

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
February 12, 2024**

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: Ashley Chance, Barbara Spaeth, Joy Bennett, Mark Haake, Scott Gibson, Josh Styracula, and Diana Nelson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the January 8 Council Meeting minutes and the January 31 Special Council Meeting minutes was made by Councilmember Bennett, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

The City is celebrating Heart Health Literacy Month throughout the month of February. Heart Health Literacy Month provides the opportunity to highlight Mason’s culture of wellness, community amenities as well as innovation happening in the corporate community that contributes to heart-healthy living. Mason residents are encouraged to take advantage of the various programs and resources available this month to learn more about heart health and improve overall quality of life.

City offices will be closed on Monday, February 19, in observance of President’s Day. Mason Community Center will be open with normal operating hours.

A motion to not request a hearing for a liquor permit for Wongs Chan Inc. DBA “Tenji Sushi Asian Cuisine” was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to not request a hearing for a TREX Agreement for La Fondita LLP was made by Councilmember Haake, seconded by Councilmember Gibson. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT SWEARING-INS**

Fire Chief Bryan Brumagen introduced Firefighter/EMTs Aaron Borden, Anthony Lagory, Blake Neu, and Rachel Rivera who were sworn into their full-time positions. A pinning ceremony took place for newly promoted Fire Lieutenants Kyle Anderson and Jordan Boyd. Kyle was promoted January 28, 2024, and Jordan was promoted January 29, 2024.

## **HOSA PRESENTATION**

Mason High School students Kaushik Burra, Shravya Kundety, Suriya Vijayakumar, and Neev Mehta provided a presentation as part of the Health Occupational Students of America (HOSA) aimed at spreading awareness about the Opioid Crisis in the region.

## **WOMEN WALKING WEST PRESENTATION**

Dr. George Sehi said Women Walking West provides women an opportunity to achieve their educational goals by removing social, financial, academic, and cultural barriers. Their focus is a one-on-one mentorship for educational achievement. Women Walking West currently serves over 30 women as mentees in Mason. Dr. Sehi reviewed worldwide statistics regarding the degree of attainment, salaries, and educational success for foreign-born women. They receive support through outlets such as sponsorships, partnerships, grants, special events, endowments, and donations.

A motion to move up Ordinance 2024-8 on the agenda was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Bennett. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

## **ORDINANCE 2024-8 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000 WITH WOMEN WALKING WEST**

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

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

Jennifer Heft said the City has participated in a Service Agreement with Women Walking West since 2019. Through this matching program, the City will contribute one dollar for every two dollars raised from other sources by the non-profit group. The maximum contribution for the agreement is \$8,000.

Dr. Sehi and Councilmember Bennett discussed the length of the mentee/mentor relationship as part of the program.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-8 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Bennett. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

## **MASON MILE UPDATE - MADE CDC**

Angie Smith of the Mason Mile Events Committee provided an update on the Mason Mile Project. Angie said the report for the Mason Mile Project is nearly complete with minor changes being made before being available for the public and discussed activation of the Mason Mile Project

through an events committee that includes MADE CDC Volunteers, MADE Chamber staff, and City staff.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Karen Kopak of 3829 Crooked Tree Drive discussed upcoming events in the area including: Black History Fest, Taste of Mason, and Lebanon Pride Festival.

**RESOLUTION 2024-3 PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY AS HEART HEALTH LITERACY MONTH IN MASON**

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

Eric Hansen said 2024 marks the fourth year since the City developed Heart Health Literacy Month in Mason, as part of the American Heart Association’s Heart Month. Using the month of February to focus on Heart Health Literacy is an attempt to align the City’s community-wide commitment to a culture of wellness and the strength of the cardiac science and innovation coming out of the biohealth sector of the Mason corporate community. Heart Health Literacy Month kicked off with the recognition of Go Red Day, a national initiative encouraging the population to wear red to generate awareness of the prevalence of heart disease in women. Throughout the rest of the month, the City will be promoting various programs and activities that revolve around heart health including educational trainings and resources, on-campus blood drives, free community yoga classes at Mason Community Center, heart healthy giveaways for Premier members, as well promoting the innovation happening in Mason’s corporate community.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2024-3 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Bennett. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**RESOLUTION 2024-4 ADOPTING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AND SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN TO IMPROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TIMES**

