

**CITY OF MASON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 30, 2015**

Acting City Administrator Price called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in the Training Room at 201 West Ash Street, Mason, Michigan, 48854.

Present: Councilmembers: Brown, Bruno, Clark, Droscha, Ferris, Mulvany, Waltz
Absent: Councilmember: None
Also present: Patrick M. Price, Acting City Administrator
Deborah Stuart, City Administrator-Elect
Deborah J. Cwiertniewicz, City Clerk
Eric Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer

DISCUSSION

General Fund & Budget

Price stated that he feels that changes need to be made in the 2015/2016 Budget. He spoke about property tax and provided a hand out. He feels that there will be more separation between the State Equalized Value (SEV) and the Taxable Value in 2016. It is restricted by Proposal A and Headlee Amendment. He provided a handout of the Ingham County Apportionment Report for 2015, showing that Mason functions on the lowest city tax rate in the county. He stated that Mason has done very well with the millage it receives by the time the street millage, fire, and police are utilized. He feels that the remedy is securing property for development.

Pension Issue

Mr. Price informed Council regarding the MERS plan and how the contributions were made by AFSCME and the City when he worked for the city in the 1970's and the introduction of the B-Plan by MERS. Now, the B-Plan has been eliminated. Mr. Price suggested an equitable plan for the city and employee that would be beneficial to both parties.

A break was taken at 7:36 p.m. and discussion ensued at 8:01 p.m.

Motor Vehicle Pool Fund

Price recommended a plan to maintain the Motor Vehicle Pool Fund. He stated that trucks should be rotated and replaced every 3-4 years. A ten-year amortization should be followed. An analysis will be done for each piece of equipment. He feels that the proposal by Russ Whipple for fire truck purchases should be reviewed by Deborah Stuart and Eric Smith. Sidewalk replacement was discussed. Mr. Price stated that Great Lakes is conducting a study to see if it is feasible to construct sidewalks on the bridge overpass on West Columbia Street.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Deborah J. Cwiertniewicz, City Clerk

Michael F. Waltz, Mayor