

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2009**

Mayor Grossmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2009 Work Session was made by Councilmember Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Shimrock. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Bradburn)

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2009 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Bradburn)

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Perry Schwartz addressed Council and asked about the recent public hearing on the variance to the city's noise ordinance. He said as he reads the ordinance, it is only Council that can grant the variance unless an unreasonable hardship was present. Ken Schneider, Law Director, stated he has reviewed the matter and the authority can be delegated to the Police Chief, Safety Director or City Manager.

Vice Mayor Beck stated it has been a long time since the noise ordinance was reviewed. He requested it be assigned to a committee for review and possible update. Mayor Grossmann referred the matter to the Safety Committee.

Councilmember Bradburn suggested addressing Ordinances 2009-28 and 29 first since there are visitors in the audience to comment on this legislation.

**ORDINANCE 2009-28 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FINANCING UTILIZING THE MASON PORT AUTHORITY CAPITAL FUNDING REVENUE BONDS (LOCAL GOVERNMENT POOLED FINANCING PROGRAM) AND ISSUANCE OF A \$2,000,000 NOTE TO PAY THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

Eric Hansen explained to Council both Ordinance 2009-28 and 29 address funding for the Community Center expansion working with the Mason Port Authority. He said for over two years Council's

Community Center Committee has been focused on improving the financial position of the Center by partnering with a healthcare provider. TriHealth, including their Group Health Associates medical practice and Bethesda Rehab services, offered the City an equally ambitious partner. Eric stated their commitment to community investment, expanded wellness opportunities, and proven track record creates considerable opportunities both for the financial health of the Center as well as the physical health of Mason residents. TriHealth provides an immediate impact on capital, and more significantly long-term benefits to membership. As the City and TriHealth moved forward to define the specifics of the partnership and the future of the Community Center, staff responded to Council's encouragement to creatively leverage TriHealth's investment to maximize the benefits possible. Eric also reported Ordinances 2009-28 and 2009-29 advance this collaborative model by utilizing the Mason Port Authority and the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC). Mason Port Authority's work with RBC establishes the Ohio Local Government Pooled Financing Program and will provide government agencies alternative financing opportunities, at costs lower than they could obtain separately. The City of Mason benefits directly via sharply reduced financing costs, developing a revenue stream that allows the Port Authority to more aggressively promote economic development, and demonstrating the Mason Port Authority's strength in facilitating attractive financing alternatives for local government projects.

Eric explained an annual lease payment from TriHealth will cover all of the costs associated with the medical expansion and much of the costs for the additional areas. The City will maintain ownership of the entire expansion including the space to be leased by TriHealth. He said fortunately the timing of the project allows the Mason Port Authority to provide the best long-term option to finance the expansion. The Port Authority, working with RBC, has the lowest financing rates, lowest cost of issuance for a lease agreement, does not require a debt reserve, and benefits the City's Port Authority. The amount of the project includes a \$26.8 million asset of medical office and expanded community center space that will continue to generate revenue in future years. Over \$10.5 million of this benefit is directly a result of financing savings through the Port Authority.

Eric explained Council held a first reading of Ordinance 2009-28 at the meeting on April 13. In order for the City to take advantage of the Port Authority's pooled financing program a formal commitment, with this legislation, is necessary and must be acted upon by the end of April to qualify for the pool. The financing amount will not be finalized until the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) is known and following Council authorization of the construction contracts.

Steve Mombach and Tim Gramann from TriHealth addressed Council and said this project is about relationships that benefit the community. He said this will be a state of the art facility.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-28 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-29 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FINANCING AND COMMITTING THE CITY TO UTILIZE THE MASON PORT AUTHORITY CAPITAL FUNDING REVENUE BONDS (LOCAL GOVERNMENT POOLED FINANCING PROGRAM) FOR AN EXPANSION OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

Michele Blair introduced Amber Burke with RBC Capital Markets to Council. Bob Hauser, Mason Port Authority board member, addressed Council and stated the Port is pleased to partner and provide cost effective financing for the City.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-29 was made by Councilmember Shimrock, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-06 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 3-9, 2009 AS BUILDING SAFETY WEEK**

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

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

Eric Hansen explained to Council the next five resolutions bring attention to various aspects the City addresses daily for the benefit of our residents.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-06 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-07 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 10-16, 2009 AS CLEAN WATER WEEK**

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-07 was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-08 PROCLAIMING MAY 10-16, 2009 AS NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL WEEK AND MAY 15 AS PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY**