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

Eric Hansen said in 2010, the City relocated Fire Station 51 from Downtown to the current location on Mason-Montgomery Road at Alliance Drive. The relocation of Station 51 was identified as the first step in transitioning towards the three-station model. Throughout the next decade, the Department continued to progress significantly. In addition to the organizational restructuring and improved full-time staffing model, key accomplishments included: improved fire/rescue/EMS training programs, training facility development, the replacement of an aging fleet, increased staffing levels on fire apparatus, a reduced reliance on overtime, and improved mutual aid. Since

Chief Brumagen's appointment in 2018, additional staff have been developed to fill leadership roles, the department has enhanced methods to attract and retain staff, and a pilot program was implemented and proved successful for a third ambulance.

Eric said the Safety Committee met multiple times in 2022 and 2023 to discuss future strategies for the growth of the Fire Department. Council supported the development of a strategic plan with their approval of Resolution 2022-11. In March 2023, the Department hosted a community driven strategic planning process. This process was facilitated by the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). CPSE is a consulting agency committed to excellence in emergency services through continuous improvement. Input was gathered from a wide array of community members representing a diverse set of backgrounds ranging from city residents to business partners. The resolution supports the development of a plan to reduce response times that matches the community expectation to bring actual performance closer to the national response time standard and improves the culture of health, wellness, and safety while responsibly minimizing the tax burden on residents.

Council discussed the Fire Department Strategic Plan shared by Chief Brumagen at Safety Committee.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2024-4 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-6 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT FOR MERCY HEALTH KINGS MILLS**

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

Kurt Seiler said the subject property is located at the southeast corner of Kings Island Drive and Kings Mills Road. This 33.54-acre site is zoned B-PUD, Business Planned Unit Development. This replat provides easements necessary for the Kings Island Drive and Kings Mills Road improvements including utility, waterline, and storm sewer easement. The plat also provides a Bikeway Easement for the sections of bike path that are located outside the public right of way.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-6 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-7 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT FOR MASON CHRISTIAN VILLAGE**

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

Kurt Seiler said Bayer Becker Engineering is requesting approval of a replat for Mason Christian Village located near the intersection of Western Row Road and Central Park Boulevard. The property is zoned RES-PUD, Residential Planned Unit Development, and is located immediately east of the existing Mason Christian Village property. This replat will consolidate the existing Christ's Church at Mason Lot 3B with a portion of the existing Mason Christian Village property to the west. The replat is necessary for the new Mason Christian Village Expansion and Clubhouse projects.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-7 was made by Councilmember Styracula, seconded by Vice Mayor Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-9 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BENCHMARK LAND MANAGEMENT, LLC FOR THE CITY OF MASON KINGS ISLAND BIKE PATH CONNECTION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,375**

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

Kurt Seiler said roadway improvements were required as part of the construction of the Mercy Hospital project. These improvements included a bike path along Kings Mills Road from Kings Island Drive to Columbia Road and along Kings Island Drive from Kings Mills to Wilson Avenue. Completion of this connection would tie the new Mercy Health bike paths into the Mason Bike Path system, ultimately providing a safe pathway connection for Kings Island, Great Wolf Lodge, and community members to access existing businesses along Kings Mills Road.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-9 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Vice Mayor Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-10 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELEX, INC., FOR THE SR 741 STREETScape/URBAN PAVING PROJECT - PHASE 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,682,027**

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

Kurt Seiler said beautification of the SR 741 corridor and creating a more attractive corridor into Mason for individuals traveling from I-71 has been a long-term goal of the City. Phase 1 of the SR 741/Kings Mills Road Streetscape Project will convert over 1,500 feet of narrow concrete median from Center Drive (Kroger Signal) to Courseview Drive into a full-width grass island. The project also includes milling/paving of SR 741 from Center Drive to the I-71 northbound ramp. The existing Duke Energy maintained streetlights will be replaced with City of Mason standard decorative lights along the corridor. Future phases may include center island landscape and hardscape, traffic signal upgrades, pedestrian paths, and a mixture of hardscape and street tree planting improvements within the project limits. The contract has an interim completion date for the proposed median and mill/resurfacing to be complete by July 31 and all remaining items to be complete by the end of this year.

