

**CITY OF MASON
JOINT CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2021**

Sabbadin called the meeting to order at 8:43 p.m. at 201 West Ash Street, Mason MI, via Zoom Teleconference.

Roll Call		Present	Absent	Location
Commissioner	Barna	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Liaison	Clark	X		Mason, Michigan
Vice Chair	Howe	X		Mason, Michigan
Commissioner	Husby	X		Mason, Michigan
Commissioner	Perrault	X		Mason, Michigan
Chair	Sabbadin	X		Mason, Michigan
Commissioner	Shattuck		X	
Secretary	Wren	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Member	Waxman	X		Mason, Michigan
Mayor Pro-Tem	Brown	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Member	Droscha	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Member	Schaffer	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Member	Ferris	X		Mason, Michigan
Council Member	Vogel	X		Mason, Michigan
Mayor	Whipple	X		Mason, Michigan

Also present: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director, Mason, Michigan; Stephanie Strickland, Administrative Assistant, Mason; John Lynch, President Three Rivers Corporation; Dana Martin; Deb Stuart, City Manager; Michele Pietsch; Danielle Bouchard; Marvin Leroy; Michael Olson, Asst City Mgr/DPW Director; Tommy De la Fuente, PC Youth Advisor

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATION– MASTER PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

City Manager Stuart presented an overview of the upcoming need and process for updating the City’s 20-year Master Plan. She stated that the goal was to have a usable plan that was referred to on a regular basis. John Lynch, President, Three Rivers Corporation conducted an exercise where each member provided three (3) items; what they would like to Keep, Remove and add to their city. The information was summarized by staff that will format it further for use in the RFP:

Preserve

- Neighborhood/ Small town charm (Schaffer/ Howe/ Wren/ Clark)
 - Courthouse Square/ Character (Brown/ Perrault/ Whipple)
 - Beautifying downtown, burying infrastructure (Wren)
 - Historic Preservation Priority/ Staffing (Vogel)
 - Development Measured (Clark)
 - Maintain the Fair (Husby)
 - More community involvement/ more activities downtown (Wren)
 - Maintain Community involvement (Whipple)
 - Community Festivals (Droscha)

Innovation:

- Infrastructure:
 - 5 G Downtown (Howe)
 - Fiber throughout town (Droscha/ Waxman)
 - Solar Panel Roof Pilot/ Free Wi-Fi (Vogel)
 - New DPW (Howe)
- Be more business-friendly ordinances (Clark)
- Improve development process in ordinances/ to make things that are simple easier (Whipple)
Get rid of we have always done it this way (Vogel)
- Entrepreneurial Growth Businesses helping business (Ferris)

Space:

- More streets connecting North side of Town (Sabbadin)
- Get rid of 5 stop at Jefferson/Columbia (Droscha)
- More greenspace/ Parks on west side of highway (Schaffer)
- Redevelop Cedar Street/ Vacancies (Waxman/ Perrault)
- Develop Behind City Limits Developed (Sabbadin)
- Develop East of Fairgrounds (Howe)
- Specific:
 - Community Center (Perrault)
 - Non-profits combining services (Ferris)
 - Destination Restaurant (Brown)
 - Hotel (Husby/ Schaffer/ Delafuente)

Census:

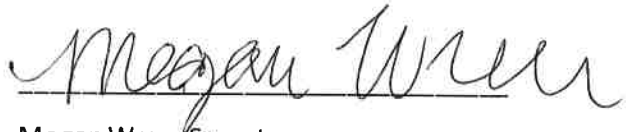
- Focus on younger age group (Vogel)
- More opportunities for youth (Delafuente)
- Communications with rural residents (Ferris)

Staff suggested that a representative from each of the Council and Commission be on the RFP selection committee and to consider appointing someone at their next meeting.

Director Hude concluded by thanking all of the members and John Lynch for their time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:51 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Megan Wren". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Megan Wren, Secretary