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

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

Eric Hansen stated there will be a brief ceremony on May 11, 2009 to honor fallen officers.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-08 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-09 PROCLAIMING MAY 17-23, 2009 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**

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 after the first reading was made by Councilmember Shimrock, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-09 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-10 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 17-23, 2009 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK**

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

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-10 was made by Councilmember Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RESOLUTION 2009-11 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN IDENTITY THEFT POLICY**

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 after the first reading was made by Councilmember Shimrock, seconded by Councilmember Nichols. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Jennifer Heft explained to Council, in 2003, the Federal Trade Commission enacted The Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act, that requires financial institutions and creditors to conduct a periodic risk assessment to determine if they have "covered accounts" and to implement a written program, by May 1, 2009, if they have covered accounts. Mary Mueller, Assistant Finance Director, Robin McKeehan, the City's IT Director, and Jeff Forbes, the City's Assistant Law Director, have worked cooperatively to evaluate the City's status as a creditor and to develop the attached policy for the City that meets the requirements of The Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act. She stated the City's policy has been modeled after a policy template created by the Ohio Municipal League. The City

historically has taken precautionary steps to maintain the integrity of confidential information. Tax account information is strictly confidential and some of the only information that is protected under Ohio public records laws. She said while there is some question as to the City's status as a creditor and if there are any "covered accounts" as defined by the Act, adopting an Identity Theft program is just another precaution the City is undertaking to protect customer information and to serve as a reminder to staff about the importance of securing this information.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2009-11 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-36 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR MASON MIDDLE SCHOOL PUD**

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

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

Richard Fair explained to Council, the Mason City School District is requesting approval of the dedication plat for the Mason Middle School Campus PUD. Planning Commission and City Council approved the concept plan and rezoning for this site in 2008. Richard stated the property contains an existing school facility along with sports stadiums and other recreational activities. The recent improvements to the property include the 20,000 square foot Atrium medical building; softball field press box and stands; football stadium improvements and Tennis court improvements. This final plat will dedicate the right of way and easements for the western portion of Nixon Park Drive. He reported the school has a bond in place for completion of the public improvements.

He noted Planning Commission recommended approval of the dedication plat contingent on the following:

1. Modify dedication plat to address the existing pump station and city park signage.
2. Rename the street to "Nixon Park Drive".

Richard further explained Ordinance 2009-37 addresses Time Warner Entertainment, LLC request for approval of an easement for the extension of underground utilities to the newly constructed Atrium facility. This 10 foot wide easement will be located on the southern property line of the Mason Community Campus; adjacent to the Nixon Park Drive parcel. This easement is a continuation of the utility easement shown on the Mason Middle School Campus PUD final plat. This request is consistent with Mason's long-term plan for Nixon Park Drive, which is to dedicate the remainder of roadway back to the park and provide a utility easement in the area that Time Warner is currently requesting.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-36 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS



**ORDINANCE 2009-37 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO GRANT A 10-FOOT WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT TO TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY, L.P.**

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-37 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-38 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BAYER BECKER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,295.00, FOR DESIGN OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF PHASE 3 OF THE US 42 NORTH TRUNK SEWER**

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

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

Richard Fair explained to Council, the purpose of this legislation is to provide necessary engineering services to secure bids for reconstruction of the US 42 North Sanitary Trunk Sewer (Phase 3). Phase 3 runs from Heritage Oak Park to the inverted siphon under Muddy Creek near Spyglass Hill Drive. He stated the US 42 Trunk Sewer is one of two major trunk sewers conveying wastewater from the City collection system to the Water Reclamation Plant (WRP). The existing sewer in Phase 3 is deteriorated and is a major source of infiltration/inflow to the sanitary sewer system. It is also now undersized for the increased wastewater flow resulting from build-out of upstream residential areas. Richard stated in 2002, the City initiated a series of projects to reconstruct the entire US 42 Trunk Sewer, from Quinn Park in the southern part of the City to US 42 at Heritage Oak Park in the north. Phase 3 represents the last project of this program. Proposals for design of the Phase 3 improvements were requested from five engineering firms. Bayer Becker and LJB were asked to give presentations on their understanding of the scope of work, proposed fee and personnel. Based on the review of proposals and the presentations, staff considers the proposal by Bayer Becker in the amount of \$28,295 to be consistent with the City's planning and the proposed amount is very reasonable for the work involved. He reported the 2009 Budget provides for \$100,000 for design (\$80,000) and construction (\$20,000) engineering for the US 42 North Trunk Sewer Phase 3 project.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-38 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-39 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000.00, WITH WARREN COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE INSPECTION SERVICES NECESSARY**

**TO MEET THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION (NPDES) PHASE II REQUIREMENTS**

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

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

Eric Hansen explained to Council, partnering with Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District has given the City an opportunity to consistently meet EPA Best Management Practice regulations at the lowest possible cost to residents. Warren County Soil and Water District (SWCD) is a branch of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Part of their funding mechanism is a proportional match of funds supplied by local government agencies. In the past the State has matched 75 cents on the dollar. He said the City's contributions help SWCD to pay a full time staff member who then is available to complete all required inspections. The cost for inspection services was included in the 2009 budget. Ordinance 2009 - 39 is recommended for funding inspection services by Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District in a not to exceed amount of \$25,000.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-39 was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-40 DECLARING CERTAIN CITY EQUIPMENT AND CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS CONFISCATED PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF SAID EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY**

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 after the first reading was made by Councilmember Shimrock, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Jennifer Heft explained to Council, the City periodically disposes of surplus property through auction. This surplus is generally made up of vehicles and equipment that no longer serves a useful purpose in delivering public services. However, surplus may also include unclaimed or forfeited property acquired through Police related activity. She noted the City has been selling City surplus through Internet auction for the last few years. This medium has proven to be the most effective in auctioning surplus property to the largest audience, bringing market value for this property, and doing so at the lowest possible administrative cost to the City.

Jennifer continued to explain, some surplus City property not needed for public use may be determined obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired and that the property has no value. The legislative authority may authorize the items to be discarded, donated, or salvaged. Also, some surplus city property not needed for public use may not be sold to the general public and may be declared surplus and used as a trade-in for a newer model when budgeted.

She reported the City has received a request for the donation of a surplus item. The Village of Harveysburg is in need of a police cruiser and is asking that Mason donate a surplus police cruiser to them. The available cruiser was cycled out of front line police service in 2008.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-40 was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Vice Mayor Beck asked if a motion was needed to make the donation to Harveysburg. Eric Hansen stated it was not necessary as the City Manager has that authority. Vice Mayor Beck noted this has been done before by the City of Mason to various other communities in the area and he supports assisting in this way if possible.

**ORDINANCE 2009-41 AMENDING SECTION 165.03(a) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, REGARDING HOLIDAYS TO INCLUDE CHRISTMAS EVE DAY**

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

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

Jennifer Heft explained to Council, over the past year, staff has successfully renegotiated and Council has approved Ordinances 2008-66, 2008-130, 2008-131, 2009-35 and 2009-36 authorizing collecting bargaining agreements with the City's five unions. One of the terms of agreement in each of these contracts was for an additional eight hours of holiday time. The Unions' had sought additional holiday time for many years to better reflect comparable public employers. The contracts improve how Holiday time is administered and scheduled to reduce overtime pressure.

She reported Council considered many potential holidays that were consistent with Federal holidays and ultimately recommended Christmas Eve Day when many employees already schedule time off, residents assume City offices are closed and activity levels are at a minimum as other employers are observing the holiday as well.

Jennifer stated under the current Ordinance when any of the above holidays fall on Saturday, they will be observed on the preceding Friday, When any of the above holidays fall on Sunday, they will be observed on the following Monday. The same policy would be implemented for the Christmas Eve Day Holiday. The City Manager is authorized to reconcile any conflicts and to make appropriate substitutions when necessary. Earlier this year, Council approved a motion to amend the Codified Ordinances this year, moving the observance of the Independence Day holiday from Friday to Monday, to better accommodate the July 3 Red Rhythm and Boom celebration. She reported offices will remain open on Friday, July 3 and close on Monday, July 6.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-41 was made by Councilmember Shimrock, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS



**ORDINANCE 2009-42 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000,000 OF RENEWAL NOTES BY THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING REAL ESTATE IN THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

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

Eric Hansen explained to Council, this legislation is needed to reissue the Bond Anticipation notes for the acquisition of property. He said this concerns the City's purchase in 2006 of the White Oak Farms parcel located on the west side of SR 741, north of Binion Way and contains approximately 156 total acres. He said the original notes were issued for \$4.5 million with the current balance of \$4.2million. He reported the City's 2009 budget includes \$200,000 towards the principal balance on these notes.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-42 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Gilb. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2009-43 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH COUNSLMAN-HUNSAKER AND MSA ARCHITECTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,000.00 FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A 50-METER AQUATIC CENTER**

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

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

Richard Fair explained to Council, the Mason Manta Rays is a competitive swim program that has been offered at the Community Center since the Center opened in 2003. He said participation in the swim program ranges between 240-270 annually, with a waiting list of over 30 children. This competitive swim program is the top revenue producing program for the Community Center, with revenues for 2008 of \$304,000 and generating over \$38,000 in membership revenues to the Community Center. The Manta Rays are widely recognized as one of America's top swim teams and has been awarded the Silver Medal Club status three years in a row by USA Swimming, the sport's national governing body. The team ranks in the top 60 swim teams in the nation out of over 2800 total teams and recently sent four swimmers to the 2008 Olympic Trials. There is no other swim team that ranks higher without a 50-meter facility.

