

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Associate Pastor Kyle Linville opened the meeting in prayer. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Diana K. Nelson, Ashley Chance, Tony Bradburn, Joshua Styrcula, Michael Gilb, T. J. Honerlaw, and Kathy Grossmann.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the November 18 Council Meeting Minutes and December 1 Organization Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilb.
VOTE: ALL YEAS.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Santa is making a stop in Mason this Saturday before heading back to the North Pole. A Mason fire engine carrying Santa will make its way through the City stopping at a few locations between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. including a stop at Mason Community Center between 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. as part of Santa in Your Neighborhood. Kids' Korner will have crafts at the Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Alyssa King and Jennifer Casey will be at the Community Center during this time to promote Alyssa's book "I Choose Yellow," a book promoting Emily Casey's positive energy and brightness.

A motion to move up Resolution 2019-23 on the agenda was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2019-23 ENCOURAGING SANTA TO VISIT ALL LOCAL CHILDREN TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS JOY, MAGIC, AND CHEER

Jeff Forbes read Resolution 2019-23.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2019-23 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

City offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1 in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays. City offices will be opened on Tuesday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 31 with limited City services. The Community Center will be open each day with limited hours, available on imaginemason.org. Rumpke waste removal will not occur on Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1 and collection will be delayed one day through the Saturday of each week.

The City will begin Christmas tree pick-up the first week in January. Residents should place their trees at curbside for pick-up.

A motion not to request a public hearing for a liquor agency contract for Arrow Wine Stores Inc. at 6109 Radio Way was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

POLICE SWEARING-IN

Chief Todd Carter recognized Sergeant Sean McCormick for his recent promotion and six officers recently hired with the City of Mason. Mayor conducted the ceremonial swearing-in of Officer Kyle Puckett, Officer Justin Hoskins, Officer Cassey Limke, Officer Ryan Frasher Officer Peter Morris, and Officer Jamen Miller.

MADD PRESENTATION BY LAURA CRUEA

Laura Cruea, a State Chair for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), encouraged individuals to be responsible while celebrating with friends and family over the holidays. She presented on victim services MADD provides, the Power of Parents program, and donations received from booking travel packages through MADD.org. As an advocate, Laura shared her personal experience.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Tom McGowan of 981 Sheffield Drive thanked Laura Cruea for her MADD presentation and raised concern with neighbors burning leaves in their yard. He has addressed with the Police and Fire Department with no resolve. Eric Hansen encouraged Tom to continue to call when the incident is happening and took his information to ensure addressing with more aggressive enforcement. He advised to the community to be good neighbors and encouraged neighbors to be considerate and patient with each other and discuss concerns to resolve neighborly conflicts. Councilmember Chance and Councilmember Honerlaw stated the City offers free leaf pick-up each year and it ends this year on December 13.

A motion to move Ordinance 2019-152 on the agenda was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-152 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR SALE AND PURCHASE AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Economic Development Director Michele Blair announced a project with PCC Aerostructures (PCC) the Economic Development team has been working on since the spring. She welcomed and introduced Tim Bachman a Vice President of REDI Cincinnati, Blake Ray the Vice President of Advanced Manufacturing at PCC, Mark Gancevich the Vice President of Technology and Innovation at PCC, and Mike Brookfield over Manufacturing and Facilities at PCC. She provided an overview of the PCC investment on the 30 acre site in the Mason Research and Development Park on US 42, made possible through Council's long term vision and planning for the next innovation corridor. PCC will invest \$29 million in two facilities, work closely with the local aerospace industry, and will bring 190 jobs to the City with a four year ramp up. Blake and Mark thanked the City for the opportunity to be a part of the Mason community and stated they are excited to bring \$130 million of investment to the area. Michele reviewed the incentive package including a savings of \$4.7 million and generating about \$4.8 million for the schools through the community reinvestment area program, a reduced land value, a Mason Port Authority loan, and an infrastructure assistance grant. She stated recoup is expected in less than four years and the Mason City School's partnership assisted the growth of this project.

Councilmember Chance welcomed PCC to the City and extended a thank you to the schools for their partnership. He applauded the Economic Development team and regional partners for the four-year ROI. Michele stated one of the drivers to accomplish the ROI was the City's investment in property and being able to utilize the land asset to recoup dollars.

Mayor Grossmann and Michele Blair discussed REDI Cincinnati, an economic development organization, being a central point of contact to help represent and develop a robust economic development package throughout 16 counties in the regional southwest area.

Jonathan Cooper, Mason City School Superintendent, welcomed PCC, congratulated Mason's leadership team, and stated he is grateful to be a part of this innovative community. He read a statement from the School Board reviewing being proud to be a part of creating new learning opportunities and partnerships that align with their vision.

Eric Hansen said five years ago the City and schools partnered to acquire this property and reserved it for a direct benefit to the schools, students, and parents. Over the past five years, the City and schools have partnered in nine projects and brought \$620 million in new property investment in to the school district.

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 2019-152 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to accept the community reinvestment area tax abatement for 15 years and an annual school pilot payment to be made to the Mason City School during the term of the abatement was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-146 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR THE RESERVES OF CARMELLE, PHASE 4D

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

Kurt Seiler said this is the final plat approval for the Reserves of Carmelle Phase 4D. The Residential Planned Unit Development consists of 156 buildable lots. Phase 4D is the last phase of the development and includes 13 buildable lots. This plat will dedicate the utilities, storm, and sewer easements as well as the right-of-way necessary. Planning Commission recommended approval of the final plat contingent upon the submittal of the performance bond and subdivider's contract.

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 2019-146 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-147 AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN DONATED EASEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF OTHER CERTAIN EASEMENTS AS PART OF THE BUTLER-WARREN ROAD AND WESTERN ROW ROAD ROUNDABOUT PROJECT

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

Kurt Seiler said in 2016, staff was successful in obtaining an OKI Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant, including in right of way costs, for construction cost of a roundabout at the Butler-Warren Road and Western Row Road intersection. This project consists of improving the intersection from a 4-way stop controlled intersection to a roundabout intersection with curb and gutter, proper storm drainage, safer roadway geometrics, culvert replacement, utility relocation and property acquisition. The project will improve the drastic grade change thru the intersection. He said construction of the Butler-Warren Road and Western Row Road Roundabout Project requires permanent easements and temporary construction easements on six parcels. The 2019 budget included \$350,000 for the right-of-way acquisition related to the Butler-Warren Road and Western Row Road Roundabout Project. Staff anticipates the right of way will be acquired well below the budgeted amount with the appraisals totaling just under \$31,000. Ordinance 2019-147 authorizes payment for the permanent and temporary construction easements, accepts the easements making them the City's responsibility, and allows for construction of the project. Kurt stated the Butler-Warren Road and Western Row Road Roundabout Project is on schedule and anticipated to begin in early spring 2021.

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

Councilmember Honerlaw and Kurt discussed working with homeowners for design and throughout the process.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-147 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-148 AMENDING PROVISIONS OF TITLE V GENERAL OFFENSES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON REGARDING FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

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

Eric Hansen discussed Ordinance 2019-148 and Ordinance 2019-149 together. Earlier this year, House Bill 228 was passed by the state legislature and signed into law by the Governor. This law added language to Section 9.68 of the Ohio Revised Code restricting the ability of municipalities to regulate hunting within municipal limits. The new state law goes in to effect at the end of the year and the City will amend Codified Ordinance 549.08 and repeal Codified Ordinance 505.11 declaring an emergency to comply with state law. He said Ordinance 2019-149 makes changes to comply with state law in Chapter 182 of Mason's Tax Ordinance. The changes to the tax ordinance include section reference numbers and the definition of pension to disallow the taxation of supplemental executive retirement plans (SERPs) beginning tax year 2020.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-148 as amended was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-149 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 182 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Councilmember Nelson stated SERP is used as compensation to reward executives and key personnel and cannot be received until retirement. At the Federal and State level SERP is taxed as ordinary income and at the City level individuals will no longer be taxed.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-149 as amended was made by Councilmember Styracula, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-150 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN OF MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD WIDENING FROM WOOLPERT INC., IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FEE OF \$87,444 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

Kurt Seiler said this project will complete the widening of the remaining two-lane section of Mason-Montgomery Road to three lanes and also include a sidewalk connection on the west side from the Mason City Schools bus garage to Concord Crossing Drive. Once the design is complete, staff will seek possible grant funding opportunities using this final design. Completing the project design prior to applying for OPWC grant funding typically assists in receiving a higher score in the grant process. The 2019 Budget included \$75,000 for the design of these improvements. Woolpert’s proposal includes \$13,000 in right of way services as an “if authorized” task in the event that funding is identified and the City needs to utilize their help with acquisition of property.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-150 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2019-151 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FOR PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ROADWAY FROM STRAND ASSOCIATES INC., FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FEE OF \$225,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

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

Kurt Seiler stated the Mason R&D Park is a 400+ acre planned development located on the northern edge of the City of Mason. Key features of the park include an anticipated multi-lane collector road with connections to US 42, S.R. 741 and in the future, Mason-Montgomery Road. The project provides a preliminary roadway alignment including evaluation of several alternative alignments with careful consideration of future development needs and coordination with the Genesee & Wyoming (G&W) railroad for a possible new at-grade crossing. Other key considerations for the proposed roadway alignment are navigating the steep slope south of the Avalon Trail cul-de-sac, avoiding the large ravine flowing from the Avalon Trail subdivision towards the railroad and determining the proper location of the intersection with SR 741. In addition, Strand will analyze a possible roundabout at the proposed SR 741 intersection, which would provide flexibility and traffic calming.

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.

Councilmember Bradburn and Kurt discussed maximizing available acreage for roads, providing flexibility for topography, and the estimated cost of \$1-\$2 million depending on the railroad crossing and slope.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-151 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Bradburn recommended researching the program Dragon for transcription and Councilmember Bradburn and Councilmember Chance discussed increasing the visibility of Mason.

A motion to approve the Council Committee consolidation and assignments was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilb. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to appoint Don Prince to Planning Commission was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – None.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:36 p.m.