Council and Kurt Seiler discussed landscaping and phases of the project.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-10 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-11 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FELDKAMP ENTERPRISES INC. FOR INSTALLATION OF CHLORAMINE EVACUATOR SYSTEMS AT THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,000**

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

Jennifer Heft discussed Ordinance 2024-11 and 2024-12. Jennifer said in November the City hosted a large swim meet over a three-day period and received concerns from participants and their families about the air quality in the facility. Chloramine Consulting recommended the installation of a new DuctSox at the south end of the pool, rotated to guide air to the north part of the pool where the existing bench evacuators are to remove the chloramines from the facility. Staff have already begun work on this solution. The consultant also recommended adding additional bench evacuators at the north end of the pool to exhaust more chloramines from the facility and provide backup systems in case an evacuator goes out of service.

The pool heaters at the Aquatic Center are another maintenance concern for the upcoming year. The pool boiler system for the 50-meter pool at the Aquatic Center is important for maintaining

the correct water temperature for the pool water. Upon investigation, it was determined that the heat exchanger has sustained significant corrosion and had failed. Purchasing a new pool boiler system will allow the pool to remain at peak operation. Based on the experience of the failed boiler, the new boiler will be a high efficiency unit which heats the water indirectly. This results in a longer lifespan, easier repair, and cost savings on natural gas usage.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-11 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PROCESS CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR REPLACEMENT OF A POOL BOILER SYSTEM AT THE MASON MUNICIPAL AQUATIC CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,000**

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-12 was made by Councilmember Bennett, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-13 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEASTERN EQUIPMENT CO. INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE CASE 721GXR TS T4F ARTICULATED WHEEL LOADER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$283,445**

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

Kurt Seiler said fleet maintenance and preparedness is the backbone to delivering a high level of service in the City of Mason. Brush chipping, leaf collection, parks maintenance, catch basin maintenance, sign maintenance, right-of-way maintenance, snow and ice removal and other service-related activities all rely on the City's fleet. Having replacement equipment on hand and ready is significant to delivering City services including snow removal as well as brush and leaf pick up programs. Currently, there are 17 vehicles in the City's fleet that are due for replacement at an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. The City continues the strategy developed several years ago to rely on contingency amounts to align vehicle failure more closely with replacement.

Ordinance 2024 – 13 authorizes the purchase of one Case 721GXR TS T4F Articulated Wheel Loader from Southeastern Equipment Co., Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$283,445. The City

currently has two front end loaders in the fleet, a 2011 model and a 1997 model which is in very poor condition. The primary use for these pieces of equipment is to load salt into the plow trucks.

Ordinance 2024 – 14 authorizes the purchase of one Freightliner M2 106 Plus Dump Truck from Fyda Freightliner Cincinnati in an amount not to exceed \$106,297. This truck will replace a 2007 model dump truck that is in poor condition.

Ordinance 2024 – 15 authorizes the purchase and installation of a truck bed, snowplow, salt v-box and automated ground speed controller from W.A. Jones Truck Bodies and Equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$148,379. This equipment, to be installed on the new Freightliner M2 truck, includes everything necessary for snow and ice control.

Ordinance 2024 – 16 authorizes the City Manager to enter into a contract with Valor Outfitters in an amount not to exceed \$116,325 for the removal, transfer, purchase, and installation of emergency equipment in five new police vehicles. Authorizing the purchase of equipment for the next five police cruisers at once will allow for the equipment to be ordered now and ready for installation when the next five cruisers in the fleet replacement schedule are ready to be recycled and new cruisers are placed into service.

Ordinance 2024 – 17 authorizes the purchase of one 2024 Ford F-250 pickup truck and one 2024 Ford Expedition Max from Kings Ford, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$111,747. The new pickup truck will be used as part of the Public Utilities Department fleet and will replace a 2006 model pickup truck that is in failing condition with significant corrosion issues. The Ford Expedition Max will be part of the Fire Department’s fleet and will replace an aging 2008 model Ford Escape.

