

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 14, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Pastor Jerry Pelfrey opened the meeting in prayer. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Victor Kidd, Barbara Spaeth, Rich Cox, Charlene Pelfrey, Don Prince, and David Nichols. Tom Grossmann joined the meeting at 9:30, during Executive Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the March 10, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Kidd).

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

To accommodate upcoming schedules and anticipated legislation, adjusting the Council meeting schedule is appropriate. Council may wish to consider a modified summer schedule with a single meeting a month for May, June, July, and August as has been done in years past. A single meeting on the second Monday of those summer months should not pose a problem to legislation timeframes. Additionally the regularly scheduled second meeting in May falls on Memorial Day. If Council wishes to make such a modification to the schedule, a motion is in order. A modified summer schedule allows more opportunities for committee meetings and possible work sessions to maintain Council activity. A motion to modify the Council meeting schedule to a single meeting May through August was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

City of Mason offices will be closed on Friday, April 18 in observance of Good Friday. Mason Community Center will have regular operating hours on Friday, April 18 but will have abbreviated hours on Easter Sunday, from noon to 4:00 p.m. with limited services.

The WCML April 16th dinner meeting has been changed to Saturday, April 26th. WCML will host a State and Local Candidates Forum at the Kings Island Conference. There is no charge to attend this event.

The 18th Annual Warren County Prayer Breakfast will take place on Thursday, May 1 in Lebanon. Reservations are required.

The Northeast Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce will host the 2014 Spring Fling Dinner and Auction on Wednesday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Manor House. Any Council members interested in attending should RSVP to Joan Bernard or Jennifer Heft.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Spaeth reported on events and activities at the Community Center including World Down Syndrome Day, March Madness, Music Hall Lego© display, summer camp registrations, adult softball leagues, Eggstravaganza, and Arbor Day. She stated that seasonal park maintenance employees have been hired and that park facilities have been opened. A Frisbee tournament will be held and the outdoor pool will open Memorial Day weekend. Mason Girls Softball raised funds for Pancreatic Cancer research.

Councilmember Pelfrey stated that Council discussed the September 18-19, 2015 Bicentennial Signature Event at the Work Session today.

RECOGNITION OF WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF LARRY SIMS- 2013 RECAP

Sheriff Sims reported that the Sheriff's Office responded to over 73,000 calls and a Crime Scene Investigation Unit was organized in 2013. Other services provided by the Office include court services, D.A.R.E., self-defense, Camp Joy, and school trainings. He reported that another expansion of the jail is expected since the last expansion 3 years ago and that drugs continue to be a growing problem.

RECOGNITION OF CAROL LAWSON OF THE LEARNING PLACE - 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. Lawson announced that The Learning Place Preschool will host a 40th Anniversary Open House on Sunday, May 18th. She discussed the school's history and a problem that the school experiences placing signage to help advertise the school. Mayor Nichols and Vice Mayor Kidd presented a proclamation celebrating the school's 40th Anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF MASON HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY GIRLS & BOYS SWIM TEAMS

Coach Mark Sullivan introduced swimmers from the Girls and Boys Swim Teams, highlighting achievements from the Ohio High School State Meet in Canton, Ohio. Mayor Nichols and Vice Mayor Kidd presented the teams with proclamations recognizing their accomplishments.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Tina Redville, Event Chair for the 2014 American Cancer Society Relay for Life event in Mason on June 21-22, 2014, spoke about important research funding provided by the American Cancer Society. She said that participation in the Mason Relay for Life event has fallen off through the years and asked for involvement by joining a team, volunteering, or making a donation.

Terry Sojda of 4257 Royal Parks Drive thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. He is a Board Member for the Parkside Homeowners Association and is representing four Crooked Tree Homeowners Associations concerning new homes on Crooked Tree Golf Course. The residents

are concerned about storm water from the golf course, the Bethany Road entrance across from Hickory Woods Drive, small lot sizes adjacent to existing larger lots, inner subdivision access of new trails to current trails, and developing access to the Mason bike trail. The combined HOAs represent 3200 Mason residents.

Keith Mitchell and Genie Groff of Festivals of Mason stated that they are currently meeting twice a month planning 2014 Heritage Festival and Christmas in Mason events. Festivals of Mason is recruiting Board Members and volunteers to help with these events. In order to secure entertainment and activities for these events, funds are needed by the end of April.

