

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 11, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Chaplain Tom Moll opened the meeting in prayer. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Diana K. Nelson, Barbara Berry-Spaeth, Ashley Chance, Kathy Grossmann, Don Prince, and Victor Kidd. Charlene Pelfrey was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the March 14, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

On April 12, Assurex Health in collaboration with the City of Mason will host guest speaker Dr. Richard M. Weinshilbom. The topic of discussion is Beyond the Genome: Linking Metabolomics and Genomics in Major Depressive Disorder and how one size does not fit all. The public is invited to attend this free presentation in the Mason High School Auditorium.

The City of Mason is again hosting beach volleyball at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, May 17-21, with the only 2016 Olympic qualifier. In an attempt to pack the stadium and create a high energy environment, General Admission tickets are free at the gate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Prince stated that a Veterans Memorial Service will begin at 8:00 a.m. on May 30 at Mason's Veterans Memorial. A free continental breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. before the service and the Memorial Day Parade begins at 10:00 a.m.

SWEARING-IN FIREFIGHTERS AND 2015 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTATION

Chief John Moore introduced Lieutenant Aaron Bosko, 2015 Firefighter of the Year Award recipient. He stated that Lt. Bosko is the "go-to" person in the department, and in addition to a multitude of tasks, he manages the Fire and EMS reporting system, training, and his crew with great care. Over the past year, he has grown and developed as a company officer to mentor and inspire future officers and makes reliable contributions to the Fire Department. Chief Moore introduced Deputy Chief Todd Day. Deputy Chief Day began his career in Mason in September 2015, has 24 years of fire service experience, and he and his wife Julie have four children and three grandchildren. Mayor Kidd swore-in Deputy Chief Todd Day. Chief Moore introduced Firefighters Matthew Kohl and Anthony Molfetta. Both Firefighters were hired full-time in

February 2015 and are Fire Safety Inspectors. Mayor Kidd swore-in Firefighter Kohl and Firefighter Molfetta.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Cindy Fisher of 313 Kings Mills Road requested information on the possibility of a stormwater project in the area of her residence. Kurt Seiler reported that the nearest storm sewer is 500 feet from her property and that the cost of a project in this area is estimated at \$150,000. This project could improve stormwater issues for 11 homes, would require easements from each of the property owners, and each individual property owner would need to make private improvements to their yard to grade them to drain to the catch basin. He explained that staff evaluates and prioritizes future projects and stated there are many higher priority projects in the City that involve structural flooding and culvert issues. Ms. Fisher requested that she receive these comments in writing.

RESOLUTION 2016-4 PROCLAIMING APRIL 23, 2016 AS ARBOR DAY

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

Jennifer Heft stated that the City's annual Arbor Day celebration will be held in conjunction with Earth Day on April 23 at the Mason Community Center. This event is free to the public. City of Mason Public Works and Public Utilities Departments will be joined by business participants including Trek Bikes, Rumpke Recycling, Kind Granola, Hoxworth, Mason Farmer's Market, Tree City USA, Juice Plus, and Mason Community Garden. Activities include a tower garden demo by Juice Plus, information on backyard vegetable gardening, and free tree seedlings. Jennifer stated that the City will again be receiving the Tree City USA award for 2015.

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

Vice Mayor Spaeth asked for an explanation as to how cities qualify as "Tree City USA." Eric Hansen explained that a number of criteria must be met, such as organizing tree education programs or events, having a certified arborist on staff, and passing a resolution declaring Arbor Day in the City.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2016-4 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2016-5 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 15-21, 2016 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

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

Jennifer Heft discussed Resolution 2016-5, Resolution 2016-6, and Resolution 2016-7 together. She stated that these resolutions recognize three City Departments: Public Works, Police, and Public Utilities. She stated that the City recognizes May 9-13 as Clean Water Week, May 15-21 as National Public Works Week, and May 15-21 as National Law Enforcement Memorial Week and during these weeks will show appreciation to employees working in these departments. "Public Works Always There" is the theme for Public Works Week. During Police Week, Mason Police Officers will wear a black band across their badges in memory of all law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. Jennifer stated that on average, 145 American police officers are killed and over 59,000 officers are assaulted in performance of their duties each year. Wearing the black band is a quiet way to salute those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the public they serve. This year, the City will conduct a short memorial ceremony on Tuesday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the atrium of the Municipal Center and flags will be flown at half-staff on May 15 in honor of Police Memorial Day. Jennifer explained that much of the work performed by employees in these three departments goes unrecognized or unnoticed until there is an emergency situation requiring their service. Jennifer read multiple compliments and comments received by the City regarding the professionalism, courtesies, and kindness demonstrated by these capable City employees. This sets Mason apart, employees with the ability to provide exceptional customer service and willingness to communicate, cooperate, and coordinate in making Mason a great place to live and work.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2016-5 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2016-6 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 15-21, 2016 AS NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL WEEK AND MAY 15, 2016 AS PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

