

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
December 14, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

Chaplain Rick Huff opened the regular meeting in prayer. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the November 9 Council Meeting minutes and November 17 Work Session minutes was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Styracula).

A motion to move Resolution 2020-18 up on the agenda was made by Councilmember Styracula, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2020-18 SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE MASON ARTS COUNCIL

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

Eric Hansen stated this resolution outlines the continuation and strength of the partnership between the City and the Mason Arts Council. Eric stated the next steps for the partnership will include developing a memorandum of understanding to better identify some of the anticipated commitments, timelines, and action steps.

Tom Huff, President of the Mason Arts Council thanked City Council for their support and partnership with the Mason Arts Council.

Mayor Grossmann provided the proclamation to the Mason Arts Council.

Mason Arts Council read and presented City Council with a partnership plaque.

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 Resolution 2020-18 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to add Resolution 2020-19 to the agenda was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2020–19 ENCOURAGING SANTA TO VISIT ALL LOCAL CHILDREN TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS, JOY, MAGIC, AND CHEER

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

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

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

A motion to cancel the December 28 City Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

The Jewish Discovery Center is hosting a Chanukah Celebration/Menorah Lighting drive-thru event on Tuesday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Deerfield Towne Center. Council has been specially invited to attend by Rabbi Yosef Kalmanson.

The City has made approximately \$855,000 available to the local small business community through the first two rounds of the Come Together Mason e-gift Card Program. All residents are encouraged to use the gift cards as the funds are not received by the businesses until the gift cards are utilized. The second round of e-gift cards expires on March 31, 2021 and 78 Mason businesses are currently participating in the program.

In addition to the Come Together Mason e-gift card program, the City, with the Mason CIC, reopened the Forgivable Loan and Service Agreement Program as part of the City’s Small Business Recovery Programs launched earlier this year. The City had \$163,500 in funding remaining for small business recovery programs after the conclusion of the first round of awards.

The application window for these two programs closes on December 16, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Small businesses who did not apply as part of the first round of the programs or missed the deadline are eligible to apply for the Forgivable Loan and Service Agreement Program. In addition, businesses who were awarded funds as part of the first round of the Forgivable Loan and Service Agreement program are eligible to apply for the supplemental funding opportunity. Businesses are encouraged to visit reimaginemason.org to learn more about the programs.

City offices will be closed on Thursday, December 24, Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1 in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays. Waste and Recycling customers that have scheduled pick up on Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1 will have their collection moved to Saturday.

The City will begin Christmas tree pick-up on Monday, January 4. Residents should place their trees at curbside for pickup. Trees placed in bags at the curb will be removed by Rumpke.

A motion to not request a public hearing for a C2, C2X liquor permit for Jo Mart was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance.

A motion authorizing the City Manager to approve a Trex Agreement was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilb.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Warren County Commissioner Tom Grossmann discussed CARES Act funding, Mason's small business relief programs, and Warren County's small business relief programs.

Josh Blatt of 6590 Tupelo Lane discussed the success of the Mason Oaks development and expressed interest in a second development project.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 113 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLATS FOR AMBLESIDE MEADOWS, PHASES 3D AND 6

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

Kurt Seiler stated Phase 3D is roughly 65 acres in size and will contain 22 single family lots and two open space lots. Phase 3D is located at the eastern area of the development along Eagle Hill Court. Kurt stated Phase 6 is roughly 12 acres in size and will contain 19 single family lots and two open space lots. The open space lots will include a detention basin for the development along with a portion of the hike/bike path. The plats will dedicate the rights-of-way, utilities, storm, and sewer easements necessary for this development.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-113 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 114 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH R.E. MIDDELTON CONSTRUCTION LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$85,339, FOR THE MASON MUNICIPAL CENTER SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

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

Jennifer Heft stated the Mason Municipal Center is now over 18 years old and is showing signs of wear and repairs and maintenance throughout the facility has increased. Jennifer stated this project will include the removal and replacement of approximately 8,000 square feet of concrete along the bollards located along the front entrance to the Municipal Center and Police Department and will replace the bollards to match the bollards at the Mason Municipal Aquatics Center and Makino Park.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-114 was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 115 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019 – 141 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 Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Eric Hansen stated individual pay rates for Court employees are set by Municipal Court, and since the City is responsible for providing the payroll for Municipal Court, Council authorization of pay rates is necessary for City staff to make the necessary payroll payments.

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 2020-115 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 116 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CDW-G FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$145,000

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

Jennifer Heft said the Mason Municipal Aquatics Center is on schedule and the City hosted a small soft opening at the leisure pool for the public to see the facility. Ordinances 2020-116 through Ordinance 121 include technology and furnishings for the Mason Municipal Aquatics Center. Ordinance 2020-116 includes infostructure for the security and access system, phone system, network, and sound system. Jennifer stated Ordinance 2020-117 authorizes the City Manger to enter into a contract with Dell for office computers and digital signage in the amount of \$37,000. Ordinance 2020-118 authorizes a contract with Shiver Security Services in the amount of \$205,000 for security, access, and cameras. Ordinance 2020-119 authorizes a contract with Outdoor Furniture Restoration in the amount of \$68,000 for a purchase of 300 lounge chairs and 100 sand

chairs. Additional chairs and tables were included in the construction contract. Ordinance 2020-120 authorizes a contract with Loth in the amount of \$30,000 for the purchase office furnishings for the community room, member services area, lifeguard room, and office space at the 50-meter pool. Ordinance 2020-121 authorizes a contract with Blinds Plus in the amount of \$25,000 for blinds in the community room and other areas of the Mason Municipal Aquatics Center. Jennifer stated the concessions contract with Comets Pizza has expired and staff are working on a new contract and RFP process to be able to provide concessions for the upcoming pool season.

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.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-116 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 117 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DELL FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$37,000

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-117 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 118 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SHIVER SECURITY SERVICES FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$205,000

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-118 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 119 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH OUTDOOR FURNITURE RESTORATION FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$68,000

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-119 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 120 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LOTH FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-120 was made by Councilmember Styrcula, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 121 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BLINDS PLUS FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-121 was made by Councilmember Styrcula, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 122 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS OF MONIES; THEREFORE, AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2019-145 OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, PASSED BY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO ON NOVEMBER 18, 2019 FOR THE YEAR 2020

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

Eric Hansen stated Ordinance 2020-122 and Ordinance 2020-123 are housekeeping items for the annual supplemental and reappropriation Ordinances. As the City's priorities change or are modified throughout the year, re-appropriating funds is necessary at years end to close the City's accounts and prepare for the upcoming years' investments. Department Heads review their budget line by line and transfer budget amounts to different line items as part of the re-appropriation process.

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 2020-122 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 123 AN ORDINANCE 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 NO. 2019-145 OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, PASSED BY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO ON NOVEMBER 18, 2019 FOR THE YEAR 2020

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-123 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2020 – 124 2021 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

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

Eric Hansen thanked the Finance Committee of Council for their efforts for the 2021 Budget. Eric stated this ordinance approves the 2020 Annual City Budget, a planning document that sets broad guidelines and approves appropriations for the subsequent project year. The City has continued to

keep a conservative budget allowing for significant investments in Capital. The 2021 Budget includes over \$34 million in Capital. Overall debt will decrease by almost \$18.4 million including the early debt payoff of \$12 million of sewer bonds.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-124 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilb. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Council discussed opportunities and processes for Downtown development.

A motion to suspend Council discussion regarding Executive Session was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: 6 YEAS, 1 NAY (Honerlaw).

Councilmember Nelson discussed House Bill 404 passing which allows virtual meetings until July 1, 2021.

Councilmember Bradburn discussed catch basins along SR 741.

Councilmember Chance discussed bridge lighting being included in the 2021 Budget.

Mayor Grossmann thanked staff for the Burn the Mortgage Ceremony.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Randy Stegbauer of 5358 Hidden Creek Circle discussed wanting a summary of the property being discussed for Downtown development.

Councilmember Chance read a letter from resident Jim Fox regarding Downtown development.

Mark Haake of 3620 Dunlop Court discussed Downtown development and the process for selecting developers.

Warren County Commissioner Tom Grossmann and Council discussed Downtown development opportunities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: ACQUISITION/DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing acquisition/disposition of property was made by Vice Mayor Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 10:36 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Councilmember Styrcula, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilb. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 11:18 p.m.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bradburn seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 11:20 p.m.