

**CITY OF MASON
WORKSESSION
MARCH 20, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Victor Kidd, Steve Osborne, Tony Bradburn, Matt Kline, Todd Wurzbacher, Tom Grossmann and Charlene Pelfrey.

MASON PARKS

An overview of the design for the Mason Sports Park located on Mason Morrow Millgrove Road, was presented by Bruce Rankin from Woolpert LLP. He stated the next step, if Council approves the plan, is to present it to the Planning Commission. He said if all goes well, it will go out for bid on June 21, 2006. A general discussion took place among Councilmembers and it was noted lighting the proposed football fields and using artificial turf were eliminated due to the cost. Debbie Carter addressed Council and stated her property is adjacent to this park and she requested a fence be installed to eliminate trespassers. She also expressed concern over the lights being used until 11:00 p.m. Bruce Rankin responded the ball fields will have fences around them. Chris Carter addressed Council and said his property also is adjacent to this park and he requested mounding be increased. He said he is concerned parking will occur in private lots that are close to the fields. Mr. Todorov stated his farm is on the other side of this park and he has a field with cattle in it now. He asked if a fence would be installed to protect the livestock. He did state he has a fence there now but it will not deter trespassers. Cost considerations were discussed and it was determined sponsors could be a source of revenue for this project. Council has no objections to exploring this possibility. It was mentioned a cell tower could be a source of revenue and also be used for lighting. Mayor Pelfrey asked Scot Lahrmer to proceed with exploring sponsorships for this park and at the same time proceed with the plans. Councilmember Bradburn requested a list of options that have been eliminated due to cost considerations such as picnic shelter and additional restroom facilities be distributed to all of Council.

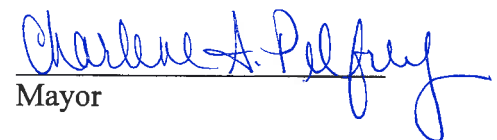
Bruce Rankin gave an overview of the Mason Memorial Park plan located on Mason Montgomery Road. He stated the current design is approximately \$500,000 over budget. He stated the fountain may be delayed to a later phase. Scot Lahrmer stated there is no definite time frame for constructing this park and it currently is not in the budget for 2006. A general discussion took place among Council in which the City's park priorities were discussed. Ginny Sundin stated the Park Board felt the City needed to supply passive parks as well as provide the needed ball fields. Scot Lahrmer stated the schools will eventually be building another wing onto the high school and it will reduce the number of parking spaces they currently have available. He said there has been

speculation that if the City has no plans for this property, the schools will request it for parking. Financing the construction was discussed and it was determined that the City should pursue including this park in the budget sessions for next year.

Scot Lahrmer provided an update on the Skate Park. Three plans were distributed. He noted Council has placed a ceiling on the cost of the park at \$400,000. He also said the township was to hold a hearing with the public on this matter but that was cancelled and to his knowledge not rescheduled. They have made no indication to the City they are going to participate. Councilmember Kline stated he has concerns over the full pipe/capsule being included on the designs. He stated it appears as if it could present problems for the City. Jim Fox also echoed those concerns. Mayor Pelfrey referred the matter to the Park Board and the Skate Board Committee for their review and comments. Scot clarified it was Council's direction that once the design has been elected, the City can go out for bids. Councilmember Osborne reminded everyone Baker Concrete has indicated they may provide the concrete at cost for this project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Mayor