RESOLUTION 2014-5 PROCLAIMING APRIL 26, 2014 AS ARBOR DAY

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

Jennifer Heft stated that on Saturday, April 26, the City of Mason will recognize Arbor Day 2014, in conjunction with Earth Day activities scheduled for that day. The City's annual Arbor Day celebration will be held on Saturday, April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Mason Community Center. This event is free to the public. Jennifer invited Chrissy Avery to speak about the activities and the City's newest partnership. Chrissy stated that this is the 30th year the City has celebrated Arbor Day/Earth Day. Many local businesses and groups are participating in the event including Home Depot, American Heritage Girls, Mason Library, Rumpke Recycling, and our newest partner, Community Options, Inc. (COI). Chrissy introduced Tracy Hill, COI Vocational Consultant. Tracy explained that COI is a vocational center in Lebanon for developmentally disabled individuals started by former Mayor Betty Davis. COI staff and members of the center explained their soda can collection efforts throughout the City. Jennifer Heft stated that Community Options will be hosting an activity at the Arbor Day celebration to kick-off this program. Community Options will provide barrels for the collection of soda cans at the Community Center, Municipal Center, Lou Eves Outdoor Pool and in many of the City parks. Residents are encouraged to drop off soda cans to these barrels. The cans will be collected by Community Options and processed by their residents. This can collection program is an opportunity to provide meaningful employment to Community Options residents. She stated that in addition to the soda can collection program, adults and their coaches from Community Options will help keep Mason's seven parks clean by providing litter control. Jennifer also announced that the City will be receiving the Tree City USA award for 2014.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2014-5 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2014-6 PROCLAIMING MAY 18-24, 2014 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

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

Richard Fair addressed Council and stated that the American Public Works Association sets aside a week in May each year to celebrate those services provided by public works departments throughout the country. The theme for this year’s event is “Building for Today, Planning for Tomorrow.” He stated that Mason’s Public Works Department is on call 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. The Department is responsible for a variety of tasks critical to the safety and quality of life enjoyed by Mason residents. Services provided by the Public Works Department include street maintenance, snow and ice removal, brush chipping, leaf pick-up, street sweeping, mowing public right-of-way, litter control, maintaining guard rails and traffic signs, tornado sirens, vehicle maintenance, sidewalk repair, storm sewer maintenance, and catch basin restoration. Richard stated that the Public Works Department maintains over 375 lane miles of City roads. With brush and leaf pickup programs, the City gathers 3,600 cubic yards of leaves and chips 3,000 cubic yards of brush each year that are recycled as compost and mulch. The City receives numerous compliments related to snow and ice removal operations and is widely regarded as a top community for snow and ice removal.

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

Vice Mayor Kidd and Councilmember Cox complimented the department on their high level of competence and culture of excellence.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2014-6 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Vice Mayor Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-17 1st READING: APPROVAL OF A REVISED CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR A PORTION OF THE COLUMBIA COMMONS DEVELOPMENT LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF COLUMBIA ROAD NORTH OF CATALINA ISLE (COLUMBIA COMMONS)

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

Eric Hansen announced May 12, 2014 as the date for the Public Hearing.

ORDINANCE 2014-18 ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FOR THE DONNA JEAN BOULEVARD CULVERT REPLACEMENT DESIGN FROM CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FEE OF \$27,985, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

Richard Fair stated that two bridge projects, the Hanover Bridge Replacement and the Donna Jean Culvert Replacement, were in the Capital Improvement Fund when the 2014 Budget was approved. The State of Ohio, through the Federal Government's Ohio Bridge Partnership Program, approached the City to design and build The Hanover Bridge at no cost to the City. Construction should begin in February 2015. Richard stated that \$523,000 reserved for this project will be returned to the budget and not used this year. Richard stated that Ordinance 2014-18 is for the design of the Donna Jean Culvert Replacement Project and that an Ohio Public Works Commission (OWPC) grant received will fund 49% of the project costs. Richard said that three bids were received for the design and Choice One Engineering submitted the best and lowest bid at \$27,985. The 2014 Budget included \$40,000 for the design work for this project.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-18 was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-19 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$2,500,000 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

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

Eric Hansen stated that in 2006 the City purchased 142 acres of property north of the City in order to preserve that property for future industrial development. In those eight years that balance has been gradually paid down and this action continues that process. He explained that the original debt of \$4.5 million is currently at \$2.9 million and with this reissuance will drop down to \$2.5 million. The ordinance includes an interest rate not to exceed 5%. Based on current market conditions and the City's excellent bond rating, staff anticipates a lower interest rate of 2% or less when the note is priced.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-19 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-20 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF FACILITY TECHNICIAN AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION

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

Eric Hansen stated that over the last six years the City has been working to create a more nimble workforce by cross-training employees to accommodate short-term surges in workload or special projects. Ordinance 2014-20 is a capitalization of lessons learned to better deploy our workforce and not fill all vacancies by doing business more effectively. Jennifer Heft stated that the City began a six-year concerted effort to increase cooperation, coordination, communication and cost savings throughout the organization by working together on City priorities such as snow and ice removal. This effort, combined with several years of an effective hiring freeze, was significant to the City's ability to balance the budget during this difficult economic period. She explained that in 2012, the City undertook a comprehensive approach evaluating departmental operations from an organizational overview to strategically begin filling some positions to limit decline in services. In 2013 while no new positions were created, some vacancies were filled with positions that were restructured with responsibilities shifted to better meet organizational needs. The 2014 Budget again includes no new positions as the City continues careful evaluation of service needs before existing vacant positions are filled. Richard Fair stated that Facility Technicians would add flexibility to operations with multi-skilled/cross trained employees on flexible schedules that service areas most in need on a seasonal, weekly, or even daily basis. He explained that instead of confining employees to one department these employees will be characterized as generalists with the ability and desirability to work wherever current priorities may be. Duties and responsibilities include skills in electricity, carpentry, HVAC, mechanical aptitude; skills in the use of concrete, asphalt, mechanical floor sweepers, laying carpet; capable of working outdoors picking up leaves, chipping brush, driving snow plows (CDL certified); have a working knowledge of swimming pools, water chemistry, pumps, etc. Richard stated that not only will the employees be varied in abilities but they must be flexible with the ability to work weekends or evenings as the need arises and work scheduled City events.

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.

Councilmember Pelfrey discussed the success and benefits of a cross-trained flexible workforce and thanked the City Manager for his vision. Councilmember Prince discussed challenges ahead with this transition. Eric Hansen stated that the City has highly skilled staff that are not always fully utilized and expects this to be a growth opportunity for employees. He considers this to be a first step in the creation of a more nimble workforce and expects this concept to grow. Eric explained that Ordinance 2014-20 reclassifies two positions that are highly skilled with compensation to reflect these responsibilities. The positions will be non-union and current employees may apply.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-20 was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-21 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH C.K. SIDING & CONSTRUCTION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,000, FOR LABOR AND MATERIAL TO REMOVE EXISTING SHINGLES, INSPECT SHEATHING, INSTALL DIMENSIONAL SHINGLES, PER PROPOSAL ON THREE STRUCTURES AT THE LOU EVES MUNICIPAL POOL, INCLUDING THE SHOWER/CONCESSION BUILDING, PUMP HOUSE, AND SHELTER

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

Richard Fair addressed Council and explained that \$30,000 for replacement of the Lou Eves Municipal Pool shower/concession roof only was included in the 2014 Budget. However, by combining all three pool structures into the proposal, the City was able to secure a price from C.K. Siding and Construction of \$19,000 for the total project. An emergency clause has been added so that work can be completed prior to the pool opening on Memorial Day Weekend.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-21 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Vice Mayor Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-22 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 Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Jennifer Heft stated that the City periodically disposes of surplus City property through auction. This surplus is generally made up of vehicles and equipment that no longer serves a useful purpose. However, surplus may also include unclaimed or forfeited property acquired through Police related activity. She explained that since the City moved from a scheduled vehicle replacement cycle to deferring replacement of needed equipment in order to reduce capital costs, very little value of these vehicles remains. However, some items have trade-in or replacement value. She said that this legislation includes declaring 44 handguns surplus so that they can be traded in, at a value of \$13,200, replacing handguns used by the Police Department and reducing the total replacement cost for all handguns to just over \$6,000. Jennifer stated that items not discarded, donated, or salvaged are sold via internet auction. This medium has proven to be 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.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-22 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-23 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ADVISEX, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,300, FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE CITY'S E-MAIL SERVER AND RELATED SERVICES

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

Jennifer Heft stated that a few years ago Microsoft indicated that they would be ending all support for their Exchange 2003 software. Since that time, City staff has been working to upgrade and transition over those systems most critical to City operations including Rectrack (software that is used for operations at the Community Center), and Sanderson CMI (software used by the Finance Department for financial operations of the City). She said that since Microsoft ended support on April 8, 2014, the City no longer receives security patches which means that the City is susceptible to breaches that increase the likelihood of viruses, spam, data loss and data theft. Jennifer stated that one of the remaining systems to be converted over is the City's email system software which is 10 years old and no longer compatible with the City's phone/voicemail system and back-ups. The IT Office has met with 4 local companies for assistance with this project. She explained that AdviseX is recommended because their price is competitive, included all the necessary licensing, and contained a comprehensive statement of work that included expertise with the City's Call Manager phone system. Upon execution of the contract, staff anticipates the project to take 2-3 months to complete. The IT Office will be using resources from all departments of the City to assist with testing for this project. Jennifer stated that the 2014 Budget included funding for this project.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-23 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-24 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH PHILLIP BERNER REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF ONE DECORATIVE, PARADE FIRE VEHICLE

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

Eric Hansen explained that currently Phillip Berner is the owner of a 1928 Howe Pumper previously owned by the Village of Mason Volunteer Fire Company. The City's Bicentennial Committee is recommending the purchase of the vehicle as part of the City's celebration and, with the advice of Phillip Berner, restore the vehicle into running condition suitable for parades and other City celebrations and special events. Eric stated that the purchase price of the vehicle, a 1928 Howe pumper-commonly referred to as "Old Betsy," is \$6,000 and will give title to the City. Total restoration of the pumper to running condition is expected not to exceed \$20,545 and project completion prior to January 1, 2015 is expected with a road worthy vehicle. The Bicentennial Committee has reviewed this purchase and recommends adoption of Ordinance 2014 – 24.

