prytherch referred to the former food service building on Elm Street and advised it has been vacant for a number of years. Mr. Prytherch advised at one point Miami University was interested in selling the building and commended Miami for seeing a more long range vision for how the site could be developed.

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 7155. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**RESOLUTION**
**AGREEMENT WITH**
**ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN GROUP, LLC**

A Resolution No. 7156 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Environmental Design Group, LLC for the design of OATS Trail Phases III and IV a cost of $598,898.00 plus an environmental right-of-way allowance of $25,000.00 and a contingency in the amount of 10% of the agreement price or $59,889.80 for a total cost not to exceed $683,787.80. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised in 2016 the City contracted with Environmental Design Group to create a master plan for the Oxford Area Trail system which identified targets that the trail should reach and a general consensus of the alignment of the trail. Mr. Dreisbach noted since that time Mr. Perry and his staff were responsible for construction of Phase I from S.R. 732 to Bonham Road. Mr. Dreisbach advised Phase II construction has begun noting bridge foundations would be poured soon for the bicycle/pedestrian bridge that will cross Four Mike Creek and work was also being done next to U.S. 27 S. at the other end of the trail. Mr. Dreisbach noted Phase II would be completed later this autumn connecting S.R. 73 and U.S. 27. Mr. Dreisbach advised the next step in this process is to get detailed engineering and design drawings completed for Phase III and IV and provided digital maps of the areas in question. Mr. Dreisbach advised the City developed specifications for a Request for Proposal and received two qualified responses from ODOT pre-qualified firms. Mr. Dreisbach noted a committee which included himself, the Assistant City Manager, the Community Development Director and the City Engineer reviewed the proposals independently and then met and accumulated their scores together and upon doing so Environmental Design Group LLC was determined to be the preferred vendor for this contract. Mr. Dreisbach encouraged Council to approve the design contract noting the City had $770,000 appropriated in this year's budget and thanked Ms. Greene and her team for obtaining $2 million in grant funding for Phases III & IV construction.

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

Mr. Prytherch noted his support for the proposed Resolution.

Ms. Southard advised she was excited to see this moving forward noting the trail is used by so many people every day.

Mr. Prytherch reminded everyone the proposed Resolution was for the design of Phases III & IV of the trail not the construction noting the City and the electors made a big investment in this infrastructure.

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Resolution No. 7156. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**RESOLUTION**
**AGREEMENT WITH**
**DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICE, LLC**

A Resolution No. 7157 authorizing the City Manager to enter into agreements with Dynegy Energy Services, LLC for the procurement of renewable electricity generation services for the City's consumption for a period of sixty months. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised in 2011 the City had the opportunity to start choosing the vendor that generates electricity for the City's needs noting the proposed Resolution addresses the generation of electricity. Mr. Dreisbach advised Dynegy Energy was a profit group that split off from the former Cincinnati Gas and Electric/Duke Energy Company. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City has contracted with Dynegy since 2011and advised every contract the City has had with Dynegy has come with a lower kilowatt per hour rate. Mr. Dreisbach advised the proposed agreement was for renewable energy and encouraged Council to adopt the proposed Resolution for the procurement of renewable electricity generation services for a 60 month period beginning in April of 2020.

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

Ms. Raghu inquired if the City was purchasing renewable energy certificates and Mr. Elliott advised Dynegy would and the City was purchasing power from them. Mr. Dreisbach noted Dynegy would certify to the City that the electricity they are committing to the City from generation is coming from renewable sources and specifically Texas Wind Farms. Ms. Raghu noted her concern that a lot of people will think the City is using renewable energy when the City is actually subsidizing a Wind Farm in Texas to allow their production to go on. Mr. Dreisbach advised it was his understanding that the renewable and the fossil fuel plants are co-mingled on the grid so the City does not know exactly where the electrons are coming from. Ms. Raghu noted she felt this was a great first step.

Mr. Prytherch noted the City's dollars are not supporting a coal fired power plant and advised the switch to renewable energy credits for residential customers is a huge step for the City and commended staff for looking at how to accomplish that. Mr. Prytherch referred to Mr. Dreisbach's staff report and advised the City was also saving approximately $20,650 annually.

Ms. Southard advised the efforts of the League of Women Voters should also be recognized noting some years ago they worked towards electric aggregation for the community and advocated for it in 2013 or 2014. Ms. Southard advised it has been a very successful program.

Mr. Ellerbe noted he appreciated Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for considering the goals of Council in their negotiation for the energy product and at an amazing price.