Ordinance 2024 – 18 authorizes the purchase of one Toro Reelmaster 3100-D Sidewinder Mower, three Toro Carryall 502 utility carts and one Toro Carryall 500 utility cart from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation in an amount not to exceed \$116,806. The mower and utility carts will be used at The Grizzly and will replace similar equipment that is in poor condition with limited replacement parts available.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-13 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Bennett. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-14 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FYDA FREIGHTLINER CINCINNATI, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2024 FREIGHTLINER M2 DUMP TRUCK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$106,297**

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-14 was made by Councilmember Styracula, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-15 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH W.A. JONES TRUCK BODIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A TRUCK BED, SNOWPLOW, SALT V-BOX, AND AUTOMATED GROUND SPEED SALT CONTROLLER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$148,379**

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-15 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-16 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VALOR OUTFITTERS FOR THE REMOVAL, TRANSFER, PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT INTO FIVE (5) NEW POLICE VEHICLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$116,325**

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

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-16 was made by Councilmember Styracula, seconded by Vice Mayor Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-17 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KINGS FORD INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) FORD F-250 PICKUP TRUCK AND ONE (1) FORD EXPEDITION MAX IN THE AMOUNT OF \$111,747**

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-17 was made by Councilmember Spaeth, seconded by Vice Mayor Chance. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-18 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH JERRY PATE TURF & IRRIGATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TORO REELMASTER 3100-D SIDEWINDER MOWER, THREE (3) TORO CARRYALL 502 UTILITY CARTS, AND ONE (1) TORO CARRYALL 500 UTILITY CART IN THE AMOUNT OF \$116,806**

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

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

Councilmember Spaeth discussed the balance of the contingency funds for fleet equipment and thanked City staff.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-18 was made by Councilmember Styrcula, seconded by Councilmember Bennett. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-19 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WARREN COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT**

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

Jennifer Heft said historically, the City has participated in the Southwest Ohio Purchasers for Government (SWOP4G) purchasing program to buy rock salt for snow and ice removal operations. Through SWOP4G, the City has successfully purchased bulk rock salt cheaper than through the State Procurement Program. The City also participates in the Warren County Co-operative agreement for rock salt as an additional option for obtaining rock salt at the lowest price possible. To move forward with the program, the Warren County Engineer's Office is requesting a formal commitment from each jurisdiction for their participation in the program.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-19 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**ORDINANCE 2024-20 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE 2024 ADDENDUM TO THE GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RECREATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.**

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

Eric Hansen said as part of the purchase of The Grizzly in 2007, the City entered into a management agreement with Recreational Management Services (RMS) to manage the golf course and all facilities. Staff met with RMS regarding the proposed 2024 contract addendum, and Cate Becker expressed appreciation for the consideration and is eager to move forward. Cate and her team set a performance record in 2023 by meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> tier of the net revenue target – a level that has never been achieved and that comes with an additional incentive payment for RMS. This addendum allows this momentum to continue while staff focuses on the long-term home of tennis.

Council congratulated RMS for meeting revenue targets at The Grizzly.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-20 was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styrcula. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Nelson said dates are set for meetings in late February for the Arts and Culture Committee and Small Business Committee.

Mayor Nelson discussed the success of the Mason Symphony Orchestra performance on February 10. Mason Symphony Orchestra hosts their next performance at Mason High School on May 18.

Councilmember Spaeth said Chief Wells attended the Safety Committee meeting to discuss the potential growth of the Campus Safety Program.

Councilmember Spaeth congratulated the Mason Fire Department for receiving the American Heart Association’s Lifelong Mission Golden Achievement Award. The award is given to EMS agencies for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients that experience severe heart attacks.

Councilmember Spaeth said the Rules Committee met on February 2 to discuss implications of State Issue 2 and updates to the City’s property maintenance code.

Councilmember Haake said the Downtown Committee met and discussed the Mason Mile Project report, a farmers’ market in Downtown Mason, options for hosting a Music in Mason event near East Main Street, and future infrastructure improvements to East Main Street.

Councilmember Bennett said the Public Services Committee met on January 26 to discuss City fleet, lead times for those purchases, and the City's storm water system.

Councilmember Bennett said the OKI Regional Council of Governments held a new member orientation meeting and discussed how the program helps the City with receiving grants.

### **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Spaeth said Representative Adam Matthews is discussing legislation that eliminates State Income Tax and the Commercial Activities Tax through a phased approach that will reduce the top rate to zero percent in 2030. Future town hall meetings will be available on the Ohio House of Representatives website.

Councilmember Spaeth discussed updates and new stories in the Mason Historical Society's newsletter.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION: EMPLOYMENT/COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND ACQUISITION/DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employment and compensation of public employees and acquisition/disposition of property was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Styracula. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:04 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Vice Mayor Chance, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 10:50 p.m.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Gibson, seconded by Councilmember Haake. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 10:51 p.m.