

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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: 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 October 23, 2017 Council Work Session Minutes and Council Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

KINGS ISLAND WINTERFEST PRESENTATION

Mike Koontz, General Manager of Kings Island, described WinterFest with over 50 shows and attractions from November 24 through December 30. He advised this is an event for making memories and traditions with family. Jack Frost, Gingerbread Man, and Sugarplum Fairy were present to help promote the nine winter wonderlands.

LIFELINE EMS RECOGNITION AWARD PRESENTATION

Jeff Gaylor, Senior Director of Health Strategies at American Heart Association, stated the City of Mason Fire Department is an elite high functioning, high quality department, and 1 of 60 groups receiving the 2017 American Heart Mission: Lifeline EMS Recognition Award in Ohio. He stated the City of Mason has received a 75% or higher compliance score and is driving improvements in the care for heart attack patients.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Per City Charter, Council will meet on Friday, December 1 at 5:30 p.m. for newly elected Councilmembers to be sworn in and Mayor and Vice Mayor elections to occur. A small reception will begin at 4:30 p.m. for friends and family.

Mason's Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held Friday, December 1 on the Downtown Plaza at 6:30 p.m. to start the Christmas in Mason season. The event is free and open to the public. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with story time at the Mason Public Library. The 2017 Christmas in Mason calendars will be available which will include holiday events, activities, and programs taking place the month of December throughout the City. A motion to allow alcohol on the Mason Downtown Plaza by the American Legion during Christmas in Mason was made by

Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS. The American Legion will again split profits from sales with the Parks Foundation.

A motion to not request a public hearing for a D5 liquor permit for Oasis Café Grill LLC at 2629 Waterpark Drive was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

The City is working with Mason Schools for the Hope for the Holidays program. The purpose of Hope for the Holidays is to provide a way for the City, school staff, and the community to give back by assisting families in need during the holidays. Donations will be accepted through Friday, December 15. Toys and clothing items may be left in the collection barrels at the Community Center, the Municipal Center, and the Police and Fire Departments.

City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. The Community Center will be open on Thanksgiving Day from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Shop Local will be held on Wednesday, December 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Community Center. This event hosts local Mason merchants and business representatives along Main Street.

The Menorah Lighting Ceremony in celebration of Hanukkah is December 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Deerfield Towne Center on Mason-Montgomery Road.

Eric read a letter addressed to the Mayor from a fourth grade Mason resident, Nikki Alluru, asking for assistance with a street light that continues to get hit by automobiles in her neighborhood. Nikki asked if City staff could help her make the street light more visible to motorists before Halloween in order to keep trick-or-treaters safe in her neighborhood. City staff inspected the concern and helped Niki put her solution in to action by putting florescent tape up.

The Public Works Department is responsible for chipping brush and picking up leaves at this time of year. The volume of leaves and brush picked up each year is equivalent to three times the size of the Municipal Center and reduced to five Council Chambers. This service helps flooding issues and helps lower the Rumpke waste hauling rate for residents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Pelfrey stated many decisions and discussions are made during Committees prior to coming to Council. She said she has served on all Committees except for the Finance Committee. She reviewed highlights of the Veteran's Memorial, Bicentennial and Downtown Committees and how those Committees have helped make a positive impact on the City of Mason. Councilmember Pelfrey stated the Downtown Committee continues to discuss ways to encourage residents to meet habitually downtown with consistent events, provide current business owners the opportunity to grow their establishment, and incentivize new investors to choose Mason. She encouraged Downtown Plaza aesthetic updates. Brian Lazor presented scenery from other downtown areas and advised they have lighting, landscape, open area and

seating in common. Kurt Seiler reviewed two new concepts for lighting on the Plaza that can be built upon in the future and provide gateway locations throughout the City.

Councilmember Nelson stated the Finance Committee has been meeting in regards to the 2018 budget and the budget will be ready to be voted on at the November 27 Council Meeting.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – None

ORDINANCE 2017-140 ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF APPROXIMATELY 0.3902 ACRES OF LAND TO THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO

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

Kurt Seiler stated City staff was contacted regarding a possible property donation from the Great American Life Insurance Company. The property is a residue parcel located at the southeast corner of the northbound off-ramp from Interstate 71 and Kings Mills Road. The property is encompassed by a highway easement granted to the State of Ohio in 1964. The property could be useful for possible gateway features that may be planned in this area in the future.

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

Mayor Kidd inquired about any concerns with the property. Kurt Seiler stated no concerns and advised no costs would be incurred for maintenance being covered with trees and vegetation. Any maintenance on the drainage would be completed by the State of Ohio due to the easement.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-140 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-141 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE LOWEST AND BEST BID FOR THE BETHANY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, FROM FORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,560,096 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

Kurt Seiler said the Bethany Road Improvement Project will add a center turn lane, curb and gutter, storm sewer, bike path and sidewalk between Mason-Montgomery Road and the west corporation limits, near Reserves Place. This project includes replacement of an existing culvert under Bethany Road, just west of Heartwood Lane. The sight distance will be improved for motorists exiting Heartwood Lane. The bike path included with this project will provide the final segment required to connect several northern subdivisions to downtown Mason. He stated this project also includes an alternate bid for a fiber reinforcement additive in the asphalt to reduce the amount of cracking that reflects through the asphalt to the surface. This year staff used fiber

in the asphalt mix on Mason-Montgomery Road. Initial construction will begin in January and two closures are planned for Bethany Road; one for replacement of the culvert completed during Mason City Schools Spring Break to reduce the impact on school traffic and one closure for lowering a portion of the roadway that would begin when Mason City Schools are off for the summer.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-141 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-142 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BRIGHTVIEW LANDSCAPES LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$383,982.68 FOR THE 2018 MOWING, LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT A

