

**CITY OF MASON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2017**

Mayor Whipple called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan. Vogel led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

Present: Councilmembers: Brown, Droscha, Ferris, Madden, Vogel, Waltz, Whipple  
Absent: None  
Also present: Deborah S. Stuart, City Administrator

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Seth Waxman of 226 ½ East Cherry Street expressed support for the increase in compensation for the City Council members. Mr. Waxman said that council is vastly under compensated and that the position takes time away from home and that the council members deserve it.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION by Droscha, second by Ferris,  
to approve the Consent Calendar as printed:

- A. Approve Minutes: Regular Council Meeting November 20, 2017
- B. Financial Items:
  - 1. Approve Bills in the Amount of \$326,233.10
- C. Receipt of:
  - 1. City Attorney's Report – November 30, 2017

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Correspondence – Receipt of the Determination of Compensation for Elected Official by the Local Officers Compensation Commission.**

Pete Curtis, Chair of the Local Officers Compensation Commission (LOCC) said the Commission had met on November 29, 2017, to discuss City Council compensation rates and review elected officials' compensation of comparable cities. Mr. Curtis said that the Commission determined an increase of \$10.00 per meeting for the Mayor and City Council Members and the Commission felt it was well deserved for the time and effort it take for serving on the city council

Per section 2.228 of the Mason Code, this determination by the LOCC shall be effective 30 days following their filing with the City Clerk unless rejected by the City Council. Currently the compensation is \$60.00 per meeting for the Mayor and \$50.00 per meeting for each City Council Member. Per the City Charter 5.6, compensation of any elective officer shall not be increased or decreased from the time of his/her election until the end of the term of office for which he/she was elected. If recommendation is not rejected by council three (3) council members would see an increase on January 1, 2019, and four (4) council members would see an increase on January 1, 2021.

MOTION by, Droscha, second by Walt  
to reject the recommendation of the Local Officer's Compensation Committee of a \$10.00 per meeting increase for the Mayor and City Council.

Discussion took place regarding accepting or rejecting the LOCC's recommendation.

Yes (3) Droscha, Ferris, Waltz

No (4) Brown, Madden, Vogle, Whipple

### MOTION FAILED

### Discussion – Joint Recognition Ceremonies and Nomination.

Mayor Whipple said he had met with Kurt Creamer, Mason Public Schools Board President about the Joint Recognition Ceremony. They would still like to see two events but discussed some possible changes. One change would be having a common recognition/proclamation form with a brighter "cooler" format like the school presented last year. Second, still have two events but possibly move the event to January instead of February. The Mayor said he would be meeting with Mr. Creamer again on this matter.

### COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

- Waltz reported there were two ribbon cutting ceremony that took place one at Kiwanis Village as well as one at Booksellers which was a large well attended event.
- Ferris thanked everyone who helped cook and clean-up at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Ferris reminded everyone of the Chamber of Commerce Event "Taste of Mason" that will take place this Thursday, December 7, 2017.
- Vogel congratulated Mayor Whipple on being awarded Fireman of the Year Award
- Brown wanted to recognize the DPW Department for a nice job on the lights downtown and that the Holiday Celebration was very nice as well.
- Brown recognized the interview that Mayor Whipple did with CNR News regarding are community and the customer service changes here at City Hall.
- Brown also though that it would be good to set a goal setting meeting. Mayor Whipple said this is part of the Administrator's Performance Evaluation process and that goals should be set at this time.

### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Stuart noted that leaf pickup has ended. If residents still have leaves they can call customer service to set-up an appointment to take to the compost pile. We are continuing to get positive feedback on the no additional cost recycling service. More and more people are signing up for the service. Reminder of the Laylin Park Vision Session on Saturday, December 16. Both adults and kids are welcome to attend. A recommendation for sign ordinance change will be coming soon as our current ordinance is not in line with the Supreme Court Ruling. Stuart met with the Library and a proposal will be coming at the next meeting. MML Capital Conference will be taking place March 20 – 21 and if you are interested in attending please let us know.

### PRESENTATION

City Administrator Deborah Stuart gave a presentation on the City of Mason's Economic Development Incentive Strategy. Stuart went over the current trends and the recent investments and how the project impacted Mason. Stuart then went over three types of projects Business Development, Community Development and Commercial Development. Stuart explained the timeline, typical process, evaluation factors, the offer, the overall impact and how to be prepared for each of the types of projects.

**CLOSED SESSION**

MOTION by Brown, second by Droscha to Adjourn to Closed Session to Discuss a Performance Review of City Administrator.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Mayor Whipple reconvened to the Open Meeting at 10:56 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

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Sarah J. Jarvis, City Clerk

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Russell W. Whipple, Mayor