

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. Rabbi Yosef Kalmanson opened the meeting in prayer. Mason's Police Honor Guard presented the colors and all those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Honorary Mayor Piper Haberstroh.

ATTENDANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City offices are closed Monday, December 26 which is a regularly scheduled Council meeting. With the completion of the Appropriation ordinance as well as the Re-appropriation and Supplemental ordinances, all Council business for the year is complete. A motion would be appropriate at this time to cancel the December 26 Council meeting. A motion to cancel the December 26, 2016 Council meeting was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS

This year's Holiday Luncheon for all City of Mason Employees will be on Tuesday, December 13 at the Golf Center Pavilion. City Council is encouraged to attend.

A Chanukah Celebration/Menorah Lighting will be held on Tuesday, December 27 at Deerfield Towne Center. Council has been specially invited to attend by Rabbi Yosef Kalmanson.

City offices will be closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holidays. The Community Center will be open both days with special hours and limited access. The Community Center will be open on New Year's Eve from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on New Year's Day 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. City offices will be closed on Monday, January 2 in observance of New Year's Day.

Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day are both on Sundays, there is no change in Rumpke's regular schedule for waste and recycling.

The City will begin Christmas tree pick-up the first week in January with services ending on January 30. Residents should place their trees at curbside for pickup.

A motion to not request a hearing for a D5I liquor permit for Sammys Management Group at 6691 Western Row Road was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to not request a hearing for a D2 liquor permit for Casual Print at 6360 Tylersville Road was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Christmas in Mason calendars listing events organized by the City and other Mason organizations are available online or can be picked up at City offices.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Kidd introduced Honorary Mayor Piper Haberstroh, a 2nd grade student at Western Row Elementary School. Mayor Haberstroh made a motion to invite Santa to the City of Mason, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Councilmember Nelson stated the 2017 Budget has been balanced and approved by the Finance Committee. The City's outstanding debt is currently \$67.8 million, significantly lower than 2009 debt, and nearly half this debt is self-supporting. She congratulated City Finance Department staff in receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

EAGLE CEREMONY FOR POLICE CHIEF TODD CARTER

Chief Ron Ferrell introduced Captain Todd Carter, Mason's new Police Chief as of January 3, 2017. Captain Carter was born and raised in Mason and as a member of the Mason Police Department for 33 years, has held every rank within the department. Chief Ferrell presented Chief Carter with his new badge. Eric Hansen welcomed Chief Carter and thanked Chief Ferrell for serving as Mason Police Chief. Chief Ferrell will remain with the City working on special projects, as Chief Carter assumes the duties of Police Chief. Chief Carter's wife, Lisa Carter pinned "eagles" on her husband's uniform, denoting his new rank. Chief Carter thanked Mayor Kidd and City Council for the opportunity to continue serving the City of Mason. He thanked colleagues he has worked with over the years, his family, Chief Ferrell, and his wife for their support.

PRESENTATION OF AUDITOR OF STATE AWARD WITH DISTINCTION

Joe Braden and Ryan Holiday, State Auditor regional liaisons, presented the City with the Auditor's State Award for fiscal year 2015. Mr. Braden stated the City of Mason is in a unique group. Nearly 6,000 entities are audited and less than 300 are eligible to receive this award. City employees and City Council were recognized for putting in the hard work necessary to earn this award. Finance Director Joe Reigelsperger was recognized for his outstanding leadership, professionalism and commitment to fiscal integrity.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Stuart Cowan of 104 E. North Street expressed interest in Ordinance 2016-127. Mayor Kidd invited him to speak at the January 9, 2017 Public Hearing regarding this matter.

A resident living on Old Manchester Court in the Fairways of Pine Run spoke about the coyote issue in her neighborhood. Coyotes have become very bold, attacking pets while people are

present. Eric Hansen stated the City is committed to protecting the safety of its citizens and are pursuing some ideas to address the problem, listed actions residents can do, and encouraged residents to call Police when aggressive coyotes are encountered.

Sky Shelby of 6264 Fairway Drive has seen coyotes when he walks his dogs along Pine Run, on Old Manchester, and the golf course.

