

CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 14, 2001

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McCurley at 7:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council were present: Jim Fox, Tom Muennich, Peter Beck, Betty Davis, Charlene Pelfrey and John McCurley. Dick Staten was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor McCurley noted the correct spelling of Loretta Terry in the minutes.

Councilmember Muennich moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2001 meeting including the spelling correction. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

PRESENTATION BY DIANE CLASEN OF TREE COMMITTEE

Diane Clasen, Chairperson of the Tree Committee, recognized the following members in attendance: Kevin Jones, Melody Hubley, John Saar, Terry Schulte and Jim Fox. She presented the Mayor with the award for Tree City USA. She noted this is the second consecutive year the City has received it. She thanked Council and John Saar for their support. She stated the Tree Committee will be participating in the Heritage Festival and Christmas in Mason.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sue Hopkins of 803 Quailwood Court addressed Council and stated she represented Ralph Wilbering. She said he is interested in negotiating a purchase of the right-of-way instead of pursuing eminent domain. She said he lives alone, is 78 years old and on a fixed income. She wanted Council to be aware, the current proposal requires him to tap into the sewer for a fee of \$3,700. The additional plumbing would cost \$8,500. The City is only offering \$6,000 for the right-of-way. The Mayor thanked her for this information and stated Council will consider the matter.

Cay Steinhauer of 4522 Appaloosa Trail, addressed Council and stated the design committee for the Veteran's Memorial has issued a questionnaire for residents to fill out and provide their opinions. She stated they must be returned to the City building by May 15, 2001.

Mr. Bill Hein of 779 Tradewind Drive addressed Council and stated he has a child that has epilepsy. He has requested a sign alerting drivers of this fact be installed

in the road right-of-way but he has only been successful in getting one installed. He would like to have another installed facing the other direction. He said he has been fighting this for 21/2 years. He is aware police officers have requested the sign twice. Scot Lahrmr stated the City does own the right-of-way and has been attempting to work out an amicable answer to the situation. He stated the neighbor who owns the property where the sign will be placed is not agreeable to the installation. He also stated there is a limited area the sign can be installed. Councilmember Davis requested an answer be reached by the next Council meeting.

George Parker addressed Council and stated he is most likely to be the next Municipal Court Judge and he thanked those who helped him in the primary election. He requested anyone who has a sign of his, please remove it and return it to 6602 Farm Brook court.

Justin Perkins and Andy McKinnon addressed Council and requested a skate park be built by the City in one of the parks. They offered to raise money for this structure. They passed out guidelines to members of Council on "How to Build a Skate Park".

RESOLUTION 2001-19 PROCLAIMING MAY 13-19, AS NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK

Eric Hansen, Assistant City Engineer, read the Resolution.

Chief Ferrell addressed Council and requested a moment of silence for the officers that have lost their lives in the line of duty. Chief Ferrell recognized Robert Jack a recently retired police officer who is starting his own business in Mason for investigative services. Chief Ferrell stated Michael Downey is being promoted to Sergeant to replace the vacancy the retirement has created. He stated Michael Downey has been on the force for 19 years. Mayor McCurley and Charlene Pelfrey presented Officer Downey with his stripes and badge.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Resolution 2001-19 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

RESOLUTION 2001-20 PROCLAIMING MAY 20-26 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

The Resolution was read by Eric Hansen.

Mayor McCurley recognized John Saar, as Superintendent of the Public Works Department for the fine work they do. Councilmember Davis complimented the department for the excellent job they do on snow removal.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt resolution 2001-20 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-76 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR AN OHIO SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR DRIVEWAY APRON, CURB, GUTTER AND SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT ON HOLLY LANE.

