

Town of Mason Council
Regular Meeting
Dec. 14, 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, Jill Nelson, Steve Ohlinger and Becky Pearson.

Minutes from the regular meeting on Nov. 9, 2023 were read and approved upon motion by Pearson and second by Zirkle. The motion passed. Bills were approved for payment following a motion by Stover and second by Zirkle.

Personal appearances:

Mike Test appeared before the council to request a deflector on the new LED streetlight near his home. The mayor will investigate the request.

Mayor's Report:

Clark said the grant has been submitted for the Dogwood property building to be razed. He should hear in January. He also announced upcoming recreational events, said a survey regarding them was online, and displayed the splash pad drawing completed by Ghosh Engineers.

Committee Reports:

Stover said the Christmas lighting contest has new judges this year from out of town. Kearns lauded the success of the Breakfast with Santa. Zirkle mentioned several beautification projects that had taken place throughout town.

Unfinished Business:

Kearns will call and check on how the town should proceed with the sale of the lot on Brown Street.

Upon motion by Ohlinger and second by Zirkle, the council approved the bid of \$1,260 for the police vehicle that was auctioned.

Stover said an attorney needs to be hired to proceed with the annexation of Rt. 62. The council authorized her to search local attorneys and their costs.

New Business:

Council members agreed to table the purchase of a lift for the garage.

Upon motion by Ohlinger and second by Nelson, the council voted to renew the employee health insurance policy with Parrack Insurance.

Clark noted the water office will be closed to the public Dec. 26-29 to allow workers to paint the office interior.

Upon motion by Pearson and second by Nelson, the council agreed to include the per diem meter reader in the three percent pay increase beginning Jan. 1.

Laura Cox and Cheryl Thomas of Laura Cox Planning and Design attended and spoke to the council about their grant writing business. There would be a \$2,000 retainer, and the cost is \$80 per hour. A decision was tabled until the next meeting.

Clark got an estimate from Sweeping Corps of America to sweep the town's main thoroughfare in 2024. The cost is \$2,420 for one time, \$2,300 each for two times, and \$2,200 each for three times. The council tabled a decision until January.

Kennon Chambers of Ghosh Engineers was present at the meeting to talk about the Clifton water upgrade project. Upon motion by Ohlinger and second by Zirkle, the council accepted the agreement between Ghosh and the town for services. Upon motion by Zirkle and second by Stover, the council authorized the mayor to execute task order number one.

Upon motion by Ohlinger, the meeting was adjourned.