Mr. Bracken concurred with the rest of Council. Mr. Bracken noted it would not preclude if the City makes energy itself in the future. Mr. Bracken advised it was his understanding that renewable energy certificates do not technically offset. Mr. Bracken noted if the City has a contract that specifically says the City is purchasing directly as opposed to just additional subsidization which is often what happens with renewable energy certifications then the City was doing beyond what renewable energy certificates normally do. Mr. Bracken advised no matter where the specific electrons come from the City is still reducing the overall use of fossil fuels.

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Resolution No. 7157. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**RESOLUTION**
**CURB, GUTTER & SIDEWALK REPAIR**

A Resolution No. 7158 declaring that it is necessary to improve those portions of certain properties as shown on Exhibit "A" attached hereto in the City of Oxford, Ohio, by repaving, re-curbing, and repairing the sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach advised this was the first piece of legislation required for the City's special assessment program noting the City has used this process for many years. Mr. Dreisbach noted the City needed to get defective curb, gutter and sidewalk repaired prior to the street resurfacing program. Mr. Dreisbach advised property owners were notified of the repairs that need to be made in October to try to give them as much lead time as possible. Mr. Dreisbach noted this was the formal notice that is required by the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Dreisbach advised the next step will be for the City to enter into a contract with a concrete contractor to perform the work. Mr. Dreisbach noted after the work is complete a Resolution will be presented notifying property owners what the actual costs were to make the repairs. Mr. Dreisbach advised finally an Ordinance would be presented levying the assessments to the properties so the City can recover its costs for making the repairs.

Mr. Snavely inquired why almost all communities assess homeowners for curb, gutter and sidewalks but not for streets. Mr. Snavely inquired if there was some history as to why it is done that way, noting a lot of people are on fixed incomes and then they get a significant assessment. Mr. Dreisbach advised for the last 20 years in Oxford it was a decision of Council by Ordinance to make property owners responsible for curb, gutter and sidewalk maintenance. Mr. Dreisbach noted it would be easy for the City to take over those expenses if money was no object. Mr. Dreisbach advised the General Fund was limited and that would be a drastic change to the General Fund operation.

Mr. Prytherch advised the Ohio Revised Code makes the sidewalk the responsibility of the property owner and inquired if curb and gutter was mentioned in the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Conard advised under ORC 729 Assessments, construction repair of sidewalks, curbs and gutters is the expense of the owners. Mr. Conard noted the statute has been in effect since 1962 and advised he felt it was in recognition that there is limited monies available. Mr. Conard noted when grant or other opportunities are available that burden does not always have to fall on the property owner.

Mr. Prytherch advised he felt the perception of this program to homeowners was not optimal noting he felt the communication could be improved. Mr. Dreisbach advised staff would endeavor to improve communication with the unpleasant news of a pending assessment. Mr. Dreisbach noted ideally property owners would maintain their property and not force the City to initiate this process.

Mr. Elliott advised if the City makes the repairs property owners can have the costs assessed to their property tax over a 5 year period at 5% interest. Mr. Bracken inquired what percentage of property owners choose to have the City make the repairs and Mr. Dreisbach advised it was usually approximately 50%.

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

Ms. Southard moved to adopt Resolution No. 7158. Mr. Ellerbe seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

**ORDINANCE**
**FIRST READING**

**ORDINANCE**
**ZONING MAP**
**AMENDMENT**

An Ordinance Accepting The Planning Commission's Recommendation And Granting A Zoning Map Amendment To Establish A Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District In A R-1A (Single Family Low Density Residential) District For 90 Parcels Located on Miami Trail, Northridge Drive, Red Cedar Circle, Dufour Lane, Honor Lane And Jacob Drive In The City Of Oxford. (Sam Perry, Community Development Director)

Mr. Perry advised the proposed Ordinance was a recommendation from the Planning Commission noting it was the 20th Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District application to come before Council. Mr. Perry advised this was an idea brought forth by the Housing Advisory Commission in 2011-2012. Mr. Perry noted if approved the number of occupants for a rental property would be reduced from 4 to 2 unrelated persons. Mr. Perry advised this would not prevent any permitted rentals from continuing. Mr. Perry advised Ms. April Smith was in attendance on behalf of the neighborhood.

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

Mr. Snavely advised on behalf of the Planning Commission that one written comment was received objecting to the petition noting the person misunderstood the overlay boundary. Mr. Snavely noted members of the neighborhood who spoke before the Planning Commission were very clear in their support for the overlay.

Ms. Southard noted this was democracy at work as people want to protect their neighborhoods and advised she felt Council should move forward with the approval.