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

Councilmember Cox expressed his desire that this Fire Truck remain in the City of Mason by donating it to Mason Historical Society when the City no longer has use for the pumper. He stated that the truck has historic value as the first truck purchased by the City. Eric Hansen stated that specific plans for the pumper after the Bicentennial Year have not been determined at this time. Jeffery Forbes recommended handling the truck’s future as a separate matter.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-24 was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Pelfrey thanked Council and City Staff on behalf of the Downtown Mason Association and Downtown Businesses for continued support regarding downtown economic development. She gave a downtown parking overview and stated that Council approved purchase of three downtown houses, the lot between Fifth Third Bank and DuPriest Antiques, and the apartment building just south of Subway in order to control development efforts and add parking. With the proposed ordinance, another phase of downtown revitalization will be completed with on-street parking on the south side of downtown. Councilmember Pelfrey explained that on-street parking improves safety and traffic flow. Other parking improvements completed include additional parking behind Mason Grill and at the old Fire Station 51 site. She stated that the latest version of the Downtown Reciprocal Agreement includes a provision that the city-owned rental house at the southwest corner be raised within three years of the validated agreement with the purpose to provide additional parking because of the recent discovery that Subway cannot provide public parking due to a prior Subway lease agreement. The provision to take the house down within three years will allow additional public parking, a wide turning radius into the west access point, and assurance that the project will have Council’s commitment. Councilmember Pelfrey stated that the Downtown Reciprocal Agreement has progressed rapidly over the past three weeks with business owners committed to moving forward within the next week. She explained that with this legislation, the project will move forward with the removal of fencing, street repair, bollard installation, on-street parking, striping, and blacktop repair. The new venue is expected to be ready for owners and residents to use this year.

A motion to add Ordinance 2014-25 to the agenda was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-25 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A RECIPROCAL EASEMENT AGREEMENT RELATED TO DOWNTOWN PARKING

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

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 2014-25 was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Councilmember Prince stated that with recent changes in Festivals of Mason Board membership, critical information was not communicated to current Board Members regarding requests from Finance Committee. Festivals of Mason (FOM) is up against end of April deadlines to secure entertainment for Heritage Festival in September. Genie Groff, FOM Treasurer would like to meet with Finance Committee to provide requested information. Councilmember Prince asked, since Finance Committee was not able to meet tonight, that Council consider partial funding so that FOM could meet down payment commitments in the short term. Mayor Nichols requested the opportunity to review the information and then expedite the matter.

Councilmember Cox wanted the public to know that Mason-Montgomery Road will be closed north of Bethany Road. Richard Fair confirmed that a section of Mason-Montgomery Road north of Bethany will close for 42 days starting on April 28. The intersection will remain open in three directions. Councilmember Spaeth also wanted the public to be aware of partial lane closures on Mason-Montgomery Road between Tylersville and Socialville-Fosters for about two months. Eric Hansen explained that construction in this area represents the bulk of the street repaving program and that it has been nearly 20 years since Mason-Montgomery Road was first expanded in this area.

Vice Mayor Kidd thanked the Consul General of India for the invitation to *Shanti: A Journey of Peace* at the Aronoff Center. He also commended the City on common sense conservation and conservation education. He was happy to represent the City of Mason at the Cincinnati Zoo as participants in the Rain Barrel Project. This project educates residents on methods for capturing rain water for irrigation. The Cincinnati Zoo is considered the greenest zoo in the country with common sense practices and has reduced its water usage from 250 million gallons to 50 million gallons per year.

Mayor Nichols stated that recently Mason was identified in the news as on the short list for a potential General Electric major investment. The investment has been described as the largest economic opportunity in ten years in the State of Ohio and the largest in the country in the last five years. He said that the City is excited to be amongst the final sites being considered after a nationwide search.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sallie Nally of the Northeast Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce invited Council to the Spring Fling fundraiser on May 7th benefitting Mason Park Foundation and Mason School Foundation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PROPERTY ACQUISITION

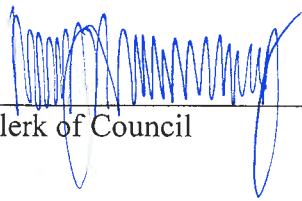
A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.
TIME: 9:13 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 11:45 p.m.

A motion to proceed with negotiations regarding property acquisition with Terra Firma was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Vice Mayor Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 11:45 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor