



AGENDA – CEMETERY BOARD/TREE COMMISSION

February 5, 2020

Mason City Hall, Maple Room 2nd Floor, 11:00 a.m.

- 1. OATH OF OFFICE**
- 2. CALL TO ORDER – Cemetery Board**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. ELECTION OF LEADERSHIP**
 - A. Chair
 - B. Vice Chair
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Minutes:
 1. Approve Minutes of Cemetery Board meeting held on June 13, 2019
- 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. William G. Savage's proposal for a monument to be placed in the common areas of Maple Grove Cemetery in memory of John Taylor
 1. William G. Savage's Written Proposal – William G. Savage will be available to answer questions and provide more details regarding his proposal
 2. Cemetery Board's Next Steps in Regards to William G. Savage's proposal
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**
- 10. CALL TO ORDER – TREE COMMISSION**
- 11. ROLL CALL**
- 12. ELECTION OF LEADERSHIP**
 - A. Chair
 - B. Vice Chair
- 13. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A Minutes:
 1. Approve Minutes of Tree Commission meeting held on June 13, 2019
- 15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

16. NEW BUSINESS

A. Arbor Day 2020

1. Legal Notice for Seeking Arbor Day Nominees – Nominations due by Friday, February 28, 2020
2. Set next meeting date for selection of Arbor Day Recipient selection and presentation from Lucas Barnes and Betsy Collins regarding a tree planting project.

17. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF MASON
CEMETERY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2019**

Chair Brown called the Cemetery Board meeting to order at 1:40 p.m., in the Oak Room at 201 W. Ash Street

Board Members Present: Brown, Ferris
Absent Board Members: Shattuck
Also Present: Sarah J. Jarvis - City Clerk, Kirk Crawford – DPW Foreman, Levi Rice – DPW Foreman

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 23, 2019

MOTION by Ferris, second by Brown
to approve the May 23, 2019 Cemetery Board Minutes

MOTION APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discuss Opening/Closing Costs – Price Comparisons/City of Mason Cost Estimate

MOTION by Ferris, second by Brown
to amend the City of Mason, Maple Grove Cemetery Opening and Closing Rates by raising rates by \$100.00 effective July 1, 2019, and that rates will be \$675.00 (week days)/\$800.00 (Saturday) for Full-Burial Adult opening and closing; \$235.00 (week days)/\$300.00 (Saturday) for Infant/Child opening/closing; \$235.00 (week days)/\$300.00 (Saturday) for cremains opening/closing.

MOTION APPROVED

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Cemetery Board Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Sarah J. Jarvis, City Clerk
City Clerk

Outlook

New message

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Notes

ONSTAR

ORS

Upgrade to Office 365 with premium Outlook features

12/02/19 email: John Taylor Monument

Ms. Jarvis:

Since our last contact, I have been in touch with several monument manufacturers/retailers. The best price for what I'd like to see set up in Maple Grove Cemetery in Mason is Greater Lansing Monuments who are prepared to deliver a 36" tall by 26" wide vertical granite monument that sits on a separate base that measures 3' by 12" that they would put in. Price: \$2200 for the stone and lettering. They do their own lettering as per the wishes of the customer.

I would prefer to locate the marker in the common area of the cemetery. Is there any cost associated with this?

As for the wording on the monument and the significance to Mason and the site, I believe that the proposed language that I would like to see on the monument will address both questions (see below).

John Taylor

Born a slave in Kentucky ca. 1847.

Liberated by Union forces in 1864.

Enlisted in the 1st Mich. Colored Infantry: 1864.

Mustered out in 1865 and followed his unit to Mich.

Taylor was hired by Delhi Township farmer John Buck.

He quit his employ with Buck in 1866.

When Taylor unsuccessfully tried to collect back wages, he threatened Buck's family with an axe.

He was soon arrested and confined to the Ingham County jail in Mason.

Responding to unfounded rumors that Taylor had murdered Buck's family, on August 27, 1866 a mob seized Taylor and took him to the vicinity of the Mason train depot site and lynched and shot him and removed his head.

Taylor's remains were buried in an unmarked grave on the Hogsback north of town.

No one was successfully prosecuted for Taylor's murder.

He became Ingham County's only lynching victim.

I would be pleased to speak with the Cemetery Board and answer any questions. I believe that the above epitaph addresses the history of this tragedy and that this story needs to be told as it is a part of this community's history.

As for funding, I would like to know if any funding is available either from the city of Mason or Ingham County to offset the significant costs involved. I can meet with the Board at its convenience. As the weather would now be a factor, I suggest that no activity within the cemetery be undertaken until the spring of 2020, presuming that the above language is satisfactory and that the monument can be prepared, delivered and installed in accordance with the Cemetery Boards requirements.

Respectfully submitted:

William G. Savage

3110 W. Harper Rd.

Mason, MI 48854

Inbox

12/02/19 email: John ...

**CITY OF MASON
TREE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2019**

Commissioner Ferris called the Tree Commission meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., in the Oak Room at 201 W. Ash Street

Commissioners Present: Brown, Ferris
Absent Commissioners: Shattuck
Also Present: Sarah J. Jarvis - City Clerk, Kirk Crawford – DPW Foreman, Levi Rice-
DPW Foreman

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 23, 2019

MOTION by Brown, second by Ferris
to approve the May 23, 2019 Tree Commission Minutes

MOTION APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Kirk Crawford requested contacting the 2017 Arbor Day Nominee Robert Bryans about moving and/or replacing his Tulip tree to a different location than City Hall as it is not thriving in the soil at City Hall.

ADJOURN

Cemetery Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Sarah J. Jarvis, City Clerk
City Clerk



MASON TREE COMMISSION SEEKS NOMINEES FOR ARBOR DAY HONOREE

Since 1991, the City of Mason has observed Arbor Day during the last week of April by planting a tree in honor of a citizen or group who has made positive contributions to ecology.

The City of Mason Tree Commission is now seeking nominees for the person, business or group who will be honored at this year's April 24, 2020 celebration. Citizens are asked to submit letters of nominations by **Friday, February 28, 2020** to: Mason City Hall, Attn: Sarah Jarvis, 201 W Ash Street, Mason, MI 48854. The envelope should be clearly marked "Arbor Day Nomination."

The Tree Commission will make their selection of the 2020 honoree on the bases of their contribution to ecology in general, and promotion and preservation of trees in particular. Emphasis will be placed on selecting an individual or group who has made a significant contribution to the enhancement of the ecology in the City of Mason or Mason area.