

**CITY OF MASON
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Father Jerome Bishop opened the meeting in prayer. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of Council were present: Victor Kidd, Barbara Spaeth, Rich Cox, Tom Grossmann, Charlene Pelfrey, Don Prince, and David Nichols.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the December 9, 2013 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Pelfrey. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

In partnership with Warren County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mason will host the NCAA National Championships and Regionals for Cross Country in 2014 at the Golf Center and the NCAA National Championships for Tennis at the Tennis Stadium to be held in May 2015.

In September of 1997 the City joined the Miami Valley Risk Management Association (MVRMA), a self-insurance pool, with fifteen other municipalities that met a high standard of risk management practices and loss control history. MVRMA provides the City's insurance coverage and risk management services, estimated in 1997 to save the City approximately 35% from traditional commercial insurance. The City's membership in MVRMA has proven especially advantageous. Since joining the pool, the City has contributed about \$1.3 million but almost \$760,000 or 59% of this was refunded back to the City.

For the 17th year, the City conducted its Hope for the Holidays program which helps support Mason families during the holiday season. In partnership with Mason Food Pantry, the program is facilitated through an Employee Committee lead by Pattie Connor. This year, the American Legion donated money and City employees, Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Kroger, and local families all helped by adopting 25 families. While this program is primarily used to support families in need during the holiday season, the program continues throughout the year helping to support families in the community.

As part of the Employee Wellness Program, the City has added a financial component to the traditional physical wellness program. The Dave Ramsey "Financial Peace University" has been well received by employees completing the program.

RECOGNITION OF MASON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS AND BOYS 2013 SOCCER TEAMS AND THEIR COACHES

Mayor Nichols introduced Mason High School Girls Soccer Head Coach Andy Schur. Coach Schur thanked the City for tonight's recognition and help with the pre-season soccer tournament at Heritage Oak Park. He stated that Mason Girls Soccer finished the 2013 season with an 18-3-2 record, had six wins over top-ten teams, and earned a return trip for back-to-back State Finals. He said that these amazing student athletes have a cumulative GPA of 3.83, give back to their community, and despite expectations found ways to win games. After Coach Schur introduced team members, Mayor Nichols read and presented a Proclamation to the team.

Mayor Nichols introduced Mason High School Boys Soccer Head Coach Paul Reedy. Coach Reedy thanked the City of Mason and stated that the economic impact of the pre-season soccer tournament is estimated at \$850,000. He stated that Mason Boys Soccer finished the 2013 season with a 22-0-1 record, back-to-back GMC championships, and a 1-0 win over Cleveland Mentor in the State Finals to become State Champions for the first time. Coach Reedy stated that the National Coaches Association Poll voted Mason Boys Soccer Team #1 in the country. After Coach Reedy introduced team members, Mayor Nichols read and presented a Proclamation to the team.

SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICERS MICHAEL SECHRIST AND CHRISTOPHER SLONE

Chief Ferrell introduced Michael Sechrist from Marietta, Georgia. Michael was a patrol officer with the Cobb County Police Department since 2010, graduated from Georgia State University, and was selected speaker of his graduating class at the State Patrol Academy in Columbus. Chief Ferrell introduced Chris Slone from Huber Heights, Ohio. Chris has been a firefighter/paramedic for the City of Fairborn the past 12 years, was assigned to the joint S.W.A.T. team as a medic, and just completed the F.T.O. program. Chief Ferrell asked Mayor Nichols to please swear in the newest Police Officers to the Mason Police Department.

RECOGNITION OF NEW POLICE LIEUTENANT JEROME DEIDESHEIMER

Chief Ferrell stated that after a rigorous process, Jerry Deidesheimer was selected to replace Lt. Carter upon his retirement. Chief Ferrell asked Mayor Nichols to present Lt. Deidesheimer with his Lieutenant Bars. Lt. Deidesheimer replied to the Mayor's request and stated that he grew up in Cincinnati, graduated from Ohio State, post grad from University of Cincinnati, and has been with the Mason Police Department for 16 years, currently in the Detective Division. Mayor Nichols congratulated and presented Lieutenant Bars to Lt. Deidesheimer. He commented on the excellent service Mason Police and Fire Departments provide and encouraged the community to attend a service in May honoring those that have died in the line of duty.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Perry Schwartz of 6309 Tarton Fields Lane requested that Council consider revising the City Council Agenda by placing Committee Reports before the City Manager's Report. He also suggested that fines be charged for signs placed illegally.

RESOLUTION 2014-1 REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO MAKE TAX ADVANCES DURING THE YEAR 2014 PURSUANT TO SECTION 321.34 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE

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

Eric Hansen stated that when taxes are collected by the County, the County Auditor has several months after the due date to distribute the funds owed to local governments. During this delay, the County will earn interest from funds owed to local governments. He explained that state law allows local governments to request payments of the taxes prior to final settlement. Eric stated that Resolution 2014-1 authorizes the City to make that request which allows for improved cash flow and the City to earn the additional interest. Eric explained that the Fire Levy is the primary beneficiary of property taxes and although this amount has been reduced over the past three years, the request is still financially beneficial for the City.

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

A motion to adopt Resolution 2014-1 was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-1 1ST READING AMENDING THE ZONING CODE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 5.897 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED AT 5188 COX-SMITH ROAD FROM R-1 TO O-1 (5188 COX-SMITH ROAD PROPERTY)

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

Eric Hansen announced that a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2014-1 will be held on February 10, 2014.

ORDINANCE 2014-2 1ST READING AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON TO AMEND IN PART ZONING CODE CHAPTERS 1160 AND 1188 (WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS)

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

Eric Hansen announced that a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2014-2 will be held on February 10, 2014.

