

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 27, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 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 January 13 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

The City's annual Christmas tree pick-up program continues through the end of January. Residents should place their trees at curbside for pickup. Trees placed in bags at the curb will be removed by Rumpke.

The Child Advocacy Center of Warren County will be hosting the Annual Blue Ribbon Nite Gala on Saturday, February 1 at the Great Wolf Lodge to help provide specialized services to children who have suffered trauma or abuse.

City offices will be closed on Monday, February 17 in observance of President's Day. Mason Community Center will be open with normal operating hours.

The City's wellness program helps strengthen partnerships and control health insurance costs. Thanks to the generosity and support of Council, the City has had the opportunity to offer the wellness program to our employees since 2010. The City's wellness program received the 2019 Healthy Worksite Gold Level Award from the Health Action Council of Ohio. Of the 111 Ohio organizations that were recognized, 66 organizations received the gold level status and only 6 of the gold level recipients were municipalities. Council's investment in staff and foresight to maintain health insurance components sets a benchmark for other communities.

A motion to sponsor a table at the OneCity For Recovery, previously OneCity Against Heroin, gala on February 28 was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** – None.

**ORDINANCE 2020-5 FIRST READING: AMENDING THE ZONING CODE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 0.97 ACRES FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-6 (CONDOMINIUM AND LANDMINIUM RESIDENTIAL) LOCATED AT 4320 STITT ROAD (STITT REZONING)**

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

A Public Hearing was set for Monday, February 24, 2020.

**ORDINANCE 2020-6 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000 WITH THE MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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

Eric Hansen discussed Ordinance 2020-6 and Ordinance 2020-7 together. He said Council authorizes funds as contributions to local non-profits organizations that demonstrate a benefit to the City of Mason. A service agreement approach includes funds provided to the organization in exchange for services provided to the City and community. Ordinance 2020-6 is a service agreement with the Mason Historical Society. This will be the first year the service agreement will be implemented with the Historical Society, but the City has a long history providing contributions to the Mason Historical Society. Some of the benefits include providing a free Mason Historical Society membership for the first year to all new Premier members of Mason Community Center, providing access and guided tours to the Alverta Green Museum for the public to enjoy and learn more about Mason's history, continuing participation in City sponsored community events such as Music in Mason concerts, Heritage Festival and Parade as well as the Tree Lighting Ceremony, providing the Great Room at the Museum for City meetings and training events at no cost, and creating, promoting and preserving a continuing interest in the history and heritage of Mason through annual events, programs and initiatives for the community to participate in such as the Cemetery Walk and Ice Cream Social. Ordinance 2020-7 is a service agreement with the Warren County Humane Association. They provide services throughout Warren County helping to eliminate cruelty and homelessness for animals in the City, providing a safe haven for homeless dogs and cats, providing public education outreach events, and being a referral resource when residents have concerns.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-6 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-7 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000 WITH THE WARREN COUNTY HUMANE ASSOCIATION**

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

Eric Hansen said the matching program is retained in the service agreements. Each organization has an obligation to raise \$2 for every \$1 of potential City contribution.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-7 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-8 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CENTRAL TRAFFIC CONTROL AND EMERGENCY VEHICLE PRE-EMPTION SYSTEM AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WARREN COUNTY**

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

Kurt Seiler stated as part of the City's overall traffic signals network, there are two Warren County owned and maintained signals near the City's corporation limit located at the Mason Montgomery Road/Socialville-Fosters Road intersection and Kings Island Drive/Kings Mills Road intersections. For many years the Warren County engineer has allowed the City to interconnect City signals to optimize traffic flow. With the new fiber optic network and emergency pre-emption system, both the City and Warren County decided for a formal agreement. The agreement allows the City to modify the signal timing as necessary and maintain the emergency pre-emption traffic control equipment while the overall maintenance of the signal equipment will remain Warren County's responsibility. Future agreement changes may be made to include two additional signals on Butler Warren Road at Bethany Road and Mason Road intersections.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-8 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-9 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN OF SNIDER ROAD PHASE 2 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FROM IBI GROUP, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FEE OF \$328,775 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

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

Kurt Seiler stated in 2016, staff proposed a two phased approach to the Snider Road Improvement project that would coincide with funding, right-of-way costs, grants, etc. Phase 1 construction began this past fall to add an additional northbound and southbound lane on Snider Road creating a five lane section between US 42 and Tylersville Road. Phase 1 is anticipated to be completed this spring. Phase 2 improvements will continue this project between Western Row Road and US 42 and would add a center turn lane or possibly additional thru lane(s). In addition to the possible northbound and southbound through lanes, Phase 2 improvements will include storm sewers, bike path, street lights, street trees, sidewalk, curb and gutter, utility relocation and right-of-way acquisition. Authorizing the contract with IBI Group will advance the design and position the City for a higher score when applying for the OPWC grant for Phase 2. The 2020 Budget included \$400,000 towards design of Phase 2 of this project.