ORDINANCE 2016-119 SECOND READING: AMENDING THE ZONING CODE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 6.78 ACRES FROM B-3 ROAD SERVICE COMMERCIAL TO B-PUD BUSINESS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT WITH APPROVAL OF THE CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF COX-SMITH ROAD, EAST OF SR-741 (SPECTRUM)

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

Kurt Seiler stated the request is for rezoning approximately 6.78 acres of land located on the north side of Cox-Smith Road, east of SR-741. The area is currently zoned B-3, Road Service Commercial, and the proposal is to rezone it to B-PUD, Business Planned Unit Development. He said the proposal includes a 44,000 square-foot senior living facility. Of the 100 units planned for the two story building, 74 are for assisted living and 26 are for memory care. The site includes 80 parking spaces and a variety of amenities for residents including a courtyard, gazebo, memory garden, and approximately 1.6 acres of open space. Kurt explained the applicant plans to dedicate additional right-of-way for the realignment of Cox-Smith Road. The proposed access road will encroach into the 50-foot front yard perimeter setback off the realigned right-of-way. Staff is supportive of this design as the applicant proposes a 34-foot front yard setback and is preserving existing landscaping at the rear of the property in order to buffer the proposed facility from adjacent residential properties in Trailside Acres and Union Township. Kurt stated the City of Mason Comprehensive Plan identifies this property as Business Park which creates a campus-like, mixed-use environment that includes office, research, and low-impact industrial uses. The proposed development does not fit in this category, but it is a good transitional use from residential properties to the north and the more intense adjacent office and commercial uses. Staff and Planning Commission recommend approval of the rezoning and concept plan as submitted.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:48 p.m.

Scott Thomas of 4929 Mustang Trail expressed the need to straighten out the road in order to improve sight distance issues in this area.

Edward Frankel, President of Rishon Enterprises, explained that dedication of the right-of-way was part of the agreement with the City of Mason when Trailside residential subdivision and office park were developed and this plan is consistent with that prior agreement. The understanding was that once the right-of-way was dedicated, the City and Township would be responsible for road construction.

Mike Longfellow, Senior Vice President of Construction and Development for Spectrum, said they will work with the City to improve the road and are willing to help with the first curve, which is the worst.

Cathy Thomas of 4929 Mustang Trail requested landscaping in this area be trimmed to 3 feet in height to improve safety. She also said homes in the area of the second curve deal with flooding and requested staff review water issues in this area.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:00 p.m.

During Council discussion, Mike Longfellow responded to Councilmember Nelson about project timeframe. He said 12 months of construction is expected to begin in the spring, with the bulk of large scale construction (excavation, roads, framing) within the first 6 months. Councilmember Nelson expressed her concerns regarding additional traffic in this already congested area. Mike Longfellow stated the proposed facility is an assisted living residence that generates low traffic numbers in comparison to other commercial development. The facility would employ between 55-60 employees, with about 25 employees onsite during the maximum shift. The parking lot has 80 parking spaces. Council discussed the desire to work with the developer to straighten out both curves in the road during the construction phase. Kurt Seiler stated that once the ordinance is approved, the City would speak to Union Township and Deerfield Township regarding work necessary to straighten out the road. Kurt responded to Vice Mayor Spaeth's question by stating that there would be no impact on traffic from Mason Grand residents since they do not have access to Cox-Smith Road.

A motion to amend Ordinance 2016-119 to require as a condition of approval that an agreement between the developer and the City be generated to provide for straightening out the initial or both curves in the road was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-119, as amended, was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 NAY (Nelson)

ORDINANCE 2016-120 SECOND READING: ADOPTING THE REVISION, CODIFICATION, RECODIFICATION, REARRANGEMENT AND PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF MASON, IN BOOK FORM, FOR THE CURRENT SUPPLEMENT

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

Jennifer Heft stated a supplemental codification updates the codification with new ordinances enacted for the year ended December 31, 2015. This includes amending Chapter 949 Industrial Pretreatment Regulations and Administrative Procedures, renaming Heritage Oak Park to Sundin Fields at Heritage Oak Park, and amending some Zoning Code Amendments. The supplemental will also update the fee schedule based on COLA increases and will correct inconsistencies between sections in the code and inconsistencies with the code and State statutes.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-120 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-126 FIRST READING: APPROVAL OF A REVISED CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWER PARK DEVELOPMENT LOCATED AT 710 TYLERSVILLE ROAD (TOWER PARK)

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

Eric Hansen announced January 9, 2017 as the date for the second reading and Public Hearing.

ORDINANCE 2016-127 FIRST READING: APPROVAL OF A REVISED CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE GREENLAND PARK MASON TOWNHOMES DEVELOPMENT LOCATED AT 228 MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD (GREENLAND PARK)

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

Eric Hansen announced January 9, 2017 as the date for the second reading and Public Hearing.

