

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2002**

ATTENDANCE

The following Councilmembers were present: Jim Fox, Dick Staten, Victor Kidd, Tom Grossmann, Peter Beck, Charlene Pelfrey and John McCurley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 25 Council meeting was made by Councilmember Staten, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARK

Michael Hecker and Jamie Schorr introduced the members of the Volunteers in the Parks (VIPs). Awards were given based on the number of hours each individual had volunteered..

RECOGNITION OF UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

Mayor McCurley recognized the following City employees for their contribution in making the City's United Way campaign such a success: Kendra Taylor, Cathy Frazier, Carolyn Byrd, Bob Behan and Pam Eickenhorst. The City received a bronze award for the level of contribution.

ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Mayor McCurley read a Proclamation in recognition of Arbor Day 2002. He introduced Diane Clasen, Chairperson of the Tree Committee, and she mentioned the seedling give away that would be done in conjunction with the Earth Walk. She also stated 6 larger trees will be given away from entries submitted the day of the walk at the registration. She said the Tree Committee would like to encourage the planting of trees in recognition of Patriot Day, which will be September 11, 2002.

Mayor McCurley stated at this time the City would like to announce the new Fire Chief, Richard Fletcher. Scot Lahrmer stated the City has done a thorough search and is happy they have found the new Fire Chief among the current employees. Richard Fletcher is currently a part-time member of the City of Mason's Fire Department. He is employed full time as a firefighter/paramedic and EMS shift supervisor with the City of Norwood. Scot added he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in pre-medicine from the University of Dayton. Chief Fletcher stated he is looking forward to starting his new position. Scot Lahrmer stated Police Chief Ferrell will serve as Safety Director over the Police and Fire Departments.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS none

ORDINANCE 2002-60 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 BOYD LANE

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

Tim Gary was present as Law Director in Ken Schneider's absence.

Eric Hansen stated each year the City is entitled to grant monies for areas of Mason which will benefit low to moderate income persons or eliminate immediate threats. He stated this year as part of the 2001 grant, sidewalks and curb replacement will be done on Holly Lane. The 2002 grant application is for sidewalk and driveway apron replacement on Boyd Lane. The allocation for Mason in 2001 is approximately \$36,000. This legislation authorizes the application for 2002 funds.

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption after the first reading was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Staten. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-60 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Staten. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2002-61 ADOPTING THE 2002 LANDSCAPING AND STREET TREE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO

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

Scot Lahrmer stated the public hearing for this legislation will be held on May 13, 2002.

ORDINANCE 2002-62 ACCEPTING A BID AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RUMPKE WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR THE WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN SOLID WASTE WITHIN THE CITY OF MASON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Eric Hansen explained to Council Ordinances 2002- 62 and 63 are related to the City's waste collection contract and resulting changes in rates. He said the current contract expires on April 30, 2002. The City solicited bids and three were received with the lowest being from Rumpke. He explained the rates currently include an administration fee

which due to the arrangement with the Greater Cincinnati Water Works, the City can lower to 5.5% of the base bill. The result represents reduced rates for residents with the average savings being \$83 annually. Eric said Ordinance 2002-62 approves the contract with Rumpke and Ordinance 2002-63 adjusts the charges to residents.

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption after the first reading was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-62 was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2002-63 AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO SECTION 961.04 CHARGES AND BILLING FOR RUBBISH AND WASTE COLLECTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption after the first reading was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-63 was made by Councilmember Staten, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A meeting for Council will be held on Monday, April 15, 2002 for the purpose of touring the construction of the new municipal building.

The next issue of Mason Matters will be sent to residents during the third week of April.