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 Bradburn and Kurt discussed possibly moving a traffic control box at Snider Road and US 42.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-9 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-10 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CHAPEL ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$190,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A COMPREHENSIVE AUDIO AND VISUAL EQUIPMENT PACKAGE FOR THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER 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 said the Leisure pool and enclosed 50 meter pool projects are delayed due to weather and anticipate a possible soft opening of the Leisure pool in 2020. She said staff from all City departments are involved in a committee structure to ensure the project is a success. There are five unique focus committees including Finance, Communication, Facility Operations, Strategy, and Partners. The Facility Operations Committee is identifying security, IT, fixture and furniture needs for the Aquatic Center. The audio and visual package will provide operating needs at the facility for both pools and the community room. She said the City can save on final construction costs if the audio and visual equipment contract is purchased now so the planning can take place in advance of the final installation.

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 2020-10 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-11 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FYDA FREIGHTLINER CINCINNATI, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2020 FREIGHTLINER M2 DUMP TRUCK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$85,549**

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

Jennifer Heft discussed Ordinance 2020-11 through Ordinance 2020-19 together. Ordinance 2020-11 authorizes the purchase of a new snow plow. Ordinance 2020-12, in conjunction with Ordinance 2012-11, authorizes the purchase and installation of a truck bed, snow plow, salt v-box and automated ground speed controller. The wing plow doubles the width of the plowing area for this truck and can be raised so the truck can be used on narrower streets as well. This is the first of its type in the City's fleet. Ordinance 2020-13 authorizes a vehicle replacing a 2010 model Ford Explorer in the Fire Department that is in poor condition. This vehicle will be used as a front line paramedic vehicle. Additional equipment totaling \$14,000 is needed to fully equip this vehicle for emergency response. Ordinance 2020-14 authorizes the purchase of two 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles. These vehicles will replace two 2015 model Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles with over 100,000 miles. The lead time for replacement vehicles to be delivered is 8-9 months. Additional equipment totaling \$12,000 per vehicle will be needed to fully equip these vehicles for emergency response. Ordinance 2020-15 authorizes the purchase of one Eager Beaver heavy equipment trailer. This trailer will replace a 1993 model trailer that is in poor condition. The trailer is used on a daily basis for hauling equipment and other items. It is also used for training and CDL certifications. This past year the certification test examiner would not permit use of this trailer due to the deteriorated condition. Ordinance 2020-16 authorizes the purchase of one Imants Root Pruner tractor attachment. This piece of equipment prunes roots up to four inches in diameter with no clean up. It will prevent root encroachment under cart paths, bike paths and sidewalks, which will reduce future repairs and increase safety. The root pruner will be a shared resource used at the golf course, in parks as well as with sidewalks and bike paths throughout the City. Ordinance 2020-17 authorizes the purchase of one Imants Shockwave 210 tractor attachment. The Shockwave 210 attachment will be a shared resource used at the golf course and parks. This attachment works well on turf used by golf carts, soccer fields, baseball fields and any high traffic areas to de-compact soil to promote drainage for improved turf health. Ordinance 2020-18 authorizes the purchase of one Toro Groundsmaster 3200 mower for use at the Golf Center and other City facilities. This mower will replace an existing 1995 model Toro Groundsmaster mower that is in poor condition with limited replacement parts available. Ordinance 2020-19 authorizes the purchase of one Toro Greensmaster 3150-Q mower from Century Equipment for use at the Golf Center and will replace an existing 1994 model Toro Greensmaster mower that is in poor condition with limited replacement parts. The 2020 Budget included a vehicle contingency fund of \$600,000 plus a carryover contingency balance of \$1,523,213 for the purchase of replacement vehicles. With the approval of the above ordinances, a balance of \$1,936,497 would be still available in the contingency funds. Building up

contingency funds allows the City to quickly respond when vehicles or equipment needs replaced in an emergency.

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 Chance, Mayor Grossmann, and Jeff Forbes discussed reading each Ordinance individually versus together due to separate contracts. City code requires any contract over \$15,000 to come to Council for action. Individual competitive bid items can connect through the state bid list or other cooperative bid programs to find the lowest and best price.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-11 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HENDERSON PRODUCTS FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A TRUCK BED, SNOW PLOWS, SALT V-BOX, AND AUTOMATED GROUND SPEED SALT CONTROLLER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$127,395**

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

Councilmember Nelson and Eric Hansen discussed the City selling equipment and purchasing new equipment in order to maximize the value of what the City invests. The purchase of used or trade-in items occur less frequently for equipment used seldom. Councilmember Honerlaw added repair costs are exponentially more with older equipment.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-12 was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-13 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LEBANON FORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2020 INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,264**

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

Councilmember Honerlaw and Jennifer Heft discussed reading each Ordinance individually versus together due to separate contracts, through separate departments.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-13 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Bradburn).

**ORDINANCE 2020-14 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LEBANON FORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2020 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,219**

A motion to read by title only was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. 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 2020-14 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Bradburn).

**ORDINANCE 2020-15 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEASTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2020 EAGER BEAVER 20XP HEAVY EQUIPMENT TRAILER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,469**

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 Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-15 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-16 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AQUA-AID SOLUTIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) IMANTS ROOT PRUNER TRACTOR ATTACHMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,350**

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-16 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-17 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AQUA-AID SOLUTIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) IMANTS SHOCKWAVE 210 TRACTOR ATTACHMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,525**

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 Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-17 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-18 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CENTURY EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TORO GROUNDSMASTER 3200 MOWER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,542**

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 Styracula, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-18 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2020-19 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CENTURY EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TORO GREENSMaster 3150-Q MOWER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,611**

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-19 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Grossmann said each chair of a committee will report on committee action the fourth Monday of the month, second Council Meeting of each month.



Mayor Grossmann stated the Economic Development Committee reflected on four recent business announcements expanding the Research and Development Park with roadway improvements.

Councilmember Nelson said the Employee Relations Committee meets once a year and have no updates at this time.

Mayor Grossmann said the Policy and Legislation Committee is looking into policies to help the Council onboarding process and open communication.

Councilmember Honerlaw said the Downtown Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, February 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Councilmember Bradburn stated the Safety Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, January 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Councilmember Honerlaw, as Chair of the Wellness Committee, reviewed Community Center updates including senior center improvements and possible rate increases as well as upgrade discussions with members of the public in regards to The Golf Center. There have been construction delays with the new Mason Municipal Aquatic Center and a soft opening of the Leisure pool is anticipated for this year. A work session with a presentation by Hurdzan Golf, LLC will be at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24. Councilmember Nelson and Councilmember Honerlaw discussed resident involvement from HOA's surrounding the golf course.

Councilmember Chance stated the Public Services Committee has not met. The scope of the two committees he is on has narrow topics and does not meet often. Updates may not be provided each month due to this.

Councilmember Chance stated the next Park Advisory Board meeting is Thursday, February 13. The Park Board plans to begin forming tasks, such as meeting with HOA's, to research and look into Golf Course improvements.

Councilmember Nelson welcomed Councilmember Bradburn and Councilmember Styrcula to the Veterans Board.

### **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Bradburn and Councilmember Chance discussed lighting on the bridge on SR 741.

Councilmember Honerlaw and Kurt Seiler discussed a sidewalk to connect Mason Oaks Subdivision to Downtown Mason, north of Cowan Drive and south of Mason Oaks. The resident on the corner would need to get right of way acquisition and then provide payment for sidewalk installation. Kurt will look into if the developer should be communicating with the resident to work out sidewalk details from when the development was approved. Eric Hansen added

sidewalks are not City maintained and homeowners are responsible for sidewalks with some exceptions during public improvements in the right of way.

A motion to appoint Councilmember Styrcula, Mayor Grossmann, and Vice Mayor Gilb to the Education Initiatives Committee was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

### **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Laura Contreras of 4618 Braid Lane inquired how committees are decided. Mayor Grossmann stated she asked for Council feedback, looked at opportunities that would build a good team of three, and gave opportunities for Council to serve on different committees. The Chair of each committee will report on that committee at Council Meetings.

Vera Long of 5112 Creek Stone Court inquired about Ordinance 2020-10 including a scoreboard and the difference in Ordinance 2020-18 and Ordinance 2020-19 models. Jennifer Heft stated the audio and visual package is for both pools in the Aquatic Center and does not include a scoreboard for the enclosed 50-meter pool. The mowers in Ordinance 2020-18 and Ordinance 2020-19 are different and unique for the areas they mow, such as the grass on the green versus grass in ruff.

### **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 Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:19 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Vice Mayor Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:54 p.m.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:55 p.m.