Stuart Cowan of 104 E. North Street requested an opportunity to speak on this matter, since he will be out of town and unable to attend the Public Hearing on January 9. He expressed numerous concerns regarding this property including the number of multi-family units proposed, traffic, right-of-way issues, a detention pond, green space, and flood plain issues. He will put his concerns in writing and send to City Council for review.

ORDINANCE 2016-128 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT OF LOT 13 IN HERITAGE CLUB, SECTION 1

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

Kurt Seiler discussed Ordinance 2016-128, Ordinance 2016-129, and Ordinance 2016-130 together. All three replats, in Heritage Club Subdivision, take adjacent property to make a parcel larger. Ordinance 2016-128 requests approval of a replat for Lot 13 on Morris Court. The property owner purchased additional acreage from the golf course and this replat will consolidate the lots. The replat in Ordinance 2016-129 is at the end of Braid Lane in Heritage Club Section 11. This replat will take a portion of an open space lot and retention basin and rename the lot as Lot 254A. The replat in Ordinance 2016-130 consolidates a 0.33 acre parcel with Lot 187 to create Lot 187A. The property owner also relocated an existing storm sewer pipe. This replat will vacate the current storm sewer easement and establish an easement at the new location.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-128 was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-129 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT OF LOT 254 AND PARCEL 16 IN HERITAGE CLUB, SECTION 11

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-129 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-130 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT OF LOT 187 IN HERITAGE CLUB, SECTION 4

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-130 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-131 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR AMBLESIDE MEADOWS, PHASE 1E

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

Kurt Seiler stated Ambleside Subdivision has 314 lots, Phase 1E includes 11 buildable lots and four open space lots. Planning Commission recommended approval of the final plat contingent upon the submittal of the performance bonds and subdivider's contract. The City is currently completing offsite improvements for the subdivision, expected to be complete within the next month, which includes water main extension and road widening as part of an assessment project. A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption after the first reading was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-131 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-132 REPEAL ORDINANCE 2015-95 AWARDED A CONTRACT TO ANDRITZ SEPARATION, INC.

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

Jennifer Heft discussed Ordinance 2016-132 and Ordinance 2016-133 together. Ordinance 2016-132 rescinds Ordinance 2015-95 which awarded a contract to Andritz Separation Inc. for upgrading centrifuge diverter gates at the Water Reclamation Plant. However, Andritz Separation Inc. would not agree to provisions of the City's standard contract language related to the State's hold harmless requirement and as a result, a contract was not established. She stated Ordinance 2016-133 awards a contract to Jim Myers & Sons, Inc. (JMS) to upgrade centrifuge diverter gates. She explained the objective of the three stage sludge drying process at the Water Reclamation Plant is to decrease the water concentration of sludge at the end of each process. Diverter gates regulate the discharge of sludge from stage two to stage three. Diverter gates open to stage three when the sludge at stage two reaches acceptable dewatering. The original diverter gates are of poor design and fail to prevent unprocessed (too wet) sludge from entering into stage three. As a result, stage three has to utilize more energy, time, and operational maintenance to achieve the final stage of the dewatering process. She said the Public Utilities Department utilized an engineering consultant to evaluate alternative diverter gate suppliers and provide drawings and specifications. Three vendors submitted detailed proposals. (JMS) submitted the lowest proposal for \$38,745, which does not include installation and wiring. Public Utilities staff anticipate installation and control wiring/telemetry programming at a cost not-to-exceed \$12,000. She stated the total cost for engineering, diverter gates, installation, and control wiring/telemetry programming to complete the project is anticipated to cost \$50,000 - \$60,000; less than the \$110,000 priced by the original supplier. Jennifer said the 2015 Budget included a base budget of \$250,000 to both upgrade and/or replace several pieces of equipment throughout the plant, including the centrifuge project. Since the project did not get initiated in 2015, the funds have been reallocated within the 2016 Budget. Ordinance 2016-132 and Ordinance 2016-133 are recommended for approval.

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 Ordinance 2016-132 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-133 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH (JMS) JIM MYERS & SONS, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF UPGRADED CENTRIFUGE DIVERTER GATES AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$38,745

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-133 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-134 AUTHORIZING THE RE-APPROPRIATION AND TRANSFER OF MONIES AND TRANSFERRING OTHER FUNDS AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MASON: THEREFORE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2015-124 OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO ON DECEMBER 14, 2015 FOR THE YEAR 2016

