

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

Mayor Prince 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: Michael Gilb, Christine Shimrock, Rich Cox, Tony Bradburn, Charlene Pelfrey, and Don Prince.

**SWEARING IN OF CITY PROSECUTOR BETHANY BENNETT**

Judge Peeler presided over the swearing in of Bethany Bennett for the City of Mason Prosecutor position. She introduced family members present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Gilb. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**FESTIVALS OF MASON PRESENTATION**

Scott Pierce introduced the board members on the Festivals of Mason Committee including Don Prince, Christine Shimrock, Karen Kilgore, Mike Stretch, Frank Kudlac, Roger Cupp and event coordinator Tom Kaper. He also noted the assistance of Amanda Hisey who is the Business Administrator for the event. He stated the events couldn't be accomplished without the help of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Police Department. Scott reported a new program "Thursday Night Live" will take place on the plaza on May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5 and September 2, 2010. He explained this is family entertainment and will be supported by sponsors.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Laura Pfeil of Timber Lane addressed Council and thanked the City for their participation with the Haiti Relief Project. She stated this effort partners with the Matthew 25 Ministries. She said the Mason Schools just completed a project that resulted in over 75 van loads of supplies collected for Haiti. She announced the City is continuing the projects and will have collection bins at most City sites. The project will last approximately one month.

**ORDINANCE 2010-22 FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON TO AMEND IN PART ZONING CODE CHAPTER 1170 (DOWNTOWN OVERLAY DISTRICT)**

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

Eric Hansen stated that the Public Hearing will be held on March 22 at the regular Council Meeting.

**ORDINANCE 2010-23 APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY PLAT OF BOXWOOD FARMS SUBDIVISION**

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

Richard Fair explained that the developer is requesting Preliminary Plat approval for a new subdivision located at 5586 Mason Road. The property, formerly the Hosea Farm, is located south of the Mason Early Childhood Center and west of the Hickory Woods Subdivision. He stated this property was recently annexed into the City and received R-2, Single Family residential zoning. This 9.7-acre development will contain 14 single-family homes along with 2 open space/stormwater management parcels.

Richard said the front two lots are proposed as stormwater basins, which will be maintained by the HOA. There are 14 buildable lots ranging in size from 20,000 square feet to over 70,000 square feet. The property contains an existing pond on the north side, which will remain as part of Lot 8.

He reported Planning Commission and staff recommend approval of the preliminary plat contingent on the applicant addressing the following items:

1. Add a 50-foot wide landscape buffer easement along Mason Road (a minor arterial) as per the City's Landscape Ordinance. The HOA will be responsible for maintaining this landscaping.
2. As shown, Lot 9 is a flag lot. The Zoning Code states that no more than five percent (5%) of the lots in the subdivision shall be flag lots. Prior to the submittal of the final plat, this lot must either be reconfigured to meet code or a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals must be obtained.
3. Change the rear setback for Lot 8 from 10 feet to 30 feet.
4. Extend the sanitary sewer along Mason Road to the western property line to comply with section 941.06 EXTENSION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICE in the City's codified ordinances.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-23 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-24 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CHARLES H. HAMILTON COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$568,568.00, FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE US 42 NORTH TRUNK SEWER PHASE 3 PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

Richard Fair explained that this addresses the sewer between Four Seasons and Spyglass Hill in the Pebble Creek Subdivision. He said since 2000, a number of projects have been undertaken to reconstruct most of the City's US 42 Trunk Sewer, which runs from Quinn Park in the southwestern area of the City to the site of the old Water Reclamation Plant on US 42 North. The Phase 3 project was designed by Bayer Becker and includes replacement of approximately 2,000 feet of 27-inch sewer with new 30-inch sewer. The project also adds a new 24-inch barrel to the inverted siphon on the trunk sewer, which crosses under Muddy Creek near Spyglass Hill.

Richard reported fifteen bids were received and opened on February 9, 2010. These bids ranged from \$568,568 to \$954,651. The lowest and best bid was received from Charles H. Hamilton Co.

He explained over \$1.3 million was included in the 2010 Budget for this project and the Public Utility Committee has agreed to the need for the project. There are sufficient funds in the Sewer Expansion Fund to accomplish this work.

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

Councilmember Bradburn asked if there is any measure on how effective the improvements have been. He also asked if going from a 27 inch size to a 30 inch was adequate. Richard Fair said that increase in size is adequate. He said there are no available figures on how the projects have improved the system. He stated there might be available information at the plant. Eric Hansen added over time we have seen improvements on the system from completed projects.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-24 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-25 APPROVAL OF THE WATERLINE EASEMENT PLAT FOR MASON COMMUNITY CAMPUS SUBDIVISION**

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

Richard Fair stated that Greater Cincinnati Waterworks is requesting approval of a waterline easement located on the Mason Municipal Center property. This plat will dedicate a twenty-foot wide waterline easement from Foxfield Drive to Mason-

Montgomery Road. The purpose of this plat is to formally dedicate the waterline around the Municipal Center as a public main as originally intended and to provide public water access for the Mason Community Center expansion. Councilmember Cox clarified the lines are already there. Richard Fair said yes, but now we are making it a public main.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-25 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Shimrock. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-26 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH REACH EVENT MARKETING TO SUPPORT THE CROCS AVP MASON VOLLEYBALL TOUR PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MASON TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 PER YEAR FOR EVENT YEARS 2010 AND 2011**

