

**CITY OF MASON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

Mayor Whipple called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan. Whipple led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

Present: Councilmembers: Brown, Droscha, Ferris, Madden, Schaffer, Vogel, Whipple  
Absent: None  
Also present: Deborah S. Stuart, City Manager, Tom Hitch, City Attorney

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Tim Zielinski of 641 W Ash Street expressed concerns related to traffic, at Kiwanis St and Ash Street including the drive approach to his business and on-street parking.

Bill Savage of 3110 W Harper shared history of lynching of John Taylor and requested a plaque be placed in memorial of the event.

**PRESENTATION**

Eric A. Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer, gave a presentation on delinquent property taxes in the area.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION by Droscha, second by Brown,  
to approve the Consent Calendar as presented

- A. Minutes: Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting November 4, 2019
- B. Correspondence: Receipt of City Attorney's Report Dated November 13, 2019
- C. Financials:
  - 1. Approve Bills in the Amount of \$113,681.80
  - 2. Receipt of Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report for Period Ending October 31, 2019
- E. Resolutions:
  - 1. Approve Rescheduling of City Council Meeting for 2020 Calendar Year Due to the Elections and Holiday

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Whipple opened the public hearing on the Request by Esquire Development and Construction, Inc. for the City to File a Chapter 8 Petition with the County Drain Commissioner at 7:48 p.m.

- Jim Bonfiglio, Esquire Development, 4127 Okemos Road, spoke in support of the City filing the Chapter 8 Petition.
- Keith Hein, 1002 Eugenia Drive, stated that the City should have approved the building permits and supported moving forward with the construction of the homes by Esquire Development.
- Pat Lindemann, Drain Commissioner, stated his preference in the City filing the Chapter 8 Petition and provided more information about what would be involved in that process.
- Gail Brown, 1114 Eugenia Drive, noted the drainage area was not being properly maintained.

Mayor Whipple closed the public hearing at 8:16 p.m.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. City Manager Evaluation**

**1. Resolution 2019-29: City Manager Performance Evaluation (Proposed by Mayor & Mayor Pro Tem)**

MOTION by Brown, second by Droscha,  
to adopt Resolution 2019-29: City Manager Performance Evaluation

**CITY OF MASON  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2019-29  
CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
November 18, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with City Council Resolution 2019-26, the City Council shall periodically conduct a formal review of the job performance of the City Manager and stipulates the formal process to be followed for said evaluation; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 4, 2019, the City Council met with City Manager Deborah S. Stuart to discuss her job performance, including discussion of the written input provided by each City Council member, as well as discussion regarding any obstacles to optimal job performance identified by the City Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, at the request of Manager Stuart, the review by the City Council was held in open session in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council is very satisfied with Manager Stuart in her management of City operations and her overall service to the City of Mason. Manager Stuart continues to meet or exceed job performance expectations and continues to manage City affairs in a manner that is consistent with the collective goals of the City Council and the ideals of the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Manager Stuart is to be lauded for successful efforts to instill a team-oriented culture into the city organization as well as on-going efforts to enhance communication with the City Council and the public. The City Council anticipates that Manager Stuart will further enhance the budget development process to be responsive to council member requests consistent with direction by the City Council; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with City Council Resolution 2019-26, this resolution is hereby submitted by Mayor Russell W. Whipple and Mayor Pro Tem Marlon I. Brown for consideration by the City Council as the written summary of the conclusions of the City Council regarding the job performance of City Manager Deborah S. Stuart; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that in accordance with City Council Resolution No. 2019-26, a copy of this resolution shall be placed in the personnel file of City Manager Deborah S. Stuart.

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2. Approve Amended City Manager Evaluation - City Council Member Questionnaire (Proposed by Mayor & Mayor Pro Tem)**

MOTION by Brown, second by Vogel,  
to amended City Manager Evaluation - City Council Member Questionnaire

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Authorization for the City Manager to Execute an Oil and Gas Lease on Behalf of the City of Mason with Jordan Development Company**

MOTION by Vogel, second by Droscha,  
to authorization for the City Manager to Execute an Oil and Gas Lease on Behalf of the City of Mason with Jordan Development Company, subject to correction of the legal description

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

- Vogel noted the Historic District Commission had met and updated the Council on their actions. She asked Council to consider a diversity commission to address racism in the community and to consider adding public comments to the end of the agenda, like the Mason Public School Board currently does.
- Droscha noted the Planning Commission had met and updated the Council on their actions.
- Ferris encouraged the public to utilize the Legacy Tree Program.
- Brown expressed his appreciation for Vogel's comments and expressed that the school is open to a partnership. He noted that the MML has adopted a diversity policy that the City may want to consider.

**MANAGERS REPORT (11/14/2019)**

None

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

  
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Deborah Stuart, City Manager

**CITY OF MASON  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND WORKSHOP  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

Mayor Whipple called the meeting to order at 9:15 p.m. in the Sycamore Room at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan.

Present: Councilmembers: Brown, Droscha, Ferris, Madden, Schaffer, Vogel, Whipple  
Absent: None  
Also present: Deborah Stuart, City Manager

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

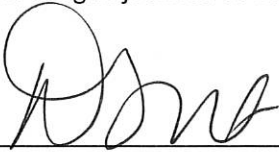
**WORKSHOP: BUILDING MASON'S HIGH-FUNCTIONING LEADERSHIP TEAM, PART II**

Discussion regarding establishing roles and responsibilities of the Mayor and finalizing expectations took place.

Consensus regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Mayor included:

- Reviewing Agenda
- Conducting Meetings
- Communicating on behalf of the Council as a whole

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 pm.



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Deborah Stuart, City Manager