

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 10, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Ashley Chance, Tony Bradburn, Joshua Styracula, T. J. Honerlaw, and Kathy Grossmann. Diana K. Nelson and Michael Gilb arrived at 6:04 p.m.

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 Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 6:04 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Vice Mayor Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 7:07 p.m.

Pastor Jeff Heslop opened the regular meeting in prayer. Posting of Colors was presented by the City of Mason Police Color Guard and all those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to table the April 26, 2021 Council Meeting minutes was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to move Recognition of Visitors after City Manager's Report and Resolution 2021-11 was made by Councilmember Honerlaw, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Judy Pearson, Military Women's Memorial Ambassador, provided a presentation promoting the significance of the Never Forget Gardens and Garden Markers. The City in partnership with the Mason's Women's Auxiliary encourages residents to plant a Never Forget Garden at their homes in recognition of the centennial anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

RESOLUTION 2021-11 RECOGNIZING MASON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF FOR CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR MASON FAMILIES AND CHILDREN DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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 Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Mayor Grossmann presented the Resolution to Mason City Schools representatives.

Vice Mayor Gilb thanked Councilmember Styrcula for bringing this legislation proposal to the Safety Committee Meeting.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-11 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2021-9 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 16 – 22, 2021 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

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

Fire Deputy Chief Tom Wentzel said all members of the Mason Fire Department are dual certified fire and EMS professionals and 98% of the staff are State certified paramedics. The theme for National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week is dedicated as *This is EMS: Caring for our Communities*. EMS Week provides an opportunity to recognize the contribution that emergency medical service agencies make to the quality of life throughout communities. Hospital emergency medical service agencies make to the quality of life throughout communities. Hospital emergency personnel, emergency physicians, nurses and educators, along with community emergency service providers contribute to an emergency medical system that protects the lives, health, well-being, and safety of Mason residents. He said last year, the City's emergency medical staff responded to 2,866 emergency medical calls, for an average of approximately eight EMS runs per day. Increased call volume has led to a pilot program to place an additional ambulance in service during peak demand times. This program has improved response time and patient care. Along with emergency response, the Mason Fire Department provides CPR training, educational sessions, and safety awareness outreach and education for the community.

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.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-9 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Councilmember Honerlaw and Deputy Chief Wentzel discussed the requirement to be dual certified.

RESOLUTION 2021-10 PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 9 – 15, 2021 AS NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND MAY 15 AS PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

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

Police Chief Todd Carter said National Police Week give community members the chance to reflect on officers lost. After 2019, the average police officers lost each year is 163. Already this year 119 officers have lost their lives. He is proud of the Mason police officer's and support from Council. Captain Jerry Deidesheimer announced three officers who have recently received promotions: Craig Kline to Captain, Steve Temple to Lieutenant, and Karli Dyer to Sergeant.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-10 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2021-12 DECLARING MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

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

Jennifer Heft said the COVID-19 pandemic has had profound impacts on people of all ages. This resolution is intended to highlight mental health innovations, treatment and education throughout the Mason community. Mason is home to business partners Clarigent Health, Myriad Neuroscience, and the Lindner Center of Hope (LCOH). These companies are foraging better technology for better understanding, treatment and education of mental health disorders. Mason's community amenities combined with strong economic development provide many of the key components to the overall physical, social, financial, workplace and societal well-being.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-12 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A modified summer schedule with a single meeting a month for May, June, July, and August, as done in years past, allows more opportunities for committee meetings. A motion to modify the schedule with Council meetings on June 14, July 12, and August 9 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

The new Mason Municipal Aquatic Center (MMAC) Open Houses will be held on Saturday, May 15 and 22, free admittance. Residents are encouraged to attend an Open House and check out Mason's newest community amenity. The MMAC outdoor pool opens for the season on Memorial Day weekend. The pool will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. starting Saturday, May 29 through Labor Day weekend.

Mason City Tax Returns are due Monday, May 17.

Friday, May 28 photo entries are due for the 2022 City of Mason calendar. For more information, including an entry form, visit imaginemason.org.

City of Mason offices will be closed on Monday, May 31 in honor of Memorial Day. Trash collection will not be affected by the closing. Mason Community Center will be open regular hours on Saturday, May 29 and Sunday, May 30 of Memorial Day weekend. On Monday, May 31 the Community Center will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with limited facilities.

The American Legion Post 194 is hosting an in-person Memorial Day Ceremony at the Mason Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 31 at 12:00 p.m. The American Legion will also be live streaming the ceremony via social media for those unable to attend.

The City has various initiatives planned throughout the month of May to honor our Nation's military heroes in recognition of Memorial Day. All veterans and active military will be able to enjoy free admittance to Mason Community Center from May 9 through May 13. May 16 through May 22 veterans and active military can enjoy a free round of golf at The Golf Center. Throughout Memorial Day weekend May 29 through May 31 veterans and active military can visit the new Mason Municipal Aquatic Center for free.

The American Legion's Community Celebration event on Wednesday, June 2 is from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Joe Barr Post 194. At 6:30 p.m. the new Post leadership will be welcomed.

The 2021 Music in Mason Series kicks off on Friday, June 4 at 6:00 p.m. with eight concerts scheduled at the Downtown Plaza in addition to the July 3 Downtown Block Party.

The Warren County Municipal League's June 9 dinner meeting will be held at The City of Mason Golf Center. The speaker will be J.D. Vance, author of Hillbilly Elegy.

A motion to not request a public hearing for a liquor agency contract for Nishit Liquor LCC DBA Giant Liquor was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to not request a public hearing for a C1, C2, D6 liquor permit for Nishit Liquor LCC transfer from Lous Pony Keg to Giant Liquor was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Cate Becker, the new President and General Manager of Recreational Management Services (RRMS) provided a brief introduction of her background and experience. She is looking forward to aligning goals with economic development, strengthening communications, and creating viable sustainable growth. RMS is contracted with Mason to manage The City of Mason Golf Center. Councilmember Chance and Councilmember Honerlaw said residents view the golf course as an heirloom and they look forward to working with Cate.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – None.

RESOLUTION 2021-8 ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF MASON FOR THE YEAR JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022

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

Public Hearing was opened at 8:15 p.m.

Eric Hansen stated this is not the annual budget for the City of Mason. It is a mechanism of the Tax Budget process the State of Ohio requires to validate receipt of local government funds through the State. The Tax Budget is the mechanism through which Council can annually adjust the property tax rate. A 4.4 millage can be sustained again for 2022. A 4.4 millage is below the 5 mills allowed by Charter, below the previous 5 mill levy amount, and less than neighboring jurisdictions.

Public Hearing was closed at 8:16 p.m.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-8 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-49 APPROVAL OF A REVISED CONCEPT PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE MERCY HEALTH MEDICAL CAMPUS GENERALLY BOUNDED BY KINGS ISLAND DRIVE, KINGS MILLS ROAD, COLUMBIA ROAD AND WILSON AVENUE (MERCY HEALTH)

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

Public Hearing was opened at 8:27 p.m.

Kurt Seiler said this revised Planned Unit Development Plan (PUD) is a Concept Plan for a proposed Mercy Health Medical Campus on 32 acres. The acute care hospital is planned to have 60 beds and will provide 24/7 emergency services, inpatient services (including intensive care services - ICU), surgical and endoscopy services, imaging services (including cardiac imaging), and more. The development includes 849 parking spaces, which is lower than standard Mason requirements, but is based on Mercy's knowledge of managing similar facilities. Before a Final Plan is complete a traffic impact study, building architecture, pedestrian amenities, buffering, landscaping, and additional items will be finalized. Surrounding roadways are Warren County or Deerfield Township jurisdictions.

Dan McCarthy, Vice President of Real Estate Development at Mercy Health, and Jose Castrejon, Vice President of Landscape Architecture and Planning with McGill Smith Punshon, discussed looking forward to building the partnership with Mason, being centralized for emergency services, open campus architecture, Wilson Avenue buffer, and engaging community, schools and fire departments for collaboration.

Council discussed the oxygen storage location, parking, construction timeline, architecture appeal, annexation of the property, and also thanked Mercy Health for investing in Mason.

Micah Frank of 2325 Wilson Avenue provided traffic and children traveling safety concerns. Dan McCarthy advised Mercy Health is working with Warren County regarding a traffic impact study. Council, Jose and Dan discussed minimizing impact on Wilson Avenue.

Ryan Cleary of 5156 Minuteman Court said traffic has increased in his neighborhood and living on a street used as a cut through or as a construction detour is a safety concern.