Mr. Prytherch advised it was no small job for the petitioners noting it tales a lot of leg work.

**ORDINANCES**
**SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCE**
**SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

An Ordinance No. 3550 Amending Ordinance No. 3538. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2020. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin addressed his staff report as presented on page 95 of Council's packet and offered to answer any questions.

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

Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3550. Ms. Southard seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bracken, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Ms. Southard Mayor Smith (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

**ORDINANCE**
**NEW SECTION 521.14**

An Ordinance No. 3551 Amending The Codified Ordinances Of The City Of Oxford, Ohio, By Adding New Section 521.14 Entitled Expanded Polystyrene Ban To Chapter 521 Entitled Health, Safety And Sanitation. (Doug Elliott, City Manager) **Tabled.**

Mr. Snavely moved to remove the proposed Ordinance from the table. Ms. Raghu seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mr. Elliott advised he had noting to add since the first reading of the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Elliott referred to page 101 of Council's packet and noted the paragraph defining "Organization" was stricken per Council's amendment during the first reading of the proposed Ordinance.

Ms. Raghu advised the Environmental Commission reviewed the proposed Ordinance at their Special Meeting last week noting the overall vote was 5-0 with one abstention to recommend approval by Council.

Mr. Bracken advised the Environmental Commission was mostly in favor of the proposed legislation noting there was some reservation as some members agreed with Mr. Ellerbe's position that it was a little rushed. Mr. Bracken advised most of the commission was comfortable with it and talked through various issues regarding it.

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

Mayor Smith advised he attended the Environmental Commission's Special Meeting and listened to their discussion. Mayor Smith noted he hoped members of the public would attend the meeting and advised none were there. Mayor Smith noted he felt the Environmental Commission had a vey good discussion and advised if Council approved the legislation they would still have 2 years to do more community engagement. Mayor Smith noted he felt Council has come a long way in the six-eight weeks this topic was first discussed. Mayor Smith advised there was concern with major stakeholders such as the school board, hospital and Chamber of Commerce although he felt the school board and hospital were already moving in the direction of phasing out polystyrene.

Mr. Prytherch inquired if the stakeholders know what product Council wants them to use and why if polystyrene is banned. Mr. Bracken advised the Environmental Commission discussed that issue noting it was complicated because expanded polystyrene is not a new substance, it is a different form of it that is more detrimental. Mr. Bracken advised there were competing interests between health, carbon footprint, waste reduction and deforestation noting they often compete against each other especially the health part. Mr. Bracken noted as a good first step he likes where Council is now and advised he would like to go further. Mr. Bracken noted in his opinion he felt it was a good idea to go with biodegradable products and move away from plastics noting even that can get tricky. Mr. Prytherch advised he would like to get at the structural problem because none of the disposables were good. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt banning polystyrene was a good place to start noting it can not be done without partnership with the regulated parties. Mr. Prytherch advised he was willing to go this direction if Council follows quickly with a bigger picture conversation of where Council really wants to go and how disposables will be implemented. Mr. Bracken noted a lot of what Mr. Prytherch said works in parallel it does not fight with what Council was trying to do. Mr. Prytherch advised he would love to do all of these things together and if it were up to him he would say let's hold off and initiate a zero waste program of which this is part of.

Mr. Ellerbe advised when stakeholders were not involved or allowed to come up with their own solutions and at least given the courteously of opening a dialog and saying this is where we want to go how can we help you help us to get there you are going to incite certain reactions that you are not ready for. Mr. Ellerbe noted when things are banned there can be unintended consequences. Mr. Ellerbe advised he would rather have the conversation and the culture change ahead of time and then legislate the time, place and manner as was done with the unsolicited printed materials.

Ms. Raghu advised she felt there had been plenty of time for public input noting no members of the public attended the Environmental Commission's Special Meeting last week when they reviewed the proposed legislation after Council tabled it in January.

Ms. Southard noted she felt having a goal and not liking polystyrene or any product is one thing and it should be separated from consideration of this Ordinance. Ms. Southard advised Council could look at this Ordinance separately from the goal Council is trying to reach. Ms. Southard noted education and getting people involved is the first way to do things and implementing a ban is the last resort. Ms. Southard advised she has not heard an argument for why Council should adopt this legislation to solve this particular problem. Ms. Southard noted she sees the problem and hears the arguments such as we have to start somewhere but she believes it is more logical to think in a broader systemic way as Councilor Prytherch suggested. Ms. Southard advised she would like to hear what the hospital has to say and what the school district has to say. Ms. Southard noted she was worried about not getting the stakeholders involved and advised she does not favor this method of solving this problem.