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

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2016-6 was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2016-7 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 9-13, 2016 AS CLEAN WATER WEEK

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2016-7 was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-54 SECOND READING: AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON TO AMEND IN PART ZONING CODE CHAPTERS 1163, 1165, AND 1171 (ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS)

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

Kurt Seiler stated that code changes to Chapter 1163 and 1165 regarding I-1 Light Industrial and I-2 Industrial Districts clarifies the definition of warehousing, storage, and wholesaling uses by adding that it may not include retail or customer sales to the general public on the premises. Also the exception for combustible materials and flammable liquids has been removed from those uses. Kurt stated that two accessory permitted uses have been added that allow for storage, handling, and distribution of flammable and combustible liquids up to a designated capacity of 10,000 gallons and gases up to a designated capacity of 2,000 gallons. Kurt explained that added to Chapter 1171 are new regulations for temporary storage containers in commercial and residential zoning districts and residential construction dumpsters. Permit requirements, time and size limitations, and location requirements are established in this new section. Planning Commission reviewed and recommends Zoning Code amendments as written.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:40 p.m.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:41 p.m.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-54 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-55 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH KINGS ISLAND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Eric Hansen stated that in November, City Council authorized the creation of three additional police officer positions for the primary purpose to provide police services to Kings Island Amusement Park during their upcoming 2016 Season. The additional officers are now trained and city staff has worked with Kings Island to finalize terms of the agreement, mainly scheduling details. Eric explained that this agreement will provide Kings Island one officer from opening to one hour after closing every day of their operating season, a total of 1856 hours. Kings Island will pay the City the cost of two full-time officers, enhancing police coverage throughout the

City. He stated that Kings Island has been a generous partner in this unique agreement that allows flexibility in dealing with other issues that may arise during this first year and is designed to renew annually. Eric stated that this agreement is a very generous offer by one of Mason's significant corporate partners and furthers the type of creative public-private partnerships that fuel Mason's success. The agreement helps Kings Island further their business interests, provides greater flexibility and enhanced coverage for City police efforts. Eric introduced and credited Greg Scheid of Kings Island for the successful execution of this agreement. Greg thanked the City of Mason staff and Police Department for their cooperation in this agreement that benefits both the City and Kings Island.

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

During Council discussion, Mayor Kidd stated that Kings Island has been an excellent partner in the City of Mason. Councilmember Chance commented on the City's excellent safety services and public-private partnerships that benefit Mason residents.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-55 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-56 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WARREN COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT

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

Eric Hansen stated that last year, the City participated in both the Southwest Ohio Purchasers for Government (SWOP4G) purchasing program and a Warren County Co-operative agreement to receive better pricing than what had been obtained over previous years. Many communities including Mason, Lebanon, Springboro, Deerfield Township and Clearcreek Township coordinated with the Warren County Engineer's Office on this intergovernmental venture. In order to move forward with the program, the Warren County Engineer's Office is requesting a formal commitment from each jurisdiction for their participation. He explained that after bids are received and approved, additional legislation will be needed for the actual purchase of approximately 5,000 tons of rock salt for the 2016-2017 winter season. Legislation for the City's participation in the SWOP4G program will be needed later this year when bids are let for the program. Eric explained the benefits of using multiple suppliers and storing supplies in the salt barn. He stated the City encounters 12-13 snow/ice events on average per year and uses between 5,500 – 6,000 tons of salt to fight the storms. This was a very mild winter season with only seven snow/ice events that used approximately 4,000 tons of salt to fight the storms.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-56 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-57 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH COMFORT SOLUTIONS HEATING AND COOLING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000 TO PROVIDE NEW REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER UNITS AT THE GOLF CENTER