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

Jennifer Heft explained that the adoption of this Ordinance would authorize a payment of \$50,000 per year, for two years, to the AVP Volleyball Tournament/Reach Event Marketing, Inc. scheduled for September 3-5, 2010 as well as 2011. She stated since 2005, the City of Mason has been home to the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour. In 2008, the City established a partnership with the AVP, creating exposure for the City and leveraged additional benefits from the ReachUSA Company, providing community and economic benefit to Mason. During the 2008-2009 partnership, the City used the ReachUSA contract for activities including, support to the Mason Community Center with discount event offers, city-wide event discounts to residents, partnership with community organizations including Mason school districts, students, and community organizations, opportunities to reach out and engage tech and young professional workforce with current and future Mason employers, marketing of Mason revenue producing sectors such as the Golf Center at Kings Island and Mason Community Center and support to the Mason Parks Foundation through an annual contribution by ReachUSA. Jennifer reported the Finance Committee reviewed this request and is recommending adoption.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-26 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-27 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO OHIO VALLEY MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS TO SUPPORT THE TEVA CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MASON TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000**

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

Jennifer Heft stated this legislation authorizes a payment of \$20,000 to the Ohio Valley Multiple Sclerosis for the Teva Championship Tournament. She said in 2008, Game Day Charities and Duramed, the title sponsor, approached the City proposing to move the Duramed Tournament from Clermont County to the Golf Center at Kings Island. She reported Duramed was thrilled with the success of the event at the Golf Center in 2008 and 2009. She explained the Championship is requesting a financial contribution in the amount of \$20,000 and in return, the City can leverage the partnership through a variety of incentives and promotional opportunities. This included free admittance to all Mason residents during all three days of the tournament competition. She also noted revenue from the event in the past, exceeded \$50,000 for the golf course.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-27 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-28 DETERMINING COMPENSATION FOR THE CITY OF MASON FIRE DEPARTMENT, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2003-118, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

Eric Hansen explained that the purpose of Ordinance 2010-28 is to improve the level and efficiency of fire service delivered to City of Mason residents. This ordinance adjusts the current incentive program to be in line with the current workforce and competitive with surrounding departments. He stated additional incentives include creation of a third tier with a rate increase of \$.50, eligibility for \$50 a month per employee for a Health and Wellness/Insurance program, which may include membership to the Community Center, and an additional 24 hours of paid time off after the successful completion of 6 months at tier 3. Passage of this legislation is needed to keep a competitive part-time pay range with the market place.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-28 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Eric Hansen reported on the following items:

▶ The DARE graduation on February 16 was cancelled due to weather. The rescheduled date is Thursday, March 4 at 7 p.m. at the Mason High School Auditorium. Mayor Prince will speak at the meeting and Council Members are invited to attend.

▶ February is Heart Month and the Mason Community Center is partnering with TriHealth to present "Putting the Pieces Together: A Whole Approach to a Well Heart." Dr. Ronald Smith of Group Health Associates will talk about what you need to do to have a healthy heart and touch upon heart health factors such as nutrition, stress, and exercise. The program will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24. The program is free but registration is required by calling the Mason Community Center.

▶ Saturday, March 20, is Mason Youth Sports Day at the Mason Municipal Center. Anthony Muñoz will be the keynote speaker at this Live Well in Mason event geared toward parents and coaches of youth sports. Presentations and breakout sessions on building athletic performance, injury prevention and assessment, raising the adolescent athlete, and other topics will be presented from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Interested adults are invited to register for this free program by calling the Mason Community Center at 513-229-8555.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilmember Pelfrey reported on the Downtown Committee meeting. She distributed information on the history of the downtown renewal project and mentioned the various steps and groups that were involved with the studies and design. She said her goal is to rekindle the partnership with the City and the downtown businesses and residents. She would like to bring back energy and excitement to the area and look at what still needs to be done.

Councilmember Bradburn reported on the meeting of the Warren County Municipal League. He stated the speaker was from the Census Bureau. He commented on the importance of all residents participating as it directly impacts the financial return to our area. He suggested the City place a reminder about it on the water bills for March.

## **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**


Councilmember Bradburn asked if we were snowplowing parks. He asked if it was wise to spend the time and effort on this area. Eric Hansen replied the parks are a low priority but if they are caught up on the streets, they may plow them. He stated there has been some discussion on closing them for the season.

Councilmember Cox stated the roof on the Williams Street property is in very bad shape. He said it has gotten worse. He also asked about the closing of SR 741. Richard Fair explained much discussion has taken place over this closing. He said ODOT and the City have looked at this from all aspects. The closure has been decided for several reasons: the project will go quicker, the second bridge further north on SR 741 was always going to be closed, the cost will be reduced and it will improve safety in the area to eliminate the potential hazards of rerouting the traffic to one lane. He said it will be closed for approximately 40 days beginning about March 1. He noted Kings Island opens on April 19 and this will be done prior to that date.

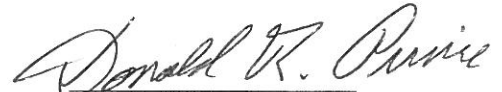
**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** None

**ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS TIME: 8:23 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor