

Town of Mason Council

Regular Meeting

Sept. 10, 2026 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, followed by a moment of silence.

Present were Clark, Recorder Mindy Kearns, and council members James Pauley, Mike Zirkle and Becky Pearson. Absent were council members Sarah Stover and Mason Hicks.

Regular meeting minutes of Aug. 13, 2026 were approved following a motion by Zirkle and second by Pearson. Special meeting minutes of Aug. 18, 2026 were approved following a motion by Pauley and second by Zirkle. Bills were submitted and approved following a motion by Pauley and second by Pearson.

Public Forum:

Stella O'Bryan attended to express her concern about a stop sign at Anderson and Front streets that is covered with trees.

Justin Kinneman and Travis Childress addressed council members asking for pay raises for town laborers.

Mayor's Report:

A permit was issued to Connie Kearns for an upgraded deck on Brown Street. Clark said the band "Next Level" has been rescheduled to play at the park on Oct. 3 after being postponed due to rain.

The mayor received a sketch via email of the renovated town park from the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. The project will provide a new floating dock, new restrooms, a two-lane drive to the dock, a walking path to a fishing area, and the relocation of the stage. There is no projected date when the project will begin.

Council Reports:

Kearns informed members that James Crump of Picnic's BBQ might set up in the town hall parking lot from time-to-time. She reported the \$100 donation given to New Haven Elementary School will be used for a Christmas Family Night. Kearns asked about the seasonal closure of the park restrooms and it was decided to close them the week following the Harvest Festival on Oct. 10.

Old Business:

Kennon Chambers of Ghosh Engineers attended and presented the mayor with a "Schedule B" budget form to be signed for the Clifton Water Project. He said the contractor should receive the notice to proceed by the end of October. Chambers said the firm is working on the storm drain project, and the UV system at the wastewater plant should be able to be installed by the first of October.

New Business:

Following a motion by Pearson and second by Pauley, the council agreed to spend up to \$1,500 for two canvas doors for the side-by-side which will allow it to be better used for winter.

Upon motion by Zirkle and second by Pearson the council agreed to accept the two older police vehicles from the Town of Hartford in lieu of one of three quarters of payment for the now defunct Mason Metro Police.

Scott Kebler attended to discuss the water drainage from Kebler Lane to Brown Street. He and his family have dug ditches and stoned so the water flows properly on Kebler Lane. The problem now lies at the bottom of the hill at the cemetery. The street is no longer crowned and water will not go into the ditches or drains. Upon motion by Zirkle and second by Pauley the council agreed to take bids for the paving and crowning of Kebler Lane to Brown Street.

Upon motion by Pauley and second by Pearson the council approved the hiring of Johnathan Staley as a laborer at a starting wage of \$15 per hour. Upon motion by Pearson and second by Zirkle the council agreed to increase the pay of part-time meter reader Kody Hollis to \$15 per hour.

Pauley made a motion with a second by Pearson to provide a \$250 boot allowance to full-time workers. The motion passed.

Zirkle made a motion with a second by Pauley to set holiday incentives the same as in 2025. Among the incentives are \$325 to full-time workers and \$162.50 to part-time workers. Workers holding two positions will receive the higher incentive.

Clark reminded council of the \$20,000 energy efficiency grant received by the town to replace the doors at the pump house and the connection center. The bid from John Harrison totaled \$23,870. Upon motion by Pauley and second by Pearson the council agreed to allow the contractor to proceed with the town to pay the remaining \$3,870.

The meeting was adjourned.