



**Town of Mason**  
**Mayor & Board of Alderman**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday January 22, 2024, 6:34PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Eddie Noeman

**OPENING PRAYER:** Vice Mayor Carolyn Catron

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Eddie Noeman, Vice Mayor Carolyn Catron, Alderman Celia Chastain, Alderman Virginia Rivers, Alderman Alethea Harris, and Lureatha Harris Town Recorder  
(Alderman Shate' Toliver arrived at 6:33pm, and Alderman Mary Mason was absent)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Norma Davis, Office Manager; Ronda & Cortez Hughey, Financial Consultants; Elaine Allen & Benitra Harvey, IT Consultants; Rick Jewell, Chief of Police; Lt. Marvin Norfolk MPD; Tanner Jenkins, Fire Chief; and Terry Clayton City Attorney  
(Ricky Oakley with Civil Environmental Consultants attended via Zoom)

**VISITORS:** Margaret Adams, Paul Broughton, Michelle Broughton, Jon Snyder, Richard Marbury, Elizabeth Hayes, Robert Pelts, Ben Smith, Antionette Lacy, Arenia Williams, Cathy Johnson, Mary Thompson, Carolyn Anthony, Barbi Rogers, Daniel Rogers, Chris B. Felicia Edwards, Teresa McBride Burtis, Beatrice Bond, Tim Joyce, Ruby Kelly, Rachel Smith, Dexter Orman, Wita Todd, Lana Johnson, Mickey Johnson, Amanda Renner, Chris Renner, Echo Day, Faye Degraffreed, Jerry Degraffreed, Justin Sanders, Bret Whitley, Barbara Mitchell, Cameron hall, Larry lemons, Ken Bernard, Laloma Harris, and Michael Harris

Adoption of the Mayor and Board of Alderman Board Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023  
Alderman Alethea Harris made a motion to adopt the Mayor and Board of Alderman Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Chastain: vote passed 4-0

Adoption of the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2023  
Vice Mayor Catron made a motion to adopt the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2023, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Harris: vote passed 4-0

**No Board Meeting was held in December of 2023**

Adoption of the Town of Mason Special Call Board Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2024  
Alderman Harris made a motion to adopt the Town of Mason Special Call Board Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2024, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor Catron: vote passed 4-0

**Mayor Noeman Report:** Mayor Noeman "Thanked" Alliance, the staff at City Hall, Mason Fire Department, Blue Oval, the Community, Churches, Richard Marbury, Daniel Rogers, and the Alderman of Mason for their assistance and support during the state of emergency with the water crisis. Mayor Noeman included Governor Lee, Senator Paul Rose, Ms. Courtney Fee, and the Comptrollers regarding the emergency water crisis.



Ms. Lureatha Harris read the report that was submitted by Mr. Perry with Alliance, regarding repairs that were going on to correct the problems with the busted pipes/water lines.

Mr. Ricky Oakley with CEC discussed the 2024 Engineering Schedule for \$1.954 million TDEC ARP Projects. Mr. Oakley expressed that emergency connection with Poplar Grove Utilities is very critical. Mr. Oakley will work with Alliance to make the system more successful.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Sanitation Contract – Justin Sanders**

No performance bond/surety bond was provided by Mr. Sanders, as this was a request that was made prior by the Board of Alderman.

Mr. Jon Snyder, an Operations Manager with Waste-Pro was in attendance, and spoke about the sanitation service that's being provided on an expired contract with the Town. Mr. Snyder wanted to know where Waste-Pro stood in the process. The question arose as to what could be done differently with the service of Waste-Pro. Examples included drivers, technicians, and service for a better partnership.

Alderman Chastain made a motion to stick with Waste Pro, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Rivers: vote passed 4-1 (Alderman Harris voted no)

- **Town of Mason Retirement Plan Study**

Mr. Tim Joyce explained the TCRS retirement plan study to Mayor Noeman and the Board. Plan 3 is what the Board looked at, and it is the most affordable plan. TCRS is 3% of payroll cost for full-time employees, and its optional. Moving forward, newly hired full-time employees will be required to join the plan.

