

**CITY OF MASON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 1, 2013**

Clark called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan. Mulvany 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. Cwierniewicz, City Clerk
Eric Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer
John Sabbadin, Fire Department Lieutenant
Steven Armstrong, Fire Department Engineer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sesquicentennial Meetings – Regular meeting schedule is the second Monday of each month
- Community Dinner Welcoming Mason's Sister City Kosovo Contingent – April 3, 2013 – Mason First United Methodist Church

PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR

None.

PRESENTATION

Welcome Mayor Arifi and Contingent of Vitia, Kosovo, Sister City to City of Mason

Mayor Clark and Council welcomed Sister City visitors, Mayor Nexhmedin Arifi, Mr. Jakup Jahiri and Mr. Defrim Piraj to Mason, Michigan from Vitia, Kosovo. Clark commented briefly on the trip to Vitia that he, Martin Colburn, John Sabbadin, and Steve Armstrong took last October to deliver a fire truck, equipment, and supplies donated by the Mason community.

Mayor Arifi, accompanied by interpreter Defrim Piraj, expressed his great pleasure to be in Mason. He thanked Council and the community for the gift of the fire truck and life saving equipment for the citizens of Vitia. He thanked Council for their hospitality, and in closing, he thanked the Mayor and Council, the community, and in general, the United States, who gave a permanent contribution to all Albanian and Kosovo citizens, before, during and after the war with Serbia. He stated that the friendship of Kosovo citizens will be permanent; Albanian and Kosovo citizens have respect for all Americans and will for eternity.

Mayor Clark invited Mayor Arifi to sit with him to reaffirm the Sister City Twinning Agreement by reading the agreement in Albanian and English, followed by signing the agreement together, as they had done originally at the Vitia Municipal Assembly Meeting in October of 2012. At this time Mayor Clark presented Mayor Arifi with City Council Resolution No. 2012-30 – A Resolution to Form a City Alliance with the City of Vitia, Kosovo and a Key to the City. Mayor Clark also presented Mayor Arifi and Defrim Piraj with jackets embroidered with their name and the map of Michigan, depicting the City of Mason. Mayor Arifi presented a plaque to each, Mayor Clark and Mayor Pro Tem Naeyaert, depicting a map of Kosovo. Administrator Colburn was presented a plaque with the Vitina municipal emblem. They presented desk top flags, pens and date books for the Mayor to distribute.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Council Meeting: March 18, 2013
- B. Approval of Bills: \$69,775.28

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

REGULAR BUSINESS

Motion – Mason Lions Club – Use of Public Right-of-Way for White Cane Drive

Jennifer Jordan, Mason Lions Club Secretary, stated that The Mason Lions Club is requesting permission to use the public right-of-way for the annual White Cane Drive on the sidewalks of Mason.

Motion by Naeyaert, second by Brown,
to approve the Mason Lions Club's request to use the public right-of-way for their annual White Cane Drive on the sidewalks of Mason Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 as requested in the submitted letter.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held to utilize funds allotted for the Mayor Exchange program to reciprocate the 2012 visit to Kosovo with our Sister City visitors. The City has not participated in the program for a couple of years and the allotted funds have not been used.

MOTION by Mulvany, second by Droscha,
to pre-approve up to \$800 for Council activities during the month of April.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was distributed.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Ferris informed Council regarding Tree Commission business

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Colburn informed Council regarding City business. A brief discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Deborah J. Cwierniewicz, City Clerk

Leon R. Clark, Mayor