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

Jennifer Heft stated City Council approved the 2016 Budget with Ordinance 2015-124 on December 14, 2015. This appropriation ordinance is a plan and guide for City finances for the complete year. As the City's priorities change or are modified throughout the year these plans are altered, and as an annual housekeeping item, legislation to re-appropriate funds is necessary. She explained department heads are responsible for maintaining positive balances in all line items in their operating budget. As priorities change, they can request to transfer, within their respective department, appropriation amounts among all line items except those that fall outside the legal level of control. Transfers outside these levels of control require Council approval. The first part of Ordinance 2016-134 is for those appropriation transfers. Jennifer explained the second part of the ordinance includes requests for fourteen fund transfers. Most significant General Fund transfers include: \$10 million to the General Capital Improvement Fund, \$2.4 million for the income tax portion to the Safety Fund, \$1.6 million transfer to the Government Center Reserve Fund for the annual Municipal Center lease payment, and \$425,000 transfer to the Golf Course Fund to cover negative fund balances.

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 2016-134 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-135 AUTHORIZING THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS OF MONIES: THEREFORE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2015-124 OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO ON DECEMBER 14, 2015 FOR THE YEAR 2016

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

Jennifer Heft said items in the supplemental are needed to accommodate new priorities or meet unanticipated expenses and this housekeeping item adjusts and corrects various line items within City funds. Of the fifteen supplemental appropriations, eleven are increases approved earlier in the year by Council through legislation. One is for a reduction. The remaining three are increases to ensure budgetary compliance for financial reporting purposes.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-135 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-136 ESTABLISHING THE SALARY ADMINISTRATION PLAN, PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF INCREASES IN COMPENSATION ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, AND GRANTING A COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE

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

Eric Hansen discussed Ordinance 2016-136, Ordinance 2016-137, Ordinance 2016-138, and Ordinance 2016-139 together. He said the annual budget process typically begins with a meeting of the Employee Relations Committee and concludes with several Finance Committee meetings. Ordinance 2016-136 is the annual compensation ordinance that sets COLA and merit amounts for non-union employees in good standing. Hiring ranges and fees are also adjusted by the COLA increase. Ordinance 2016-137 adjusts hiring ranges for positions within the City and Ordinance 2016-138 authorizes modification to the contract with Wood and Lamping LLP to adjust for the COLA increase. Eric said next, members of the Finance, Golf Course and Equipment Committees met to review 2017 Budget proposals and make recommendations for the annual appropriation ordinance. Eric said an overview of the 2017 Budget includes almost \$14.8 million for capital projects and equipment, including the Bethany Road Widening from the west corporation line to Mason-Montgomery Road, Bike Path on Bethany and Mason-Montgomery Roads, design only of additional improvements on SR-741, design of a roundabout at Butler Warren Road and Western Row, \$300,000 of matching funds designated towards Common Ground all-inclusive Park, Heritage Oak Park Preliminary Engineering, and Golf Course/Tennis Collaborative improvements. Eric explained the City has initiated a reserve practice for street resurfacing, similar to the reserve program for equipment, by budgeting \$1 million for the annual street program and an additional \$1 million set aside to either enhance the program based on a good market or build reserve for future more aggressive years of street resurfacing. The intention is to gradually build enough reserve to maintain streets and level annual funding amounts despite peaks in programs. Eric stated just over \$2 million has been budgeted for vehicle and equipment needs including \$1.2 million carried over from prior years. After four years of the equipment reserve program, the City now has a set aside amount that could accommodate “scheduled” equipment replacement, if necessary, which puts the City in a much better position than in prior years. The Budget also includes the replacement of two medics in the Fire Department. Funds are not included, but it was discussed to anticipate additional funding as the Safety Committee continues discussion on an additional campus security concept. Eric said there remain 22 full-time vacancies throughout the organization. The 2017 Budget includes converting Fire Department part-time hours into two new full-time firefighter positions, converting two vacant maintenance positions to two Facility Technicians and creating Resource Technician classifications to better meet organizational workload demands. The budget continues to be based on conservative practices with revenue strategies such as budgeting income tax revenues at \$33.9 million - less than 2015 actual receipts and expecting zero local government funds from the State. He said the Finance Committee recommends continuation of matching programs for Mason Historical Society and Warren County Human Society. Project Rise Above may be authorized to participate in the matching program once they are established as a tax exempt nonprofit. The Committee also set aside \$425,000 for funding community

events, including Red Rhythm and Boom on a similar scale as 2016 but anticipating growth. Eric explained that a lot of hard work went into the budget by all committees, with extra work put in by the Finance Committee to review a draft 5-year CIP (Capital Improvement Plan). This plan will help pay dividends in the future as the budget process becomes easier and puts the City in a better position to make short term budget decisions.