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

Jennifer Heft explained that during the remodeling work being performed at the Golf Center it came to staff's attention that utility bills for the Center appeared to be significant. The average monthly utility bill is \$4,500 even during the winter season. With very limited activities at the Golf Center during the winter months the bill seemed unusually high and warranted further investigation. Jennifer stated Ed Smith, Foreman for the Public Utilities Department, investigated and discovered two walk-in freezers, one walk-in cooler and one beverage cooler use an outdated water cooled compressor system and all are located in the basement or bar area of the facility. In short, water continuously flows through a ¾" pipe to keep the units cold. The freezers were purchased when the facility opened in 1972, making them over 40 years old. She explained that today's freezer/refrigeration units use cost-effective technology for keeping product cool. Staff obtained quotes from two vendors for the purchase and installation of two units that would replace the four units that currently exist and allow for adequate storage space. The work includes removing the current units from the basement and locating new units outside which would allow air flow to help cool the units. Staff is recommending moving forward with the contract with Comfort Solutions Heating and Cooling as it included the purchase, installation and removal of the old units. The other proposal did not fulfill all the project needs. Jennifer said that a concrete pad may be needed in order to level the two units outside. If needed, the cost to perform the work is not anticipated to exceed \$3,500. Staff anticipates a cost savings from the utility bill alone of over \$2,500 per month. Staff anticipates a 16-month payback from the cost efficiencies that will be realized with the new units. Jennifer stated an emergency clause has been added so work can be completed prior to the busy golf season.

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

Jennifer responded to Vice Mayor Spaeth's question by stating plans are to limit interruption to restaurant business as the new units are installed.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-57 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-58 MODIFYING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION FOR PROSECUTION SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Eric Hansen stated the City is responsible for providing prosecuting services for Mason Municipal Court and for six years Bethany Bennett has been the Prosecutor for the City. Her responsibilities/duties include the prosecution of all matters in Mason Municipal Court - including tax and Building Code matters, as well as all other criminal and traffic matters, advise and counsel members of the City of Mason Police Department regarding prosecutions, and handle all other matters that may arise related to prosecutions. The Prosecutor's compensation is achieved through a salary paid to Ms. Bennett plus additional reimbursement towards administrative costs in running the office. Eric stated there has not been an increase in compensation or reimbursement since 2013. The Court Liaison Committee met, reviewed, and recommends approval of the Prosecutor's request for a cost-of-living adjustment in a total approximate amount of 5% - or about 1.66% per year. The Committee requested Ms. Bennett consider adding additional hours, administrative coverage, and expense that would provide more access to clerical services for the public.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-58 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTAIN (Prince).

ORDINANCE 2016-59 ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN OF THE OAKPARK ROADWAY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN FROM MCGILL SMITH PUNSHON INC., FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FEE OF \$117,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

Kurt Seiler stated the City of Mason owns 32 acres of property at the southeast corner of Innovation Way and Western Row. He explained this property is strategically located in the 250-acre OakPark District, envisioned as a vibrant mixed-use district consisting of large corporations, headquarters campus development, office, and the core for Mason's biotech initiative. With the full interchange at Western Row Road slated to be completed in 2019, the City would like to begin positioning the property by coordinating infrastructure improvements. He stated it is prudent for the City to begin design of the internal public infrastructure needed including sanitary sewer, water, and roadway improvements. Kurt stated McGill Smith Punshon (MSP) has done preliminary work for the City and is in the position to begin the work without delay.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-59 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Spaeth expressed support for the need to monitor Municipal Center meeting room use. She expressed safety concerns regarding groups that use the rooms after hours and on weekends. Mayor Kidd stated it is important the building remain accessible for public use, but groups must be responsible for following the guidelines.

Eric Hansen stated in honor of Veterans, Mason offers access to Lou Eves Municipal Pool and Community Center over Memorial Day weekend. This year, Veterans can golf free at The Golf Center with limited tee times. A new partnership established with Mason Veterans groups will provide financial support for Boys and Girls State Programs and in return City programs and services will be promoted through Veterans' newsletters.

Mayor Kidd stated the property at the corner of Parkside and SR-741 has become an eyesore and asked City staff look into the clean-up of this potential hazard.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Kelly Ralston of 5692 Hawthorn Court asked what the notification process is when alarms are activated at Mason Early Childhood Center. Eric Hansen stated the alarm should be automatically sent to dispatch. He will make the schools aware of Kelly's concern.


EXECUTIVE SESSION: LAND ACQUISITION; EMPLOYMENT/COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and employment/compensation of public employees was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:11 p.m.


A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:43 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor