

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2009**

Mayor Grossmann called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following members of Council were present: Don Prince, Tony Bradburn, David Nichols, Pete Beck and Tom Grossmann. Christine Shimrock was absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2009 Council meeting was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**PRESENTATION OF AWARD FROM WARREN COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**

Ben Huffman, Director of Sports Marketing for the Warren County Convention and Visitors Bureau, addressed Council and announced the City of Mason is being recognized for the outstanding support they have supplied to the bureau. He presented the Mayor with the 2008 Partnership Award. He reported the City hosted 20 events in 2008 with over 32,550 attendees resulting in an economic impact of \$11.4 million dollars.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS None**

**ORDINANCE 2009-07 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$8,000 TO MASON AREA ARTS COUNCIL, A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

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

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen explained to Council, the City began partnering with the Mason Area Arts Council at their inception in 2006. To date, the City has contributed a total of \$36,000 to the Arts Council as part of the matching program. Eric said during 2007, Council adopted a policy to limit City contributions to \$8,000 and no more than a third of a group's budget through a matching program where the City would contribute one dollar for every two dollars raised from other sources by the non-profit group. The maximum contribution is \$8,000. He reported as part of the 2009 Budget process, the Finance Committee recommended including an \$8,000 contribution to the Arts Council in the 2009 Budget

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-7 was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-08 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR MUTUAL AID ASSISTANCE WITH WARREN COUNTY AGENCIES**

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

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen explained to Council, this proposed mutual aid agreement is the same as the mutual aid agreement now existing between the City of Mason and law enforcement agencies in Warren County. Warren County Prosecutor, Rachel Hutzel, is requesting the City to sign this agreement as a routine update of authorizing officials and resources. He said Sections (E)(3), covering felony arrests, and (G), covering inter-agency communications, have been added. The last update was signed in 1998.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-8 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-09 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE WARREN COUNTY FIRE RESPONSE AND LIFE SAFETY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AGREEMENT**

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

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen reported to Council, approximately one year ago, Warren County notified the City of their decision to discontinue a direct hazardous material response team, leaving the responsibility for hazardous material responses to local communities. However, the County did consent to provide financial resources to the Greater Cincinnati HazMat group for coverage of jurisdictions within Warren County. The total financial contribution from the County is approximately \$37,000 annually and is intended to replace services previously provided by Warren County Emergency Services.

Eric stated in order for Warren County communities to take advantage of the County's funding and contract as a group with Greater Cincinnati Hazmat, a Council of Governments (COG) is necessary. The COG represents a partnership between the local

jurisdictions in Warren County to secure Hazmat services. It also creates a legal vehicle for County Fire Departments to partner on other joint ventures if opportunities or needs develop.

He further stated participation in the Greater Cincinnati HazMat group will provide response services to hazardous material situations and training. Training will include general response training as well as specific HazMat training for team members. Approximately six Mason Fire Department employees will be selected to participate on the HazMat team. The Safety Committee of Council has reviewed the concept of this membership and is recommending the adoption.

Vice Mayor Beck asked for clarification on the City's liability exposure. Mayor Grossmann responded we are liable for only our employees. He said this agreement follows what the Ohio Revised Code already states. Vice Mayor Beck asked if there would be a fee placed on the members. Eric responded the COG couldn't set fees for the partner jurisdiction. Mayor Grossmann stated this agreement will allow the City to spend less than otherwise would be required to meet this responsibility. Councilmember Bradburn noted by Ohio law, Hazmat is our responsibility. It is to our benefit that the County is participating. Councilmember Nichols asked if the County withdraws their funding, would we have a chance to reevaluate this agreement. Eric replied yes. Councilmember Prince noted we also have the option available to us to drop out.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-9 was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-10 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$8,420,000 OF RENEWAL NOTES BY THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING A GOLF COURSE IN THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Eric Hansen reported to Council, on June 12, 2006, Council approved Ordinance 2006-72, which authorized the purchase of the Golf Center at Kings Island for \$9 million. After a due diligence period and the authorization of a management agreement with Recreation Management Services, Inc. (RMS) for the operations of the Golf Center at Kings Island, the property was purchased on March 15, 2007. He reported Council approved Ordinance 2006-152, which provided for the issuance of \$10 million in Golf Course Acquisition bond anticipation notes. The actual Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) were issued on March 14, 2007 for \$9 million. In 2008, the BAN was re-issued after

paying \$180,000 towards the outstanding principal. Eric said the new issue represents a principal payment in the amount of \$400,000, which was included in the 2009 Budget.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-10 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Eric Hansen reported on the following items:

#### **► Chamber Donation**

Eric Hansen stated the NEC Chamber of Commerce has requested the City participate in a level of sponsorship for 2009. He said there are various levels of participation and items included with each level. He said as a governmental entity, some of the items included are not valuable to the City but some aspects of advertising could be with regards to the Community Center. He reported the Economic Development Committee reviewed this request and is recommending a level of sponsorship of \$5,000 and recognizing the City Manager will need to negotiate the items of value to the City.

Angie Morgan addressed Council representing the Chamber and stated she is available to answer any questions. Councilmember Bradburn asked where the NEC Chamber stood when the US Chamber of Commerce sued the US Government Department of Homeland Security regarding insuring their workers are legally in the United States. Angie replied the NEC Chamber decided, after review by their Governmental Committee, not to become involved in that suit. They stated they made no contact to the US Chamber of their position. Councilmember Bradburn replied he was disappointed that the NEC Chamber did not object to the US Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Grossmann clarified that the City Manager will be negotiating the package of participation that will benefit the City.

A motion to grant a level of participation with the NEC Chamber for \$5,000 was made by Vice Mayor Beck allowing the City Manager to negotiate the package that is of value to the City. Councilmember Prince seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 YEAS, 1 NAY (Bradburn)

► Tax payments are due by January 31. Tax returns are due April 15. Taxpayers can have their tax returns prepared free of charge by visiting the City of Mason's Tax Office located in the Municipal Center. Also taxpayers can prepare their tax returns online at [www.imagemason.org](http://www.imagemason.org).

► Living Well in Mason Activities schedule:

#### **New Year – New You**

February 4                      Cholesterol & Blood Sugar Screenings

FREE to the first 300 registered participants.

February 5 Heart Healthy Talk with Jane Wyland  
Located in the Bridge, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.

February 6 GoRed For Women Event  
Mason Community Center participants and members who make a donation will receive their choice of a guest pass or two group exercise class passes. There will be blood pressure checks and an information booth educating women on heart disease.

February 11 Hoxworth Blood Drive  
Mobile unit located in the parking lot of Municipal Center  
9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilmember Bradburn reported the Safety Committee met to discuss Station #51 footprint, size and other details. He reported it is continuing to be reviewed by the township.

Mayor Grossmann reported the Finance Committee has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.

### **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Grossmann reported the City has received 10 applications for the open council position. He said Council plans to interview all and choose one before the next Council meeting on February 9, 2009.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**


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

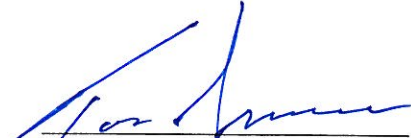
A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ADJOURN**

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

TIME: 8:07 p.m.

  
Clerk of Council

  
Mayor