

Town of Mason Council

Regular Meeting

March 13, 2025, 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.

Minutes from the meeting on Feb.13, 2025 were approved upon motion by Pearson and second by Ohlinger. Bills were approved for payment following a motion by Ohlinger and second by Zirkle.

Public forum:

Kathy VanMeter voiced concern over items that had been moved from Lew King's vacant lot to Don Aspery's property.

Kennon Chambers and Alfonso Dalessio of Ghosh Engineers attended to update council members on the Clifton project. Chambers said there are a few more easements to obtain and groundbreaking should take place in fall or early spring.

Mayor's Report:

Clark asked for possible dates for spring clean-up, and it was decided to host the clean-up the week of May 5. The mayor said he is considering getting two bands for each of the two Music in the Park events. He also reported the basketball court had been vandalized and town workers have welded the rims so they cannot be moved.

Committee Reports:

Zirkle said he will be meeting soon with the county commission and members of the veterans memorial committee to finalize the transfer of property.

Kearns expressed concern over dogs running loose in town. It was decided to post the ordinance on both the police and town Facebook pages, and Chief McKinney said he would begin citing people.

Stover asked about opening the restrooms at the park since the weather is warmer. It was decided to open them the week before the egg hunt.

Unfinished Business:

John Stump, attorney with Steptoe and Johnson, explained the one percent city sales tax and the process involved in implementing it. He said the catch is the town is required to

reduce or eliminate the B&O tax and it is a guessing game as to whether the town would increase or reduce income. No decision by council was made.

The council, along with Wastewater Operator Aaron Woolard, discussed repairs needed to the wastewater plant. Woolard, Treasurer Darlene Roach, and Mayor Clark will check on funding sources and return with the information at the next meeting.

New Business:

The second and final reading of the police code enforcement ordinance amendment was read and approved following a motion by Ohlinger and second by Nelson.

Roach presented a budget revision that was approved following a motion by Zirkle and second by Zirkle.

The town budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 was approved with little change from the previous year. The motion was made by Ohlinger, with a second by Nelson.

Poll workers for the June municipal election were approved as Kathy VanMeter, Amy Thompson, Reta Hendrickson and Pam Thompson. Darlene Roach will serve as alternate and early voting worker. Zirkle made the motion with a second by Ohlinger.

The council agreed to get prices for new tables and chairs for the community room. The older ones will be kept for outside activities and possibly to rent.

The next meeting will be held on April 15 at 6:30 p.m. in order to lay the levy.

Clark announced there will be a beauty pageant for town royalty for July 4. The pageant will be hosted by a woman from Jackson County and will not require anything from the town.

Police Chief Colton McKinney and Sgt. Tyler Doss introduced new officer Todd Hannah to the council members.

Ohlinger made the motion to adjourn.