Benefits of TCRS, it provides benefits to current employees, and retention of employees. This would take effect April 1, 2024. Alderman Toliver made a motion to accept The TRCS Plan Resolution to take effect on April 1, 2024, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Rivers: vote passed 5-0

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Public Hearing Notice 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Rezoning of a 44 Acre Parcel**

Alderman Harris made a motion to not accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Rezoning of a 44 Acre Parcel, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Chastain: vote passed 4-1 (Alderman Toliver voted no)

Mr. Smith had concerns if there was a change in the neighborhood and if there was a need.

Alderman Harris mentioned that a contingency could not be put on the property.

- **Ethan Whitley – Report on Old Court House Building 12224 Main Street**

Mr. Ethan Whitley, provided a layout for mixed use development for the property located at 12224 Main Street. Kevin & Wendy Rosser is interested in purchasing the property at the above address for \$35,000. Mayor Noeman and the Board would like to have Attorney Clayton review the information before accepting. Alderman Rivers made a motion to allow Attorney Clayton to review before accepting the offer, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Toliver: vote passed 5-0



**City Attorney:** Terry Clayton, Esq. City Attorney

Attorney Clayton mentioned a lawsuit for property damage construction, regarding an auto accident at the entrance of the Richland Hills Subdivision. The policy limit of the owner is \$15,000, and that is the amount that the lawsuit was agreed for. Alderman Toliver made a motion to accept the \$15,000 dollar offer for the lawsuit, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Harris: vote passed 5-0

The Judge will file a late filing of the appeal bond with Barnett Restoration. There was no response from the subpoena for the bankers. The FBI was contacted and pending investigation.

The claim on Mason Charleston Rd. is being handled by the insurance company

**Economic & Community Development and Office Manager**

Norma Davis, Office Manager

This report was presented by Ricky Oakley

**HR Department**

Norma Davis, HR

Ms. Davis presented handouts of the employee handbook, and darkened areas for changes. Ms. Davis asked the Board members to submit comments and changes.

**Finance and Administration Department**

Ronda & Cortez Hughey Financial Consultants

Mrs. Hughey presented the bank reconciliations and bank statements for questions and review.

A Budget Amendment/Revision will be made since Alliance Contract was not in the Budget.

An adjustment will be needed for the water department.

Alderman Harris made a motion to accept the Finance and Administration Department Report, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor Catron: vote passed 3-2

(Alderman Rivers and Alderman Toliver voted no)

**Fire Department**

Tanner Jenkins, Fire Chief

Alderman Chastain made a motion to accept the Fire Department Report, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Toliver: (vote passed 5-0)

**Parks & Public Works Department**

Alliance

Report was read by Lureatha Harris

**Police Department**

Chief Richard Jewell

Chief Jewell spoke about needing more officers and better pay, Mayor Noeman said he would try to work on it. Alderman Toliver made a motion to accept the Police Department Report, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Harris: vote passed 5-0



**Mayor Noeman is requesting that all Board Members have (2 minutes to speak) and recognize one another by their titles**

**CONSTITUENTS/CONCERNS: (2 minutes)**

Margaret Adams reported a leak on Cottontail Street in the middle that constantly runs, and Alliance knows about it. Mayor Noeman said he will jump on the problem.

Teresa McBride Burtis questioned getting monies for fixing leaks, and stating that the monies need to be used only for water repairs. Alderman Harris assured Mrs. Burtis that the money was approved for \$1.8 million, but the funds have not been received.

Cathy Johnson has concerns about potholes across the railroad tracks. Alderman Rivers suggested placing big rocks in the potholes. Mayor Noeman will work with Mr. Neill and his engineer to assist with a bid packet to advertise for street paving.

**Mayor's Period:**

**ANOUNCEMENTS:**

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Alderman Rivers

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Alderman Harris made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor Catron: vote passed 5-0 (Meeting adjourned at 9:40PM)

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Eddie Noeman, Mayor

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Date

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Lureatha Harris, Town Recorder