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

Jennifer Heft discussed Ordinance 2017-142, Ordinance 2017-143, Ordinance 2017-144, and Ordinance 2017-145 together. Since 2000, the City has been awarding a landscaping and mowing contract to maintain the City's growing landscape and maintenance needs. In 2012, one contract was provided for a bid. City staff recommended bidding as four separate contracts for improved efficiency and cost savings. Contract A included one bid and covers landscape maintenance for City streets and right of ways. Contract B included three bids and covers maintenance on City owned facilities such as the Municipal Center, the Community Center, Service Center, Water Reclamation Plant, and Fire Stations. Contract C included four bids and covers landscape maintenance in City parks such as Thomas P. Quinn Park, Frank Hosea Woods Park, and Meadows Park. Contract D included three bids and covers landscape maintenance at various City owned properties including the Gould property, David Lane, Fire Station 51 parking lot, Socialville Fosters water tower site, Castle farm, and the Service Center Annex.

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 2017-142 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-143 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BRIGHTVIEW LANDSCAPES LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$154,313.13 FOR THE 2018 MOWING, LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT B

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Speath. 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 2017-143 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-144 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,086, FOR THE 2018 MOWING, LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT C

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-144 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-145 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PIERCE'S LAWCARE AND LANDSCAPING INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,807.61, FOR THE 2018 MOWING, LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT D

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

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 2017-145 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-146 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH REXROTH BOSCH GROUP FOR REPAIR OF EQUIPMENT AT THE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$33,500 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Jennifer Heft stated preventive maintenance is completed annually on the dryer hydraulic unit that heats sludge and produces Class A biosolids at the Water Reclamation Plant. Public Utilities

received an initial estimate of \$13,000 to \$15,000 for routine maintenance including the replacement of seals and cleaning of the unit. Once fully examined and disassembled, damage was discovered to 48 internal pistons and rings which need to be replaced. A new estimate was provided for the parts and labor needed to repair the unit. The repairs made would extend the life span of the unit by approximately 10 years and comes with a warranty.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-146 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-147 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS WITH A MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY OR AGENCIES IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 FOR ENTERTAINMENT ARTISTS FOR THE 2018 RED, RHYTHM & BOOM CONCERT

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

Eric Hansen stated Council and City staff have sought out entertainment options that provided great value in pricing, appealed to a family focused atmosphere and featured current, popular artists and bands the last couple of years. The City has begun initial stages seeking out options of female artists, group acts, and country acts for the musical entertainment acts for the 2018 Red Rhythm, and Boom event which will take place on Tuesday, July 3, 2018. He stated the proposed amount will include the cost of a headline and opening act. Once 2018 entertainment has been secured, additional legislation will be presented to Council in early 2018 for costs related to stage, lighting, video, and sound. The City continues to budget adequately each year for the following year's event entertainment. \$150,000 was included in the 2017 budget and to reach another tier level for the headlining act, an additional \$75,000 would be needed. An additional \$25,000 may assist in getting additional flexibility with the opening act.

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

Council discussed keeping costs down versus adding an additional \$25,000 for flexibility. Eric Hansen advised the City is in a good position to get a good headlining act and entertainment.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-147 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Pelfrey recommended adding Ordinance 2017-148 to the agenda in regards to the Downtown Plaza to make a statement to businesses currently located downtown and

businesses that are considering Mason. A motion to add Ordinance 2017-148 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-148 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE KLEINGERS GROUP, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO DEVELOP BASE SURVEY DOCUMENTS FOR FUTURE DOWNTOWN PLAZA ENHANCEMENTS

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

Council discussed the current design concepts, costs incurred creating new designs, and the collaborative goal to bring more people and businesses downtown. Council decided to have the area surveyed which can be applied to any future Downtown Plaza project.

A motion to amend Ordinance 2017-148 to approve the amount of \$15,000 for professional services to develop base survey documents was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt amended Ordinance 2017-148 to approve the amount of \$15,000 for professional services to develop base survey documents was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Vice Mayor Spaeth thanked Mason's first responders, Police and Fire, with help needed over this past week. She stated they are highly trained and professional.

Councilmember Pelfrey stated Council is elected to serve the residents and has appreciated Council working together for the community. She requested Jeff Forbes review the medical marijuana timeline again. Jeff stated the law in Ohio changed to permit the medical marijuana program in September 2016. By September 2017, many State rules and regulations had to be in place. The next relevant date is for the application of retail dispensaries open November 3 through November 17.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Kidd invited newly elected Councilmembers Mike Gilb and T.J. Honorlaw to attend Executive Session.

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

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of land acquisition and employment/compensation of public employees was made by Vice Mayor Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:49 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:37 p.m.

A motion to add Ordinance 2017-149, Ordinance 2017-150, Ordinance 2017-151, and Ordinance 2017-152 to the agenda was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Vice Mayor Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-149 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 Chance, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. 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 2017-149 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-150 REPEALING ORDINANCE 2016-137 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 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 Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-150 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-151 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 Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-151 was made by Councilmember Prince, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2017-152 APPROVING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MASON AND TRUCK DRIVERS, CHAUFFEURS AND HELPERS LOCAL 100, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-152 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:40 p.m.