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen explained to Council each year the City is entitled to grant monies for areas which will benefit low to moderate income persons or eliminate immediate threats. This year the grant is for sidewalk, driveway apron, curb and gutter replacement on Holly Lane. He further stated, the allocation for Mason in 2001 is approximately \$35,000. The project will be bid in January of 2002 with construction completed by December 2002.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-76 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-77 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SANDERSON CMI FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE COMPUTER SOFTWARE/HARDWARE IN THE MASON MUNICIPAL COURT

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen explained to Council the Court has requested an upgrade to their current software system purchased through Sanderson CMI. This upgrade will improve the effectiveness of the system and is transferable to the new facility. Judge Batsche met with the Finance Committee of Council and they recommend approval of this legislation. The cost for the upgrade is \$58,263.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-77 was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-78 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,750 TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE TYLERSVILLE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahmer stated the developer has requested the median on Tylersville Road in the vicinity of Aero Drive be reduced to accommodate a left turn lane into the former Renner property. This requires three new street light poles be installed on Tylersville Road. The cost for this change order is \$3,750. ODOT will submit additional change orders to cover the remainder of the median removal at a later date.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-78 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE-2001-79 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TEC ENGINEERING SERVICES TO DESIGN TWO TRAFFIC SIGNALS FOR ACCESS INTO THE LENS-CRAFTERS NORTH AMERICA PROPERTY(TYLERSVILLE AND WESTERN ROW ROAD

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahmer stated LensCrafters of North America has purchased property on the west side of new Tylersville Road. This firm has requested two access points into the site. The purpose of this legislation, he explained, is to start on the traffic signal design due to the time it takes to make strain poles and arms. TEC will begin the design on Tylersville Road and Aero Drive immediately. They will start on Western Row Road once the location has been designated. He added, this will keep us on track with our responsibilities to open LensCrafters in September 2002. This is a not to exceed cost of \$15,000.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-79 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-80 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LARRY SMITH CONTRACTORS FOR THE SOUTH CENTRAL SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahmer stated the area of sanitary sewer, which runs through sections of Manhasset Village, Winding Creek and Wood Creek subdivisions, has experienced surcharging during heavy rains. He further explained, the homes in the area are close to the sewer main and the stream it follows. During heavy rains most flooding occurs and the City has identified a project to correct the sewer surcharging. The project, referred to as the South-Central Sewer Area, is intended to replace certain sanitary sewer pipes in the area. Scot stated the two options for completing this project involve either open cut construction or trenchless technology. Due to the proximity of the homes in the area, the second option has been selected. The cost for this project is \$304,914 with Larry Smith Contractors being the lowest bid for this option. Councilmember Muennich expressed concern with using this contractor as the City has ended up in litigation with them in the past. Vice Mayor Fox stated that was due to a City error with lack of detail provided in the specifications. The Utility Committee has reviewed this proposal and recommends approval.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 NAY (Muennich)

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-80 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 NAY (Muennich)

ORDINANCE 2001-81 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE UP TO \$13,000 TO CINCINNATI METRO TO CONTINUE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MASON

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Michele Blair addressed Council and stated this legislation is for the renewal of funds to support the Reverse Commute Service the Metro provides. She stated this service began in 1996 with the City contributing \$13,000. The request for the City's contribution this year is \$13,000. She stated the number of riders has

increased to over 700 per day. Councilmember Davis asked if this will ever become self-funding. Michele Blair responded there is no indication at this time.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-81 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-82 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT UNDER THE ENTERPRISE ZONE PROVISIONS OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE WITH HI-TEK MANUFACTURING

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Michele Blair explained to Council Hi-Tek Manufacturing has a desire to expand its current facility to supply the next generation of gas powered turbine engines. This requires an investment on their part for large new equipment and the addition of new employees. They are requesting an agreement under the Enterprise Zone, which will allow 50% personal property tax abatement for a period of 5 years. Michele stated this brings over \$250,000 dollars of new revenue to the city. She also stated the schools have approved this abatement request contingent upon a cash payment being made to them directly of \$141,658. Cletis Jackson addressed Council and stated he has enjoyed being in Mason in the past and is looking forward to starting this new venture with the City and County's support. The Economic Development Committee has reviewed this proposal and is recommending approval.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-82 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Councilmember Davis requested Council go into executive session at this point to discuss items related to upcoming legislation. A motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, litigation and personnel was made by Councilmember Davis. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Councilmember Beck, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-83 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACQUIRE PERMANENT TAKES AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahrmer stated this legislation is necessary for the purchase of property, right-of-way, and temporary easements for the widening of Mason-Montgomery Road. He further stated the two property owners involved with this purchase are Betty Jane Westerkamm at a cost of \$46,610 and the Stallo property for \$70.00. The amounts were determined by appraisals conducted by ME Companies, a subcontractor for the design firm Bayer Becker Engineers. Scot explained almost two acres had to be purchased from the Westerkamm property due to the amount of frontage she owns. Staff recommends approval.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-83 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-84 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE WITH HUBERT HARRELL AND JANET V. HARRELL FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 129 MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD, MASON, OHIO