ORDINANCE 2014-3 1ST READING AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON TO AMEND IN PART ZONING CODE CHAPTER 1170 (DOWNTOWN OVERLAY DISTRICT)

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

Eric Hansen announced that a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2014-3 will be held on February 10, 2014.

ORDINANCE 2014-4 APPROVAL OF THE REPLAT FOR LOTS 85 AND 86 OF THE LAKESIDE SUBDIVISION

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

Richard Fair explained that two neighbors at the end of the cul-de-sac on Tarn Circle in Lakeside Subdivision have requested this replat. They request an increase of .0376 acres to Lot#86 by adding property which is currently part of Lot#85. The owner of Lot#86 requested to purchase this property which is adjacent to his driveway from the owner of Lot#85 and plans to add landscaping in this area. Richard stated that Planning Commission recommends approval of the replat.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-4 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ORDINANCE 2014-5 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRANE U.S. INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000, FOR LABOR, MATERIAL, AND RIGGING TO REMOVE EXISTING CHILLER COMPRESSOR AND REPLACE WITH AN "OEM REBUILT COMPRESSOR"

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

Richard Fair addressed Council and stated that Mason Municipal Center's air conditioning is supplied by one 300 ton chiller that has been in operation over 12 years. He stated that there is a 2-3% savings if the compressor is replaced this winter compared to fall. The existing compressor will be removed and replaced with a new rebuilt Original Equipment Manufacturer specification chiller. The current chiller has over 50,000 hours of operation, with over 10,000 starts. Richard explained that based upon hours of operation, the existing compressor has exceeded the manufacturer's established "Service Threshold Indicator" and recommended limits for a rebuild. The rebuild process replaces worn materials, restores compressor performance, and updates applicable components to current design. The rebuilt compressor will be backed by a 5-year parts and labor warranty. Richard stated that Finance Committee has reviewed this request as part of the 2014 budget process and recommends including \$60,000 for this compressor overhaul.

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

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-5 was made by Councilmember Pelfrey, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Spaeth reported that at the January 9 Park Board Meeting Cathy Crotty, newest member to Park Board, was introduced. Julie Edmond gave an overview of Mason Community Center activities including youth basketball, new teen/tween programs, and Snow Day Camps. Parks maintenance staff work includes snow removal, renovations at the Golf Center banquet facility, improvements to outdoor pool restrooms and Pine Hill Lakes playground spray feature, dead tree removal, and replacement of fencing and backstop netting at Corwin Nixon. She stated that fishing permit and outdoor pool fees will have a small increase in 2014 but that the senior rate will not be raised. The National Frisbee Tournament will be held at Heritage Oak Park in the spring. Mayor Nichols congratulated Ginny Sundin on her 37th year on Park Board.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Cox asked to confirm that there is one more round of leaf pick-up for Mason residents. Eric Hansen said yes, that leaf pick-up is continuing and with the break in the weather, trucks have been converted for leaf and brush pick-up this week. He explained that trucks used for snow removal are also used for leaf and brush pick-up. Time is required when converting the equipment from one application to the other.

Councilmember Spaeth asked Eric Hansen to explain snow and ice removal in sub-zero weather. Eric stated that rock salt is not effective at temperatures below 5°, sodium chloride does not work at temperatures below -3°. At these extreme temperatures the plow trucks are only sent out to clear drifting snow and throw rock salt to improve traction in icy areas. He stated that crews also attempt to break up ice in dangerous areas.

Councilmember Pelfrey stated that the Reciprocal Downtown Parking Agreement deadline was not met because a new property owner was difficult to contact and just received the letter in mid-December. She explained that a lot of effort was made to meet the deadline, the process has been restarted, the original contract needs some revisions, and that property owners are encouraged and want the parking agreement to happen.

A motion to confirm Mayor Nichols' appointment of Bradley Adams to the Mason Library Board of Trustees was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Perry Schwartz of 6309 Tarton Fields Lane stated that he has 35 trees on his half acre lot and paid a landscape business \$75 to haul the leaves away. He would like the City to take a more proactive approach to leaf pick-up and better respond to residents' requests for leaf pick-up. Eric explained the leaf pick-up routine, and stated that this season has been worse with the majority of leaves falling just before the first big snow. He said that the City has tried to meet demand by working early in the areas with more mature trees and strategic overtime was authorized for leaf crews.

Ginny Sundin of 108 E. North Street thanked Council for all the get well wishes and stated that it is good to be back.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: MUNICIPAL SECURITY PLAN AND THE SALE/PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

A motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Municipal Security Plan and the sale/purchase of property was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Cox. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 8:24 p.m.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Vice Mayor Kidd. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:41 p.m.

RESOLUTION 2014-2 RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT (WQM) PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

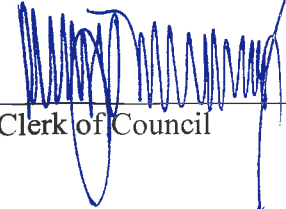
A motion to suspend the rule and allow for adoption after the first reading was made by Vice Mayor Kidd, seconded by Councilmember Prince. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2014-2 was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

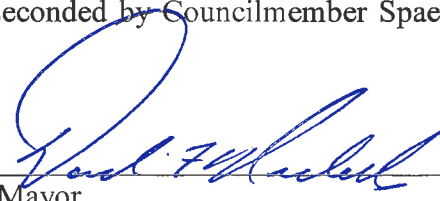
A motion to cancel the January 27, 2014 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Cox, seconded by Councilmember Spaeth. VOTE: ALL YEAS. TIME: 9:44 p.m.



Clerk of Council



Mayor