John Wright of Concord Crossing and Dan discussed the consideration of a stop light near the Powder Keg Harley-Davidson and the intended use of the helipad to transport patients out of the facility during an emergency medical situation.

Public Hearing was closed at 8:51 p.m.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-49 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-61 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT FOR LOT 112 IN CROOKED TREE PRESERVE SUBDIVISION, PHASE 3A, REVISION #1

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

Kurt Seiler said the replat of Lot 112 is located on the west side of Sentinel Oak Drive. The replat will expand an existing 15' private storm and drainage easement along the southern edge of the lot. The easement is being revised to match the actual location of an existing 72" stormwater pipe located on the lot.

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 2021-61 was made by Councilmember Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-62 APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR CROOKED TREE PRESERVE SUBDIVISION, PHASE 3F

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

Kurt Seiler said Phase 3F is located on the east side of Sentinel Oak Drive, along with Willow View Drive. The lots range in size from 15,000 square feet to 23,000 square feet. The plat will dedicate the right-of-way, utilities, storm, and sanitary sewer easements necessary for this

development. Planning Commission recommended approval of the final plat contingent upon the submittal of the required Subdivider's Contract and performance bond.

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 2021-62 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-63 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH NEYRA PAVING, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$235,557 FOR ASPHALT MAINTENANCE AT SUNDIN FIELDS AT HERITAGE OAK PARK

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

Kurt Seiler discussed Ordinance 2021-63 and Ordinance 2021-64 together. Annually, staff identifies multiple areas in the City that need crack seal and sealcoating to prolong the City's investment. Staff obtained bids for several maintenance areas throughout the City and then combined the best priced bids. This resulted in two contracts to obtain the best pricing. The parking areas at Sundin Fields at Heritage Oak Park contract includes milling and repairing the large cracks and damaged areas of asphalt, crack seal, sealcoating, replacing parking blocks, 2" overlay of playground parking lot and re-striping. The contract includes removal, disposal, and replacement of over 600 concrete parking blocks that are at the end of their useful life with new plastic parking blocks. He said the Golf Center cart paths need repairs and crack seal and sealcoating work for a portion of the paths. Over the past several years, all cart paths have been resurfaced and are now in need of seal coating.

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 2021-63 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Nelson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-64 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH QUEEN CITY BLACKTOP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,159 FOR ASPHALT CART PATH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS AT THE GOLF CENTER

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-64 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-65 AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN DONATED EASEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF OTHER CERTAIN EASEMENTS AS PART OF THE US 42 ROUNDABOUTS PROJECT

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

Kurt Seiler said the US 42 Roundabouts Project places a roundabout at the Bethany Road and US 42 intersection as well as Mason-Morrow-Millgrove and US 42 and includes a bike path from SR 741 to Mason Sports Park. The 2021 budget included \$250,000 for the right-of-way acquisition. Grant funds will cover 80% of the right-of-way acquisition costs. The costs for purchase of these easements have been determined by an ODOT approved appraiser and verified by an ODOT approved appraisal reviewer. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2022.

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

Councilmember Honerlaw highlighted Mason’s bike path connection to SR 741 that will connect to the Little Miami Bike Trail when complete.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-65 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Honerlaw. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A brief recess was held at 9:06 p.m.

The regular Council Meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

Recognition of Visitors was moved prior to Old and New Business.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Ryan Cleary of 5156 Minuteman Court stated concerns of traffic growth in Concord Crossing. Councilmember Styrcula said a digital speed feedback sign may be useful. Kurt and Eric discussed safety improvements, traffic incidents and solutions, staff evaluation and current construction nearby.

John Wright of Concord Crossing said police patrol should increase during early morning and late afternoon to encourage slower driving through Concord Crossing. He suggested another route for school bus travel.

Chris Coffaro of 4886 Elizabeth Court said he would like to be a part of the Downtown vision discussions and offer more community engagement. Council discussed Downtown development being developer or community driven, offering community engagement to initiate development, CMC Properties development in surrounding communities, recent density changes, MADE Chamber impact study, Mason’s Comprehensive Plan, encouraging residents to attend the

Downtown Committee meetings, and needing Downtown property owners in agreement to revitalize the area.

Anne Droege of 4509 Estate Court said residents brought ideas to a recent Downtown Committee meeting she would like to see on the next committee meeting agenda, and she wants to be a part of involving local businesses in Downtown development discussions.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 10:22 p.m.