Richard stated interest in a new aquatic facility with a 50-meter competition pool has been brought to the attention of the Community Center Committee and has the potential of generating more growth with the aquatics programs such as: swim team, lessons, etc. Also the facility will give the City an

opportunity to host large revenue generating national events. A 50-meter facility would also allow for the Community Center to better compete with the growing competition by bringing the City's aquatic programs to a new level of excellence. In order to make a sound decision regarding the City's involvement as well as the future potential financial impact on the Center, Council's Community Center Committee recommended moving forward with a comprehensive feasibility study that would be paid for by donations to the Mason Manta Rays Swim Team. This partnership will allow the Committee to effectively evaluate an ambitious idea with the potential to enhance the financial condition of the Center at no cost to the City.

Richard stated three proposals were submitted for review and the team of Counsilman-Hunsaker and MSA Architects were chosen as having submitted the best proposal. Since MSA is very familiar with the site and area they were the best choice to prepare the conceptual plans for the new facility. MSA will be the lead agency; however, Counsilman-Hunsaker who is located in St. Louis will perform the majority of the work. Counsilman-Hunsaker has an outstanding reputation for planning and designing aquatic centers with experience throughout the Country. Their teams have designed aquatic centers for Boston University, Oklahoma State University, the University of Alabama, Akron University, and several other cities, districts, and colleges. He reported basically the team will prepare a needs analysis, conceptual plans, cost analysis, market study, opinion of probable revenue, opinion of probable expenses, opinion of facility financial performance, and follow up with a presentation and recommendation. There is \$28,861 available from donations to the Manta Rays Swim Team for the study. The contract with Counsilman-Hunsaker and MSA Architects is in an amount not to exceed \$27,000.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-43 was made by Vice Mayor Beck, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS

Councilmember Gilb asked for clarification on the funding and contractual agreement with MSA. Eric Hansen stated the swim team has donated the funds for this report. Richard Fair stated our agreement is with MSA. They will enter into an agreement with Counsilman-Hunsaker.

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

Eric Hansen reported on the following items:

- ▶ The 16<sup>th</sup> Citizens Police Academy class will graduate on Wednesday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the Manor House. The evening will include a ceremony and hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Council is encouraged to attend.
- ▶ The St. Susanna DARE Graduation will take place on Thursday, May 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the Meyer Center in the old church. The Mason DARE graduation will be held on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mason High School Auditorium. City Council members are encouraged to attend.
- ▶ On Saturday April 18, 2009 assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), arrived to examine all aspects of the City of Mason Police Department's policy and procedures, management, operations, and support services. The Mason Police Department was first accredited in 1997, and has successfully been re-accredited every three years since. Currently

the agency must comply with a minimum of 462 standards in order to maintain an accredited status. During the exit interview, the team leader informed us that he would be recommending re-accreditation to the Commission. A vote will be taken by the full Commission in July 2009 to determine if accredited status is to be awarded.

► May - Women's Health Activities

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** None

**OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Nichols asked if the City is doing any exercise to prepare for a health pandemic. Eric Hansen stated the City has discussed several scenarios. He said he met with Chief Moore, the Safety Director, on this topic. He noted the available resources are being identified.

Councilmember Nichols stated he has received several requests for areas in which a community garden could be planted. Eric Hansen stated he also has received some requests and it could be a possibility. He will research the matter.

Mayor Grossmann reported on the preview of the new ride at Kings Island and the Earth Day celebration on April 25, 2009.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: LAND ACQUISITION**

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

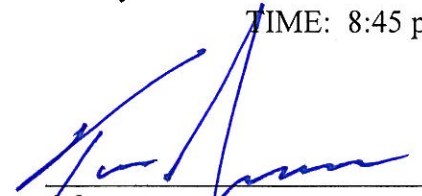
A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Councilmember Nichols, seconded by Vice Mayor Beck. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ADJOURN**

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

TIME: 8:45 p.m.

  
Clerk of Council

  
Mayor