Ms. Raghu inquired what the point of tabling the proposed Ordinance was and asking the Environmental Commission to review it. Mr. Prytherch advised he wanted change although he wanted it to be as deliberative and as consensual as possible. Mr. Prytherch noted he felt Council should set a policy goal so a particular board can look at a variety of options. Mr. Prytherch advised additional time to not hear objections builds his confidence and noted he felt it was time worth spending.

Mr. Bracken inquired if some Councilor's positions against this would change if the legislation was sent to additional boards or commissions for review. Mr. Ellerbe advised if the Chamber of Commerce and all of the stakeholders were involved and had a response to the goal and how to reach it he would have more confidence. Ms. Raghu advised the Chamber of Commerce was a membership organization and not every business is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Raghu referred to the efforts of Ms. Greene who reached out to everyone who would be minimally touched by this and advised they did not respond.

Mr. Prytherch asked for staff input. Mr. Elliott advised he was not in favor of the proposal although he was asked to draft legislation and bring it forward. Mr. Elliott advised staff contacted the business community and did not receive any responses. Mr. Elliott noted he felt the proposed Ordinance has some benefits and advised he felt it was a partial solution. Mr. Elliott noted staff would make it work if a majority of Council decides to adopt it.

Mr. Prytherch and Mr. Bracken reiterated the issue of educating people during the two year phase-in of the ban with regard to alternative products.

<u>Mr. Snavely moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3551. Ms. Raghu seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:</u>

AYE: Mr. Prytherch, Ms. Raghu, Mr. Snavely, Mr. Bracken, Mayor Smith (5)

NAY: Mr. Ellerbe, Ms. Southard (2)

ABS: None (0)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Elliott advised he received a call from Cox Media on January 24 and was told they intend to follow the City's new Unsolicited Written Material Ordinance. Mr. Elliott reminded everyone that the Ordinance does not outlaw the circulars, it specifies where they can be placed at a residence.

Mr. Elliott noted he was happy to hear the Miami University students talk about their Red Hawks Count. Mr. Elliott noted he, Ms. Greene and Mr. Perry attended a Complete Count Committee meeting on January 22 at Roudebush Hall. Mr. Elliott advised members of the committee include representatives of Miami University (including student organizations), Lane Library, Family Resource Center, Oxford Township and the Oxford League of Women Voters. Mr. Elliott noted each group provided an update and advised there was much discussion about how to achieve a complete count of the student population both on and off campus. Mr. Elliott reminded everyone the census information was confidential.

Mr. Perry advised the ShareFest Oxford event would be held May 13-19 noting he has been involved with the board in planning the event. Mr. Perry noted this has been a great event for redistributing items that would otherwise go to the landfill.

Mr. Perry thanked Councilors for allowing a facilitator to be utilized during last evening's Council Retreat noting he thought it went well.

Mr. Perry advised he looked forward to the Bows and Bowties dance noting he and his daughter attend every year.

Ms. Raghu referred to the coronavirus noting it was definitely a scare. Ms. Raghu noted it was a health scare and it incited phobias and racism against Asian people. Ms. Raghu advised she felt it highlighted the discord between the people we say we are very welcoming to and we need as high tuition paying individuals living and participating in the community. Ms. Raghu noted she feels for those individuals and noted her hope we could do better.

Ms. Southard referred to the Government Services Directory noting the League of Women Voters just updated it for 2020. Ms. Southard advised the LOWV publishes this directory every year noting it was very useful for Oxford citizens.

Mr. Bracken concurred with Ms. Raghu noting he felt Asian students and Asian residents in Oxford contribute a lot to the community. Mr. Bracken advised even if they did not the discrimination he has seen is not good regardless.

Mr. Prytherch advised a few weeks ago Council voted to create a Climate Action Steering Committee noting information was available on the City's website. Mr. Prytherch encouraged interested members of the public to apply for a position on the committee noting it would be made up of a diverse group of individuals.

Mayor Smith advised one of the quarantined students was in the class he was currently teaching noting he met the student for the first time today.

Mayor Smith advised the student was almost apologetic for what happened. Mayor Smith noted the students were told they did everything right by going to the health center and being voluntarily quarantined for a period of time. Mayor Smith noted 7 students will probably not make it back this semester because they are not permitted to leave China at this point. Mayor Smith stated "if you see something – say something" noting he will not tolerate any backlash over this in Oxford.

## ADJOURN

Mr. Snavely moved to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Ms. Southard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.