

**CITY OF MASON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2010**

Mayor Prince called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Pastor J.D. Childers opened the meeting with prayer. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following members of Council were present: Michael Gilb, Christine Shimrock, Rich Cox, Tony Bradburn, Charlene Pelfrey, David Nichols, and Don Prince.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2010 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Bradburn. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**RECOGNITION OF JOHN BURKE, WARREN COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE**

John Burke, Director of the Drug Task Force, addressed Council and provided a brief overview of the activities the Drug Task Force accomplished in 2009. He noted they have added a dog that sniffs out prescription drugs. He thanked the City for their continued support.

**REPORT FROM MARTY HEIDE WITH CONGRESSMAN TURNER'S OFFICE**

Marty Heide addressed Council and announced Congressman Turner's Service Day Academy Day on April 17 for any student interested in exploring the opportunities available through various appointments. She stated it will be held at the Springboro High School at 9:00 a.m. She also announced the Congressional Art Competition. She said this is an art contest with the entries hanging in the Dayton Art Institute. The winning entry hangs in the Capitol for one year.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Hugh Martin of 600 West Church Street addressed Council and stated he has a problem with a sidewalk being installed in front of his property. He said the length of the walk is 133 feet and he will be responsible to maintain it once it is in place. He is concerned about the water runoff from the walk and the pressure against his foundation. He stated he was told it will be an elevated walkway but he has concerns about liability. This also places restrictions on any building modifications he may wish to make in the future. Richard Fair responded all the work is being done in the road right of way. He said they attempted to purchase additional right of way from Mr. Martin but the cost was too high. He invited Mr. Martin to come in and talk to the Engineering Department. Ken

Schneider, Law Director, stated the liability issue of tripping on the raised walk is not a problem. He said the City is confident the construction plans are a safe design.

**ORDINANCE 2010-29 AUTHORIZING A CONTRIBUTION OF \$22,016 TO THE WARREN COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE**

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

Eric Hansen explained that the City of Mason has participated in the Warren County Drug Task Force for eight years. The Task Force has worked cases and complaints in the City of Mason. In particular, cases that cross jurisdictions are referred to the Task Force. Historically the membership fees are based upon one dollar for each resident in the respective jurisdictions. From 2004 through 2009 the City of Mason's contribution was \$22,016.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-29 was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ORDINANCE 2010-30 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING MASON MUNICIPAL COURT PUBLIC DEFENDER**

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

Jennifer Heft stated this legislation allows the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Warren County regarding Mason Municipal Court Public Defender payments. She said since 2004, the County has requested that the City authorize an agreement that would formalize the practice and allow the County to pursue reimbursement from the State. The County is now requesting annual renewal of this agreement to meet State of Ohio requirements.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-30 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Shimrock. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Eric Hansen reported on the following items:

► The Mason Municipal Center is currently hosting a “Me, Myself and I” exhibit through March 19. The Mason-Deerfield Arts Alliance in collaboration with Mason City Schools is presenting over 800 self-portraits created by Mason Early Childhood Center first graders.

► Live Well programming for the month of March is encouraging "Learn and Earn", with a three part nutrition series called the Basics of Nutrition. Part One, a TriHealth Registered Dietician will discuss the Building Blocks of Nutrition. Part Two, Free individual dietician consultation (when you attend part one). Part Three, free grocery store walk through with Registered Dieticians (when participate in part two). Preregistration is required. For more information visit the City's website at [imaginemason.org](http://imaginemason.org).

► Saturday, March 20, is Mason Youth Sports Day at the Mason Municipal Center. Anthony Muñoz will be the keynote speaker at this Live Well in Mason event geared toward parents and coaches of youth sports. Presentations and breakout sessions on building athletic performance, injury prevention and assessment, raising the adolescent athlete, and other topics will be presented from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Interested adults are invited to register for this free program by calling the Mason Community Center at 513-229-8555.

► I am planning to be out of town the week of April 5 - 12. Council will need to appoint someone to act as City Manager in my absence. A motion appointing Jennifer Heft as Acting City Manager during this time is appropriate. Councilmember Pelfrey moved to appoint Jennifer Heft as acting City Manager from April 5 through April 12 in Eric Hansen's absence. Vice Mayor Nichols seconded the motion. VOTE: ALL YEAS

► On Sunday, February 28, Officer Scott Miller of the Mason Police Department was struck by a car while directing traffic for St. Susanna Church. Officer Miller's injuries are not life threatening and he is at home recovering. The City, as well as Officer Miller, would like to extend gratitude to St. Susanna for the assistance they've provided to the City, and the numerous expressions of concern including from parishioners who were on hand at the time of the incident to assist Officer Miller with his injuries, call for 911 assistance, and to stop additional traffic flow. Also, we would like to thank everyone for keeping Officer Miller and his family in their thoughts as he continues to recover.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilmember Shimrock reported the Community Center Committee met and said Council will start seeing items for the original budget now appearing for their approval. She noted it will be closed for 2 weeks in April. Eric Hansen said that date is April 4-18.

### **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Pelfrey requested additional information regarding the Muddy Creek restoration project. Richard Fair explained the City has not received a grant from the

State yet. She suggested the additional information and details be provided for the community center closing and the options available for the members.

Councilmember Cox stated the signing is confusing in the area of the bridge closing on SR 741. He suggested that be reviewed. He said no detour route was shown.

Mayor Prince stated he is circulating a petition to present to the state eliminating estate tax. He said anyone interested may sign it by seeing him.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to adjourn into executive session for the personnel was made by Councilmember Bradburn, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS


A motion to reconvene into regular session was made by Councilmember Gilb, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

**ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS

TIME: 8:15 p.m.

  
Clerk of Council

  
Mayor