

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
January 24, 2005**

Mayor Beck called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Victor Kidd, Steve Osborne, Tony Bradburn, Tom Grossmann, John McCurley and Peter Beck. Charlene Pelfrey was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2005 meeting was made by Councilmember Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Osborne. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (McCurley)

RECOGNITION OF THE CHOKOLATE MOREL RESTAURANT Postponed

JOHN BURKE OF W/C DRUG TASK FORCE

John Burke addressed Council and explained the accomplishments of the Warren County Drug Task Force this year. He explained the type of drugs and the amount that are being seen in this area. He said they will be working on education programs in 2005. He stated he appreciated the City of Mason's support in the past and hopes it will continue. He added they have a 100% conviction rate.

MASON IN BLOOM / JACK CLASEN

Jack Clasen of 720 Eagle View Court addressed Council and introduced Wendi Sheets of 5736 Running Fox Lane who chaired the 2004 effort of Mason in Bloom. He explained how the City rated in 2004 and he explained the competition they are up against. He said the programs they have planned for 2005 include "Churches in Bloom", "Mailboxes in Bloom" and Front Yard Competition. They requested the City purchase planters for approximately \$1000 for the downtown area and ask for assistance from the public works department for watering of the planters. Scot Lahrmer explained the watering of the downtown hanging baskets is contracted out. He also provided information regarding the CDBG Downtown Mason Grant that has been received from the state. Jack Clasen explained the fee for entering the Mason in Bloom contest this year is \$700 and is due in late March. Councilmember McCurley suggested they contact Paige Bryan who is coordinating the Downtown Mason project.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS None

RESOLUTION 2005-01 TO INFORM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS TO THE CITY OF MASON

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Osborne; seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2005-01 was made by Councilmember McCurley; seconded by Councilmember Osborne. VOTE: ALL YEAS

ORDINANCE 2005-02 AMENDING THE ZONING CODE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 6.247 ACRES LOCATED WEST OF TYLERSVILLE ROAD ABUTTING LUXOTTICA PLACE FROM B-PUD TO HT-1

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

The public hearing for this legislation was set for February 28, 2005 at approximately 7:05 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2005-03 APPROVAL OF A REVISED CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR PROPERTY LOCATED BETWEEN TYLERSVILLE ROAD, LUXOTTICA PLACE AND WESTERN ROW ROAD

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

The public hearing for this legislation was set for February 28, 2005 at approximately 7:10 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2005-04 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE UP TO \$26,500.00 TO CINCINNATI METRO TO CONTINUE THE METRO 71/72 RUSH HOUR AND REVERSE COMMUTE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO AND FROM THE CITIES OF CINCINNATI AND MASON

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

Rebecca Ryan addressed Council and stated Metro is requesting a contribution of up to \$26,500 for the service year 2005 from the City of Mason. She explained they are facing budget

increases, which are expected to increase their costs of operation significantly. She stated Council's Economic Development Committee plans to further review the submitted financial proposal including the reduction of trips from 25 to 20 and the impact of the fare increase from \$2.00 to \$2.25. She also said Deerfield Township has indicated that their 2005 budget includes the requested Metro contribution of \$26,500, and that they will formalize a decision at an upcoming meeting. Warren County has indicated they will support the decisions of Deerfield Township and the City of Mason.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2005-04 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Osborne. VOTE: ALL YEAS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Scot Lahrmer stated City Council will meet with Deerfield Township Trustees on Monday, January 31, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center Community Room. He also stated another Council Worksession will take place on February 7, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

Scot said the 12th session of the Citizens Police Academy will begin on Wednesday, February 23 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and continue each Wednesday until May 11.

Scot announced the City's partnership with the Warren County Convention and Visitors Bureau has landed another sporting event in Mason. The USA Triathlon has announced the 2005 Duathlon National Championships will be held in Mason on June 11 and 12. Mason was chosen over ten competing cities This is the first Ohio location to host the event. The two day event will be comprised of professionals competing in the Pro National Championships, and amateurs in the Age Group National Championships. Mason hosted the U.S. Archery Team Trials last summer, with finalists continuing on to Greece to represent the U.S. at the Olympics. It is anticipated the economic impact of the Duathlon National Championships will exceed \$1 million according to the WCCVB.

The fourth annual State of the City address will be held on Thursday, February 3 at the former Mason Municipal Building located at 202 West Main Street at 7:00 p.m. Residents and businesses are invited, along with other stake holders in our community.

The City has received a liquor license request for the business known as Jo Mart at 4487 US 42. Councilmember Bradburn moved to not require a hearing. Councilmember Kidd seconded the motion. VOTE: ALL YEAS

COMMITTEE REPORTS None

COUNCIL OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember McCurley announced he will be attending a meeting on the Southwest Warren County Transportation issue later this week.

Mayor Beck stated a Fish Fry for Life will be held on January 28, 2005 at the Mason Middle School to benefit the American Cancer Society. He also noted the Mayor's Forum met on January 14, 2005 in Sharonville. He stated at his "Meet the Mayor" events the sign code will be discussed and is expected to be educational for small business owners. Mayor Beck also noted the property valuations for Warren County for the 2004 tax year showed Mason's as the community with the highest valuation.

Councilmember Kidd mentioned Habitat Sound the new business in town for TV and sound equipment. Councilmember Osborne mentioned the new restaurant Culvers

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS None

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Grossmann, seconded by Councilmember Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS TIME: 7:59 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Mayor