A motion to read by title only was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahrmer stated this legislation authorizes the purchase of property at 129 Mason-Montgomery Road. He said Council already approved the acquisition of the property but this legislation is required to enter into a contract to purchase. The appraised price of the home is \$94,000.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-84 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-85 AUTHORIZING THE CITY LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE PETITIONS FOR APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTIES NECESSARY FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT, DETERMINING PUBLIC EXIGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (TAYLOR)

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahrmer stated City Council has adopted a resolution declaring the necessity and intention to appropriate property for each parcel that has not agreed to sell the necessary right-of-way to the City for the Mason-Montgomery Road widening. The City must take the next step by authorizing the Law Director to file petitions and deposit with the Court of Common Pleas the value of the property determined by the appraisal Ordinance 2001-85 deals with the Taylor property at a cost of \$75.00.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-85 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-86 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2001-57 AND AUTHORIZING THE LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE PETITION FOR APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTIES NECESSARY FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT, DETERMINING PUBLIC EXIGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (DAPP)

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

Scot Lahrmer stated the next two ordinances deal with repealing the previous appropriation ordinances for Dapp and Policchio because the Resolution to Take was not served before the Ordinance to Appropriate. Following the advice of the Law Director, the legislation should be redone so that everything is in order. Scot stated the value of the Dapp property, which has been determined by the appraisal, is \$263,420.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-86 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

ORDINANCE 2001-87 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2001-69 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE PETITIONS FOR APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTIES FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT, DETERMINING PUBLIC EXIGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (POLICICCHIO)

A motion to read by title only was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahrmer stated the value of the Policicchio Beauchamp property as determined by the appraisal is \$2,515.00.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-87 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-88 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2001-68 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE PETITION FOR APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTIES NECESSARY FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT AND CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWERS, DETERMINING PUBLIC EXIGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY(MINK)

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

Scot Lahrmer stated the next two ordinances are being repealed because some of the work on their property includes the construction of sanitary sewers. Ohio law does not permit a municipality to quick take sanitary sewer easements. Therefore, he explained, these ordinances are being replaced with new ones.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-88 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Beck)

ORDINANCE 2001-89 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2001-70 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE PETITIONS FOR APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTIES NECESSARY FOR THE MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT AND CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWERS, DETERMINING PUBLIC EMERGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY(RICHARDSON)

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-89 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-90 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO GRANT A RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT FOR THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY AND FOR TELECOMMUNICATION PURPOSES TO THE CINCINNATI GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE FORMER BOWEN PROPERTY

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahrmer stated the Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company is requesting a ten-foot easement along the south property line of the former Bowen property. This will allow them to provide service to the new school/recreation center in a less conspicuous location.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-90 was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-91 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE WITH LYLE CASTLE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 ACRES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahmer stated the City has shown a interest in buying the property currently owned by Lyle Castle located on US 42 and Bunnell Road. The property contains 120 acres, which could be used for park land or industrial development. By agreeing to grant Mr. Castle a life estate for the five acres that includes the house, he has agreed the five acres will be deeded over to the City upon his death and it will be named the Kathleen Bevan Castle Park. The purchase price for the 120 acres is \$10,000 per acre for a total of \$1.2 million.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-91 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-92 AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON OHIO, SECTIONS 941.03, 941.08, AND 961.04 REGARDING RATES FOR UTILITY FEES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Muennich, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Scot Lahmer stated the City has been successful in negotiating a reduction in waste collection with Rumpke. The result is a reduction of \$1.95 less than the contract renewal rate. This will be reflected in the June utility bills. Scot further explained to council the Wastewater Master Plan indicates a need for improving and expanding the City's current wastewater treatment capacity to 7.0 million gallons a day (MGD) as well as expanding the sludge treatment capacity to meet Federal regulations. The current plant's capacity is 4.95 MGD and it operates at an average of 4.35 MGD. Scot stated the proposed expansion is estimated to meet the needs of the City until 2010 when an additional expansion will be needed to increase the capacity to 13 MGD. Council discussed the necessary improvements at work sessions held on November 20, 2000, January 29 and April 3, 2001. Staff has worked with Seasongood and Mayer to pursue all alternatives that will be the least objectionable to current residents while still reaching the desired goal. The result is sewer expansion/tap fees paid by new developments in the City are proposed to increase 6% this year. This would be followed by annual increases of 6%, 6%, and 10% in subsequent years. Annual sewer rates would be adjusted by the same amounts each year. Councilmember Davis stated the general revenue fund will subsidize any short fall. New growth will pay for more of the expansion as they are the driving force that makes it necessary. Vice Mayor Fox stated the Utility Committee has reviewed many different alternatives and this is the best. Mayor McCurley stated the City is challenged to stay ahead of growth. He added in a rate comparison to 60 communities in southwest Ohio, Mason is in the middle.

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-92 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-93 AMENDING THE ZONING CODE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY .2277 ACRE FROM R-4 TO R-6 LOCATED AT 309 SOUTH FOREST AVENUE(DAN MIDDLETON)

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Mayor McCurley set the public hearing for June 11, 2001 at approximately 7:05 p.m.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City offices will be closed on Memorial Day, May 28, 2001. The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. through downtown and ending at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Employee Excellence Awards were presented at the annual picnic held on May 10, 2001.

City of Mason employees participated in the Warren County Relay for Life sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The team was registered under "Westie's Wisdom" in honor of Sharon West.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Beck reported the Veteran's Memorial Committee will meet on May 28, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. in the American Legion Hall. He stated they welcome input from residents.

Councilmember Davis said the Fire Ad Hoc Committee has held two meetings. The second meeting served as a forum to hear issues of concern. As a result of the meetings, Scot Lahrmer has requested Chief Drumm's resignation and have set up a Council Committee at Scot Lahrmer's request to establish policy, organization and participate in the interview process. She further stated it was suggested Ray Mueller serve as acting chief in the interim but that was not put to a vote.

Councilmember Fox stated the Park Board met on May 5, 2001 and discussed the following events: Lou Eves Pool opening on May 26, 2001, the Sunshine Series begins June 3, 2001 and the Hershey Track and Field Program will be held on June 9, 2001.

Councilmember Pelfrey stated the Promotion and Education Subcommittee of the Veteran's Memorial Committee has received a letter written by Bernace Howard with the assistance of Julia Taylor. He resides in West Chester but has heard of our efforts and relayed three short stories regarding his experiences from 1942. She stated the Veteran's Memorial will mean a lot to many, not only city residents.

COUNCIL OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Muennich asked about the status of US 42 at Butler Warren Road. Richard Fair stated the City has done all it can do. It now depends on other jurisdictions. The County Engineer has stated the City of Mason has done everything they can do. He will try to expedite it from his end. Councilmember Muennich requested the time, date and locations of when the other jurisdictions meet so he can attend and impress upon them how urgently this is needed. Councilmember Muennich also asked about the status of the opening of Tylersville Road. Richard Fair responded the south side should be open in two weeks.

Councilmember Davis reminded everyone the last performance of the Mason Community Band will be on Sunday May 20, 2001. She also requested some consideration be given to reducing stormwater rates for fixed income residents. This was referred to the Utility Committee.

Councilmember Muennich requested a meeting of the Safety Committee, if needed, to consider the request for the sign involving the child with epilepsy. The Safety Committee will review the matter.

Mayor McCurley mentioned the Earth Walk, the Fishing Tournament, the Police Recognition Ceremony, Safety Festival and the Citizen Police Academy Graduation.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mr. Taylor of 4933 Laurel Wood Court reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive bike plan for the city.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition and personnel was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Councilmember Beck, seconded by Councilmember Davis. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to add Ordinance 2001-94 to the agenda was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2001-94 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SEVERANCE AGREEMENT WITH FIRE CHIEF H. MICHAEL DRUMM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to suspend the rule was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2001-94 was made by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Muennich. VOTE: ALL YEAS

TIME: 11:46 P.M.


Clerk of Council


Mayor