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

Vice Mayor Spaeth asked for a brief synopsis of Project Rise Above. Councilmember Prince explained Project Rise Above is a new non-profit organization raising funds to assist veterans that are non-violent offenders navigate through Warren County Veterans Court. The program includes an 18-month mentorship, monthly meetings with a Veterans Court Judge, and helps meet the needs of the veteran and family.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-136 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-137 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2015-126 OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, AND ESTABLISHING HIRING COMPENSATION RANGES FOR CITY OF MASON EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. 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 Ordinance 2016-137 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-138 MODIFYING THE CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH WOOD & LAMPING LLP TO PROVIDE FOR UPDATED COMPENSATION

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-138 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-139 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

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 Chance, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-139 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-140 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2015-68 ESTABLISHING THE POSITIONS AND RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE MASON MUNICIPAL COURT

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

Jennifer Heft stated Court employee salaries are set by the Court; however, since the City is responsible for providing payroll for Municipal Court, Council authorization of pay rates is necessary for City staff to make the necessary payroll payments. The last time Council was asked by Municipal Court to modify the ordinance that authorizes positions and pay rates was in 2015 for minor modifications and corrections to comply with State law. She explained salary ranges for court personnel have not automatically adjusted for COLA increases and as a result many positions are no longer market competitive. The Finance Committee has reviewed the Court's request as part of the 2017 Budget discussions.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-140 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Prince)

ORDINANCE 2016-141 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 FOR AN ENTERTAINMENT ARTIST FOR THE 2017 RED RHYTHM & BOOM CONCERT

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

Eric Hansen stated the City has initiated the search process for musical entertainment acts for the 2017 Red Rhythm and Boom event, which takes place on Monday, July 3, 2017. Based on feedback from Council and the community regarding the 2016 event, staff is seeking entertainment options that match the caliber of last year's artist, with rates under \$150,000. The legislation does not specifically identify the talent agency since artists belong to different talent agencies and once the specific show is identified the agency can be secured and finalized. Hopefully the City will be in a position to announce in January or February entertainers secured for the 2017 event. Also at that time additional costs related to stage, lighting and sound will be identified. Eric explained funds for 2017 entertainment will be encumbered within calendar year 2016, funds for 2018 entertainment are in the 2017 Budget.

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.

During Council discussion, Eric said the City is working with Mason City Schools in an attempt to coordinate Heritage Days with Mason Homecoming plans. Regarding Red Rhythm and Boom, Eric explained that in addition to entertainment costs, expected production costs of \$100,000 include stage, lighting, and sound.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-141 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2016-142 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN CINCYTECH USA IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 PER YEAR FOR THREE YEARS

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

Eric Hansen stated the Economic Development Committee reviewed continuing the partnership with CincyTech. CincyTech is a public-private partnership to help drive investment to business sectors the City of Mason is particularly interested in such as digital IT, bio-sciences, and information technology. Mason has had enormous success with CincyTech and is one of only three participating cities in the region, the others being Cincinnati and Blue Ash. This partnership has helped set Mason apart in terms of economic development. Mason is now home to approximately 10% of the total CincyTech portfolio and owns more than 38% of the total jobs. He said current Mason CincyTech companies, including Assurex, have generated more than \$122 million in venture and private equity investment and nearly 300 new jobs in Mason. The three year agreement continues our partnership in the amount of \$50,000 per year. The Economic Development Committee has reviewed this agreement and recommends Ordinance 2016-142 for adoption.

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.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-142 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Spaeth had questions regarding utility work in her neighborhood. Workers have come and gone, but left plastic pipes protruding from the ground. Kurt Seiler was unsure as to what utility company was working in this area, but will look into it. Vice Mayor Spaeth also said the Christmas tree on the downtown plaza is beautiful. She said some downtown businesses were not aware of the tree lighting event, and would like to see the City get better at notifying downtown businesses of events happening on the plaza.

Councilmember Nelson noticed work being done on Sunday at the Mason-Montgomery Road Bridge and wondered if the work was being done by City workers. Kurt Seiler said the contractor chose to work on Sunday when traffic was low.

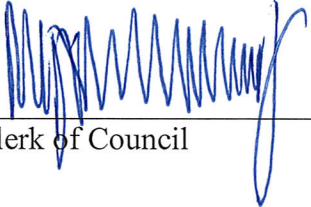
Councilmember Chance stated Mason's Economic Development department uses CincyTech as a tool that has put the City of Mason on the map. He complimented Economic Development Director Michele Blair for her professionalism and creativity.

A motion to approve Mayor's Kidd reappointment of Councilmember Grossmann as Mason's representative to OKI Board of Directors was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS - none

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:18 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor