

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Diana Nelson, Ashley Chance, Tony Bradburn, Mark Haake, Kathy Grossmann, and Barbara Spaeth. Joshua Styrcula was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the May 9 Council Meeting minutes was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 1 ABSTAIN (Grossmann)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

As part of Southwest Ohio Philharmonic event, the American Legion is requesting a temporary liquor permit from the State of Ohio and approval from Council to allow for alcohol on the Mason Municipal Center Campus on Saturday, August 6 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A motion is in order to approve alcohol on the Mason Municipal Campus Campus.

A motion to approve alcohol on the Mason Municipal Campus from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 6 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

The City is continuing to partner with the MADE Chamber and Mason Historical Society to promote Mason's small business community. Throughout June, Mason residents are encouraged to "Treat Yourself" by supporting local salon and spa businesses in Mason. The City will offer a variety of "salon and spa" raffle prizes in June at the Mason Community Center, Mason Municipal Aquatic Center, Music in Mason concerts, and other various City events.

In July, the City will be celebrating "Patio Season in Mason" and promoting all Mason establishments where residents and visitors can enjoy a patio experience. Patrons who visit patio businesses in Mason will be eligible for prizes to The Grizzly Golf and Social Lodge. A map will be available listing Mason businesses with patios.

The MADE Chamber received an "Award of Excellence" for work on their new website which launched in January 2022. The MADE Chamber entry is now eligible for the "Best in Show" title by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives to be announced July 27.

The 2022 Music in Mason concert series continues Friday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. with six remaining concerts scheduled at the Mason Downtown Plaza. Concerts will include two music entertainment bands each Friday night.

The City continues to prepare for the annual Red, Rhythm and Boom event taking place on Sunday, July 3 at the Mason Municipal Campus. The event will begin at 4:00 p.m. with access to kids' zone activities and attractions as well as food and non-food vendors. At 6:00 p.m. the concert will begin with opening act The ReUnion of Souls followed by headlining artist Smash Mouth at 8:30 p.m. The event will conclude with a firework display by Rozzi's Famous Fireworks at 10:00 p.m. from behind the Mason Intermediate School.

On Sunday, July 3, the Mason Community Center will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and the Mason Municipal Aquatic Center will be closed. On Monday, July 4, City offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day. The Community Center will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, July 4.

A motion to move Resolution 2022-13, Resolution 2022-14, and Resolution 2022-15 up on the agenda was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2022-13 CONGRATULATING THE MASON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

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 Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Jeff Forbes read Resolution 2022-13.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-13 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Council congratulated the Mason High School Girls Basketball Team.

RESOLUTION 2022-14 CONGRATULATING THE MASON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TENNIS TEAM

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

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

Jeff Forbes read Resolution 2022-14.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-14 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Council congratulated the Mason High School Girls Tennis Team.

RESOLUTION 2022-15 CONGRATULATING THE MASON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TENNIS ATHLETES

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

Jeff Forbes read Resolution 2022-15.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-15 was made by Councilmember Chance, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

Council congratulated the Mason High School Boys Tennis Athletes.

Coach Rob Matula discussed the success of the Mason High Schools Girls Basketball Team.

Coach Mike Reid discussed the success of the Mason High School Girls and Boys Tennis Teams.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Charlene Pelfrey of 5399 Mason Road discussed concerns of The Regional Center for the Arts and the use of the Gould property.

Colin Ashley of 4758 Manorlake Drive discussed concerns with Ordinance 2022-70 and the use of Gould property.

RESOLUTION 2022-12 ADOPTING THE BIDGET OF THE CITY OF MASON FOR THE YEAR JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2023

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

Eric Hansen said as required by the State of Ohio, a budget to justify receipt of local government monies is required to be adopted prior to July 15 of each year. The Tax Budget must show the City's need for State supported funding of next year's services and allocate the property tax inside millage between the general fund and debt service fund. The total property tax rate included in the 2023 Tax Budget for the City is estimated to be 6.72 mills for both inside millage and Safety Services, and while operating expenses are growing; staff feels that the 4.4 mills can be maintained for 2023. Mason's proposed 4.40 millage is less than neighboring municipal jurisdictions.

Public Hearing was opened at 7:46 p.m.

Public Hearing was closed at 7:46 p.m.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-12 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RESOLUTION 2022-16 RESOLUTION APPOINTING INITIAL REGION 14 REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ONEOHIO RECOVERY FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD

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

Eric Hansen said in 2017, in response to the increasing number of overdoses and unintentional overdose deaths, Ohio Attorney General filed a lawsuit against opioid drug manufacturers and distributors for the damages caused by opioids in Ohio. In 2020, over two thirds of local governments in Ohio had joined together to participate in OneOhio. Resolution 2022-16 is designed to support the selection of Greta Hochstetler Mayer as the representative and Karen Scherra as the alternate representative for Region 14 of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation, Inc. Board.

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

Councilmember Grossmann and Eric Hansen discussed how members of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation, Inc. Board are selected.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-16 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2021-102 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL, AMEND, AND ADD VARIOUS SECTIONS AND CHAPTERS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS AND TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP REGARDING DOWNTOWN MASON ZONING

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

Eric Hansen said in 2018, Mason residents approved a change to the Charter relating to residential density, which was the catalyst for updates to the zoning ordinance and zoning map relating to Downtown Mason. This also provided an opportunity to make updates to the zoning ordinance that aimed at modernizing standards, removing barriers for property owners to make improvements, and provide long-term flexibility. Regular updates were provided to Planning Commission throughout the Downtown zoning process and City of Mason Planning Commission was presented with the zoning updates on October 5, 2021. At the November 8 City Council

meeting, Council held a public hearing and voted to table the update until December 13, 2021 to allow the public more time to review and provide input. On December 13, Council voted to table the zoning update to February 14, 2022 to allow an opportunity for Council to host a work session to discuss and provide additional opportunity for public input. At the February 14 meeting, Council voted to table the ordinance again to June 13, 2022.

Councilmember Grossmann and Eric Hansen discussed no adjustments being made to the proposed zoning updates since the tabling of Ordinance 2021-102.

Mayor Spaeth discussed support of Ordinance 2021-102 and the advantages of the proposed zoning updates.

Vice Mayor Nelson discussed the proposed zoning changes and density in Downtown Mason.

Councilmember Grossmann discussed support of the proposed zoning changes to assist residents.

Councilmember Chance discussed Downtown Mason and the involvement of a CDC for future development of Downtown Mason.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-102 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: 3 YEAS. 3 NAYS. (Nelson, Chance, Haake)

ORDINANCE 2022-70 AUTHORIZING A GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MASON AND THE MASON DEERFIELD CHAMBER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION RELATED TO THE MASON MILE PROJECT

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

Eric Hansen said at the May 9 City Council Meeting, Ordinance 2022-70 received a first reading but failed to receive enough votes to allow for adoption after the first reading. Ordinance 2022-70 authorizes a grant funding agreement with the MADE CDC with the intent to continue the progress to date of the Mason Mile Project. The Downtown Committee of Council has met with the MADE Chamber and the MADE CDC in effort to work together to develop a partnership agreement that recognizes the investment and success the MADE CDC has had to date in building community support for the Mason Mile Project.

Mayor Spaeth discussed Council having the ability to submit questions to the MADE CDC and discussed support of Ordinance 2022-70.

Councilmember Haake discussed visiting Carmel Indiana, and support of the MADE CDC.

Councilmember Grossmann discussed requesting a work session to discuss Ordinance 2022-70 and discussed concerns with Ordinance 2022-70.

Vice Mayor Nelson discussed the importance of a CDC in a downtown development plan and support of Ordinance 2022-70.

Councilmember Bradburn discussed concerns with Ordinance 2022-70 and displayed videos to share concerns regarding the MADE CDC and Ordinance 2022-70.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-70 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: 4 YEAS, 2 NAYS. (Bradburn, Grossmann)

ORDINANCE 2022-78 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT FOR LOT 1A IN THE TOWER PARK PUD SUBDIVISION

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

Kurt Seiler said the applicant is proposing to replat Lot 1A into two lots. Lot 1C would be 1.11 acres and Lot 1D would be 1.27 acres. Each lot will have access off the internal private roadway system. This replat will also rename the private roadways to WLW Connector and Am Boulevard.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-78 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-79 AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN DONATED EASEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF OTHER CERTAIN EASEMENTS AS PART OF THE SNIDER ROAD WIDENING PHASE 2 (WESTERN ROW ROAD TO US 42) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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

Kurt Seiler said Phase 2 improvements will complete the widening of the remaining two-lane section of Snider Road between US-42 and Western Row Road to three lanes. The project will include adding a center bi-directional turn lane, sidewalk, bike path, and street lighting. Phase 2 requires one permanent easement and 35 temporary construction easements on 35 parcels.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-79 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-80 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND / OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED

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

Kurt Seiler discussed Ordinance 2022-80 and Ordinance 2022-81 together. Kurt said the intent of the Ohio Public Works Commission Issue 1 Grant Program is to assist in financing public infrastructure capital improvements of local governments. The pre-application process for funding has begun for Snider Road Improvement Project Phase 2, Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Bridge Replacement Project, and State Route 741 Resurfacing Project.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-80 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-81 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION, DISTRICT 10 GRANT FOR MASON-MORROW-MILLGROVE ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-81 was made by Councilmember Haake, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-82 AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, TO ADD SECTION 133.05 REGARDING CITY MANAGER PURCHASING AUTHORITY

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

Jennifer Heft said on March 25 the Finance Committee of Council met to discuss options regarding the City's purchasing authority. Inflation has risen during periods of supply constraints and the declining purchasing authority has a direct impact on the City's ability to provide public services

to the community. In 1999, the State of Ohio increased the spending limit to \$15,000 for non-charter cities. In 2002, City Council adopted an ordinance that increased the City Manager's purchasing authority from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The State of Ohio increased the spending limit for non-charter cities to \$50,000 in 2012. The Finance Committee of Council recommended adjusting the current purchasing authority amount to \$50,000 to align with other communities and Ohio Revised Code.

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 2022-82 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-83 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FLOCK SAFETY FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF TWENTY FLOCK SAFETY DEVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Jennifer Heft said in 2009, through grant funding, the City introduced the use of a license plate reader system with new technology in law enforcement that provided a more proactive approach for deterring criminal activity. The infrared technology was often inconsistent with capturing license plate information, and the system was also restricted in its use due to its inability to be outfitted on more than a single cruiser. Significant advancements in the technology have occurred, and license plate reader systems have been a widely used and reliable resource for proactive law enforcement patrol. The Flock Safety devices will capture license plate information and vehicle details and process it through the National Crime Information Center and allows multiple jurisdictions using the system to work collaboratively to communicate.

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 2022-83 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Grossmann. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2022-84 ACCEPTING A BID AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RUMPKE WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR THE WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN SOLID WASTES WITHIN THE CITY OF MASON AND AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO SECTION 961.04 - CHARGES AND BILLING FOR RUBBISH AND WASTE COLLECTION

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

Jennifer Heft said the City provides a municipal contract for private waste collection to save costs to residents and ensure access to effective waste removal throughout the City. In March, the City sent out a request for proposal for municipal waste and recycling services. Bids for the municipal contract were distributed to Rumpke Inc., Republic Services and Waste Management. A pre-bid meeting was held on March 14 to provide an opportunity for the City to respond to inquiries. Jennifer said the City's current contract with Rumpke expired on April 30. Rumpke has committed to a current contract extension until August 1 to allow discussion and final agreement to changes in contract language. The City has been able to accumulate a balance in the Waste Collection Fund for emergency situations. The current fund balance combined with Rumpke's willingness to extend existing rates through July allows the City to delay the rate increase until January 2023, consistent with other effective rate increases.

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

Councilmember Haake and Councilmember Bradburn discussed the lower costs and service to residents compared to other municipalities.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-84 was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice Mayor Nelson said the Arts and Culture Committee met to discuss the event Southwest Ohio Philharmonic performance on August 6, the Regional Center for the Arts. Vice Mayor Nelson discussed the Regional Center for the Arts and the MADE CDC being different entities and discussed an upcoming joint meeting on June 15 with the Warren County and Hamilton County Municipal Leagues.

Councilmember Grossmann requested a Community and Recreation Committee meeting to discuss the Regional Center for the Arts.

Vice Mayor Nelson discussed having the Regional Center for the Arts project in the Arts and Culture Committee.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Chance recognized the Mason High School baseball team and discussed fall trees and debris as a result of the storm.

Councilmember Grossmann discussed requesting a work session to discuss Ordinance 2022-70, recall petitions accusing Councilmembers of not allowing the full participation of Council, and shared concerns regarding Ordinance 2022-70.

Mayor Spaeth discussed Music in Mason, Joe Reigelsperger receiving the ACFR award, the 50th Anniversary of The Grizzly Golf and Social Lodge, the Mason Parks and Recreation Foundation receiving a grant for adaptive ballfields at Makino Park, and Red, Rhythm & Boom.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Jennifer Trepal of 5230 Hidden Creek Circle discussed Rumpke trucks not arriving early in the morning.

Gina Sanders of 221 Kings Mills Road thanked Council for passing Ordinance 2022-70 and discussed volunteering for the MADE CDC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of acquisition/disposition of property and litigation was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:58 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Councilmember Haake, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 10:35p.m.

JOHN CANDLE HOMES, LLC SEWER REQUEST

Matt Fellerhoff representing Tufts University requested to be on the Agenda for the July 11, 2022 Council meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmember Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:27 p.m.