

**Town of Mason Council**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Oct. 12, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall**

The regular meeting of the Mason Town Council was opened by Mayor Kristopher Clark with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Present were Mayor Kristopher Clark, Recorder Mindy Kearns, and council members Mike Zirkle, Sarah Stover, Steve Ohlinger, Jill Nelson and Becky Pearson.

Minutes from the regular meeting on Sept. 14, 2023 were read and approved upon motion by Stover and second by Ohlinger. The motion passed. Bills were approved for payment following a motion by Ohlinger and second by Zirkle.

**Personal appearances:**

Marty Yeager was in attendance to ask if more consideration had been given to abandoned/dilapidated properties. He also asked if the town would put in a check valve on his sewer line to prevent sewage from coming into his basement during hard rains. Council will check with Aaron Woolard to get more details on the problem.

Kathy VanMeter invited the council to the Mason Volunteer Fire Department's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Auxiliary's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner on Oct. 21, 6 p.m., at the Mason U.M. Church.

**Committee Reports:**

Nelson discussed the Wahama Homecoming tailgate, and upon motion by Nelson and second by Pearson, was given up to \$200 to buy cowbells or similar items to be given out at the town table.

Zirkle said he had edged some additional street and mentioned that the teen workers painted the door on the senior center. He also spoke on the new LED light on Midway Street and how nice it is.

Stover asked for the council's opinion on incorporating Rt. 62 from Mason to the Hartford corporation for police patrols only. This would not involve any homes or any other streets or lanes, only the main road. The council agreed to look into the procedure to do this.

Kearns read a thank you card from the Mason Library on the recent monetary donation.

**Mayor's Report:**

Clark met with legislators along with the Leon mayor, and discussed Rt. 62 paving, the bridge, dilapidated properties, the riverfront, and a new boat dock. He later spoke with other state officials who promised a new dock will be secured.

The mayor also told council that it will be \$4,254.60 to have Tennant's Lawn Care upgrade the town hall parking lot with gravel. It will be on the next agenda, but council told Clark to have Tennant's schedule it in.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

The abandoned house/dilapidated building ordinance amendment was discussed. Clark and Zirkle went to Nitro and got a "wealth of information" on various issues, including dilapidated buildings. Clark said the county also has a new ordinance and the town will look at it.

An update was given on the Clifton water project. It has passed the IJDC council and bids should be obtained by May 2024, with work to possibly begin fall of 2024.

#### **New Business:**

Upon motion by Pearson, second by Ohlinger, the council agreed to allow town workers a boot allowance of \$150. Workers will purchase the boots and bring in receipt for reimbursement.

Employee end of year incentives will be \$325, with the park attendant and per diem worker getting \$162.50. The motion was made by Ohlinger, Zirkle seconded, and the motion passed.

Upon motion by Ohlinger and second by Nelson, the Christmas lunch will be at noon on Dec. 13, with the meal to be up to \$25 per person as allowed by the state. The motion passed.

Pearson made a motion, with a second by Ohlinger, to purchase both a sump pump at a cost of approximately \$1,900, and a magnetic locator at an estimated cost of \$1,000 from American Rescue Plan funds. The motion passed.

The town's property on Brown Street was discussed and will be placed on next month's agenda to be put up for sale.

Engineering services for a sewer upgrade and expansion project were tabled.

Ohlinger made the motion to adjourn.