

**CITY OF MASON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2013**

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

Present: Councilmembers: Brown, Clark, Droscha, Ferris, Mulvany, Naeyaert  
Absent: Councilmember: Bruno  
Also present: Martin A. Colburn City Administrator  
Deborah J. Cwiertniewicz, City Clerk  
Eric Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer  
David Haywood, Zoning & Development Director  
John Stressman, Chief of Police  
Dennis McGinty, City Attorney

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mason High School and Middle School bands were lauded for their recent accomplishments and awards received

**PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR**

Tom Cochran, State Representative for the 67<sup>th</sup> District, introduced himself and stated that his committee assignments are insurance, transportation, and infrastructure.

**PRESENTATION**

**Mayoral Proclamation**

Mayor Clark and Council presented Mr. Leon Langridge with a Mayoral Proclamation in recognition of his retirement. Mr. Langridge served 28 years as a volunteer firefighter on the Mason Fire Department.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Droscha,  
to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Council Meeting: March 4, 2013
- B. Approval of Bills: \$27,453.58

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Resolution No. 2013-13 – A Resolution to Approve Matching Funds and to Authorize an Application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant Program**

Haywood spoke briefly regarding submittal of an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant Program for funds to remove the existing bridge over the Sycamore Creek near the Maple Grove Cemetery offices and construct an eight foot wide pedestrian bridge and trailhead signage. A brief discussion ensued regarding matching fund sources.

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Droscha,  
to consider Resolution No. 2013-13 read.

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolution No. 2013-13 was introduced by Ferris and seconded by Mulvany.

**CITY OF MASON  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2013-13  
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MATCHING FUNDS AND TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION TO THE  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT PROGRAM  
March 18, 2013**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mason recognizes that the existing bridge over the Sycamore Creek near the Cemetery offices at 213 South Jefferson Street has outlived its usefulness and is in desperate need of replacement; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mason supports the submission of an application titled, "Riverwalk Pedestrian Bridge and Trailhead" to the Michigan Recreation Passport Grant Program for the development of a pedestrian bridge over the Sycamore Creek and trailhead signage to serve as a link between the existing Hayhoe Riverwalk Trail and the existing trailhead parking lot on South Jefferson Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed project described in the grant application is an action item listed in Section I of the Mason Capital Improvement Plan 2012–2017 as a component of Phase III of the City's non-motorized trail system and Section VII(A)5 of the Mason Five-Year Recreation Plan 2013-2017, and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated project cost, including matching obligations, is as follows:

City of Mason (general fund match)	\$60,131
State Funds (MI Passport Grant)	\$30,000
<hr/> Total Project Cost	<hr/> \$90,131

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City Council hereby authorizes submission of a Michigan Recreation Passport Grant Application for the development of a pedestrian bridge over the Sycamore Creek, trailhead parking and associated signage to serve the existing Hayhoe Riverwalk Trail at the Maple Grove Park and Maple Grove Cemetery, and further resolves to make available its financial obligation of \$60,131 (67%) of a total \$90,131 project cost, during the 2013–2014 fiscal year.

**RESOLUTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution No. 2013-14 – A Resolution to Approve a New Small Wine Maker License and Entertainment Permit for Bad Brewing Company LLC**

Brian Rasdale spoke regarding his application to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) requesting a license for a New Small Wine Maker License to make ciders.

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Droscha,  
to consider Resolution No. 2013-14 as read.

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolution No. 2013-14 was introduced by Ferris and seconded by Mulvany.

**CITY OF MASON  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2013-14  
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A NEW SMALL WINE MAKER LICENSE  
AND ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT FOR BAD BREWING COMPANY LLC  
MARCH 18, 2013**

**WHEREAS**, a local business known as Bad Brewing Company LLC, is located at 440 South Jefferson Street; and

**WHEREAS**, owners Danielle French and Brian Rasdale have applied to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) to obtain a New Small Wine Maker License and Entertainment Permit; and

**WHEREAS**, the owners have stated that they plan to make ciders, which are considered wines, in which a license is required by MLCC; and

**WHEREAS**, the owners have stated the intent to occasionally provide live acoustic music consisting of soloists as well as 2-4 member groups, in which a permit is required by MLCC: and

**WHEREAS**, the MLCC requires the local legislative body to provide a recommendation for approval or disapproval, as authorized by MCL 436.1501.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mason City Council is recommending that the application of Bad Brewing Company, LLC be considered for approval by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for a New Small Wine Maker License and Entertainment Permit.

**RESOLUTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion – Two Year Extension of Northwood Energy Corporation Oil and Gas Lease**

McGinty elaborated on his submitted review of the request to extend the Midland County oil and gas lease operated by Mr. Eugene Hardy of Hardy & Hardy Consulting LLC. He stated that Mr. Hardy is proposing to drill a horizontal well rather than two vertical wells as obligated in the current lease. Horizontal well drilling is a new drilling program that costs substantially more than drilling a vertical well; however, a horizontal well provides higher production rates over a longer period of time. Given the change in technology, it was determined that it would be appropriate to reduce the obligation from six wells to five wells, stipulating that the fifth well be a horizontal well. It was also discussed that the City should be entitled to an additional \$10 per net usable acre bonus payment, as it has been in the past when the lease is extended. In addition, royalty payments to the City will increase from 1/6<sup>th</sup> to 3/16<sup>ths</sup> after completion of the fifth well.

Mr. Eugene Hardy of Hardy & Hardy Consulting LLC stated that he manages the operations of Northwood Energy Corp. and commented on his submitted report. He stated that due to Michigan Department Environmental Quality (MDEQ) changes in policy and permitting requirements and/or restrictions, they are requesting a two year extension to meet the lease requirements.

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Ferris,  
to approve the extension of Oil and Gas Lease with Northwood Corporation.  
**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion – 2012 Annual Report– Zoning & Development**

Haywood elaborated on the 2012 Zoning & Development Annual Report to Council.

MOTION by Droscha, second by Brown,  
to accept the 2012 Annual Report for the Zoning & Development Department and place  
it on file.  
**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

MOTION by Mulvany, second by Naeyaert,  
to amend the agenda by moving Item No. 8(F) Motion – Mason Area Chamber of Commerce  
Annual Events, before Item No. 8(E) Motion – 2012 Annual Report – Police Department.  
**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion – Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Events**

Doug Klein, Mason Area Chamber of Commerce (MACC) President, gave a brief synopsis of the annual events sponsored by the MACC. On behalf of the MACC, Mr. Klein requested street closings equipment, and staffing, for the various events. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of supporting community events in the coming years considering the economic climate.

MOTION by Mulvany, second by Droscha,  
to approve the request for street closures, use of equipment, electrical power, and  
waiver of permit fees for the 2013 annual community events as outlined in the letter from  
Doug Klein, MACC Executive Director, dated March 11, 2012.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**Motion – 2012 Annual Report – Police Department - Chief John Stressman**

Stressman elaborated on the 2012 Police Department Annual Report to Council.

MOTION by Mulvany, second by Droscha,  
to accept the Police Department 2012 Annual Report and place it on file.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**Discussion – Sister City, Vitina, Kosovo Exchange**

Clark stated that the Vitina, Kosovo contingent, Mayor Nexhmedin Arifi, Mr. Defrim Piraj, and Mr. Jakup Jahiri will be arriving March 30, 2013 and visiting through April 4, 2013. An itinerary of their visit will be determined.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence was distributed.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

- Ferris informed Council regarding Tree Commission business
- Brown informed Council regarding the Sesquicentennial Committee business
- Naeyaert informed Council regarding Planning Commission business
- Clark informed Council regarding Downtown Development Authority business

**COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

Council Member Brown stated that he recently passed an examination administered by the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP).

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Colburn informed Council regarding City business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

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Deborah J. Cwierniewicz, City Clerk

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Leon R. Clark, Mayor