

Town of Mason Council
Regular Meeting
September 12, 2024, 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 Clark, Recorder Mindy Kearns, and council members Mike Zirkle, Sarah Stover, Jill Nelson, Steve Ohlinger and Becky Pearson.

Public Hearing

Following the opening a public hearing was held on the proposed water and sewer rate increases. Certified Public Accountant Todd Dingess spoke to explain the reason for the increases. Three were signed up to speak including Don Newberry, Stella O'Bryan and David Reed. Each expressed their concerns.

At the end of the hearing, a motion was made by Ohlinger and seconded by Zirkle to accept the second and final reading of the water rate increase. Ohlinger also made the motion with a second by Zirkle to accept the second and final reading of the sewer rate increase.

Regular meeting

Minutes from the meeting on Aug. 15 were 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 Pearson.

Public forum:

Tara Shilt announced that her daughter, Abigail, will be donating her award winning 75-pound pumpkin to the town for the Harvest Festival.

Mayor's Report:

Clark gave an update on the boat dock project. He said the project is in queue by the Department of Natural Resources and will take 2-3 years to complete. He also announced plans for a "Scarecrow Stroll" in the park during the Harvest Festival.

Committee Reports:

Stover told those attending the Rt. 62 project is not dead, but still being worked on.

Unfinished Business:

Stover made a motion, with a second from Ohlinger to begin the bid process to repair the sidewalk on Second Street in front of Dr. Kelsey Henry's office.

New Business:

Bids were opened for paving a portion of Fourth Street. Myers Paving was the low bid with \$41,450. Ohlinger made the motion to accept the low bid, Nelson seconded and the motion passed.

A resolution for the recreation park was tabled.

A committee to choose an auditor was formed of Darlene Roach, Sarah Stover and Mindy Kearns. The motion was made by Ohlinger, with a second by Zirkle. The motion passed with Stover and Kearns abstaining.

The council agreed to allow Clark to sign a letter of support for the Department of Transportation for hazard mitigation on Rt. 2.

Upon motion by Ohlinger and second by Zirkle, the council agreed to allocate \$181,009.09 for the splash pad project from American Relief Plan funds.

Pearson made a motion to begin the bid process for a roof replacement at the wastewater plant. Nelson seconded and the motion passed.

Ohlinger made the motion to adjourn.