The Earth Walk will be held on April 27, 2002 beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Lou Eves Municipal Pool.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Staten reported the Planning Commission addressed the Landscape Code. He stated no comments were received from developers about the changes. He reported the Ameri-stop Food Mart planned for Snider Road and US 42 was passed with contingencies regarding the design of the roof and car wash. He also stated Christ Church of Mason preliminary plat was approved, Vintner Select landscape plan was approved as was the Pebble Creek easement plat. Councilmember Staten asked Council to consider building the extension of Snider Road from US 42 to Tylersville. He stated it would attract business the City desires. Vice Mayor Fox asked if all costs could be assessed. Scot Lahrmer replied the Ohio Revised Code dictates some costs must be paid

by the City. Councilmember Staten suggested the City could negotiate more business zoning with the developers in exchange for building the road on an assessed basis..

Councilmember Beck reported for the Veteran's Memorial Committee and stated bricks can be purchased by anyone, not just residents. He said the next meeting will be April 16, 2002 from 5-6:00 p.m. at the American Legion. He also said a fund raiser will be held at the Houston Restaurant on April 23 and 24 with 50% of the proceeds going to the memorial fund. Councilmember Pelfrey mentioned the efforts of Linda Wilt and Gordon Burrows in collecting stories about our local veterans for the inclusion in a book that will be published and sold. She also mentioned the Safety Committee has met and recommends tabling the assembly ordinance while the committee reviews it further.

COUNCIL OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Pelfrey thanked Neal Huffman and Judge Parker for supplying a Court Financial Report. Councilmember Grossmann stated the Financial Report tells how much money the court is receiving but does not tell how much it costs the court to operate.

Councilmember Pelfrey recommended Council pass a Resolution in support of the Downtown Revitalization Committee and stating they support the completion of Phase 2 of the Poggemeyer contract. Mayor McCurley suggested an Ad Hoc Committee of Councilmember Staten, Councilmember Grossmann and himself be formed to meet with the Downtown Business Organization to discuss the issue. Vice Mayor Fox moved to appoint the Ad Hoc Committee, seconded by Councilmember Staten. A general discussion among Council followed with the majority agreeing a consensus with the Downtown Business Organization should be attempted before a Resolution is passed. Scot Lahrmer stated he is meeting with Linda Fitzgerald to discuss the status of the downtown Mason Revitalization Committee. He stated they have not been told to stop, in fact they are almost at the end of their project. It was decided Scot will define exactly what Phase 2 of the Poggemeyer contract entails and inform Council.

Councilmember Beck stated the County is requesting a resident be appointed to serve on the Solid Waste District. Mayor McCurley replied Betty Davis has agreed to serve in that capacity. Councilmember Pelfrey moved to appoint Betty Davis to represent Mason on the Solid Waste District. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Councilmember Pelfrey requested an executive session be added to the agenda for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Mayor McCurley reported he has attended Kings Island opening and also attended a meeting with the Warren County Commissioners regarding the Middletown Regional Hospital. He stated there is great interest in this project and asked the Commissioners to consider it from a more neutral position.

Tim Garry, acting Law Director, reported the decision has come down in favor of the City of Mason regarding the lawsuit with Deerfield Township over the Water Tower. The judgment awarded the City's legal fees of \$45,600 to be paid by the township. He reported the Township is appealing the decision. Mayor McCurley requested the Township Trustees stop the lawsuits and appeals. He suggested an invitation be extended to discuss issues and improve relationships. Vice Mayor Fox agreed and suggested Scot set up a meeting.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Richard Cox of 657 Reading Road addressed Council and asked for a copy of the grant application for the widening of US 42 from Tylersville Road to Fifth Avenue. He was instructed to contact Richard Fair for this information.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel was made by Vice Mayor Fox, seconded by Councilmember Staten. VOTE: ALL YEAS

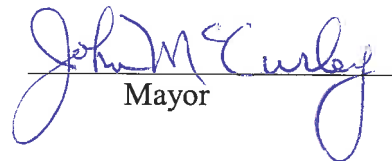
A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Councilmember Staten, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Staten, seconded by Vice Mayor Fox.
VOTE: ALL YEAS
TIME: 9:10 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor