

**CITY OF MASON  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020**

Sabbadin called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Sycamore Room 1<sup>st</sup> floor at 201 West Ash Street, Mason MI.

Present: Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
Absent: Wren (Notice given)  
Also Present: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director

**ELECTION OF LEADERSHIP**

Hude opened nominations for Chair.

Howe nominated Sabbadin for the position of chair. Droscha seconded.

Hude closed the nominations for Chair.

Sabbadin: Yes (8) Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
No (0)  
Absent (1) Wren

MOTION PASSED: Sabbadin confirmed as Chair

Hude opened nominations for Vice-Chair.

Droscha nominated Waxman for the position of Vice-Chair. Howe seconded.

Hude closed nominations for Vice-Chair.

Waxman: Yes (8) Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
No (0)  
Absent (1) Wren

MOTION PASSED: Waxman confirmed as Vice-Chair

Hude opened nominations for Secretary.

Droscha nominated Barna for the position of Secretary. Shattuck seconded.

Hude closed nominations for Secretary.

Barna: Yes (8) Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
No (0)  
Absent (1) Wren

MOTION PASSED: Barna confirmed as Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jack B. Carmichael, 519 S. Rogers St., Mason, where he has lived for 30 years, has a PhD in Physical Chemistry from MSU. He has spent the last 15 years as the principal environmental officer for the United Nations in Vienna, Austria and worked for 45 different countries. He was also a senior consultant to the FBI following 9/11 for 5 years. Mr. Carmichael has concerns about the Jordan Development Company gas well drilling project in Vevay Township. He provided a letter from the Mason Public Schools, written by Ron Drzewicki to Mark Snow, State of Michigan EGLE, regarding the high concentration of hydrogen sulfide that is in the well that could be physically toxic. He requested the Planning Commission write a letter in kind to Mark Snow of State of Michigan EGLE.

Barb Mastin, 1817 S. Edgar Rd., Mason, one of the many pickleball players in the community. She noted that Hayes Park was one of the top 3 parks used by the public from the survey results and requested that the tennis courts be resurfaced along with the basketball courts as they are in bad shape.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by Waxman second by Vercher, to approve the Planning Commission meeting minutes from December 10, 2019.

Yes (8) Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
No (0)  
Absent (1) Wren

**MOTION PASSED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Resolution 2020-01 Parks, Recreation and Non-Motorized Plan

Director Hude noted this is the final draft of the plan. There are some errors on page “i” that will be corrected and all of the comments that have come in since last week’s expiration date are incorporated into the document. Some modifications were made after discussion with DPW in regards to Hayes Park. The tennis courts would be recommended for major repairs or replacement as they have been continually patched for many years and the cracks get bigger and bigger.

Howe asked if the basketball courts were included in the repairs. Hude noted that they are mentioned on page 26 as being in need of resurfacing also.

MOTION by Waxman, second by Droscha, to approve Resolution 2020-01 Parks, Recreation, and Non-Motorized Plan.

Droscha suggested that when they do the repairs or replacement of the tennis courts at Hayes Park that they extend the courts an extra 2 feet for pickleball. Director Hude stated that on page 83 of the Capital

Improvement Program schedule Hayes Park design and plan park improvements is listed as priority number 9.

Barna asked if there is a Parks Commission. Hude noted that the Planning Commission handles everything. Barna asked if they could be provided more training or support for parks as she doesn't understand some of the more technical aspects of the plan. Director Hude made note to include Planning Commission when working with design firm. Waxman suggested that given the scope of the plan, the Planning Commission form a sub-committee to work on parks.

Sabbadin commented that he noticed on his drive through Middleville that they had signs everywhere showing where the high school, city hall and others important places were located within the town. He loved the signage and then when he received the packet, saw the inclusion for similar signage in Mason.

#### VOTE ON MOTION

Yes (8) Barna, Droscha, Howe, Perrault, Sabbadin, Shattuck, Vercher, Waxman  
No (0)  
Absent (1) Wren

#### MOTION PASSED

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### A. 2020 Meeting Schedule

Sabbadin noted the meeting schedule.

##### B. Citizen Planner Training (CPT) & C. Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) Training

Sabbadin noted that Director Hude would be presenting one of the workshops. Director Hude noted that a certificate is received for completing the Citizen Planner. MAP provides additional training opportunities for Commissioners that can't commit to CPT.

##### D. Capital Improvement Plan Joint Workshop

Hude noted that City Council wanted input as to a start time for the workshop. Council's suggestion was no earlier than 6:30pm. Commissioners suggested 7:00pm start time.

##### E. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of City of Mason Planning Commission in 2020

Hude asked for feedback on acknowledging the milestone. She noted that October is both National Planning month and the City Open House, and it may be nice to collect the names of all the Commissioners from the past and tie it in with the Master Plan. Droscha asked if there are records with everyone who has served. Hude replied that someone would need to go through old minutes to find that information.

Waxman noted that it is also the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the state legislation. He would like to see an online presence noting how Mason has changed over 75 years and how planning affects that. Director Hude asked if there would be any interest in forming a subcommittee to work with ideas for the anniversary. Sabbadin told the Commissioners to think about the request and let them know at the next meeting if there is interest.

**LIAISON REPORT**

Droscha shared that City Council passed the contract with ASME, the largest union, and renewed the City Manager's contract. Council also had a detailed discussion about the utility rate study that was conducted.

Sabaddin noted the City Manager's report and encouraged the Commissioners to read it.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:03 p.m.

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Anne Klein Barna, Secretary