



**Town of Mason  
Mayor & Board of Alderman  
Workshop Meeting Minutes for Finance  
Thursday, March 5, 2026, 6:36PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Eddie Noeman

**OPENING PRAYER:** Alderman Virginia Rivers

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Eddie Noeman, Alderman Trowanna Broadnax, Alderman Virginia Rivers, Alderman Mary Mason, Alderman Alethea Harris and Town Recorder Lureatha Harris (Alderman Carolyn Catron arrived at 7:02pm and Vice Mayor Reynaldo Givhan was absent)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Bobby Cannon and James Lewellen

**1. WORKSHOP MEETING AND Q&A FOR FINANCE REPORT.**

**Year 2024**

**Questions:** Alderman Harris, a check written 6-21-24, to Linnie Agnew for \$350, this was possibly a reimbursement for a bore fee. Celia Chastain \$490 Christmas stuff, Smores and More Mayor Noeman amount \$911.25 on 5-30-24, Mayor Noeman said he had receipts for everything. Checks dated 6-9-24 and 6-16-24 Elaine Allen, outstanding checks not cashed. The check numbers were 3941 and 3946 for 2K each, same check and same date. Vernetia said the payments were split from water & gas, different funds and that's how Ronda Hughey was doing it.

**Year 2025**

Alderman Mason questioned a payment for Dees Automotives \$85 on 6-26-25 Check number 6149 for \$98.34, to Mayor Noeman, which stated that he has all the receipts. A payment to Matalee Hall for \$850.53, from accounts payable, check number 6177, on 6-26-25 Alderman Harris said there was a total of 46 entries for Matt Hall totaling \$6,570, and non were payroll, it was accounts payable for equipment rental and fuel for the whole year of 2025 through 2026. Mayor Noeman said he would give the invoices, and Alderman Rivers said this was a conflict-of-interest if paying an employee and paying for equipment. June 25, 2025, a payment to Ditto Graphics \$150 and \$900 check numbers 3950 and 6173, Mayor Noeman said the \$150 was for ticket books. Alderman Mason questioned what does the town purchase from Hadad's and the answer was uniforms, and boots for Public Works.

Alderman Harris questioned a purchase of \$538.00 meals and entertainment. Alderman Harris said other charges over budgeted were 27K. Vernetia said it needs to be reallocated, stating that she used other charges, and will break it down in the ledger analysis.



Alderman Rivers questioned professional legal fees 7-25-25, for \$10,375 and asked who they were paid to and the answer was Attorney Bicks. Mayor Noeman said he would pull the records. Alderman Rivers questioned the office assistants receiving \$4,411.35 from the water department. Vernetia mentioned the office assistant Bettye Kirk and \$1,701 from the gas department, spent \$6,112.35, and stated that Bettye is under gas and water as an office assistant and April is paid from gas and water. Alderman Rivers questioned professional other fees \$1,000 under water. The pay is split between gas, water, and general. Professional fees are accounting fees to Ms. Evans. Ms. Evans last day was July of 2025, and she was paid August 22, 2025. Mayor Noeman said Ms. Evans was behind in her payments and is open to assist the town at 1K per month. Alderman Harris said Ms. Evans received a check for 6K and some dollars in August. Mayor Noeman repeated that Ms. Evans was behind on her payments and stated that she's not on payroll now, and he will pull the records.

Alderman Mason questioned who was Bryan Shumaker that was paid \$600 on 7-11-25. Vice Mayor Reynaldo Givhan was paid \$106.61, for a trip to Nashville for a possible TBOUR Meeting. Alderman Harris questioned 2 checks written on 8-8-25 for \$1,182.00, in one day to Johnnie Douglas for the same amount. Alderman Mason questioned what the town purchase from Amazon, the answer was cleaning supplies and office supplies. Alderman Rivers questioned a payment of 8K on 7-1-25 to David Owens, and Mayor Noeman said thus far the Town has paid \$39K for Thomas Burrell from the Election Commission, and the town owed \$50K. The check was voided because Mr. Burrell wanted the payment made from Tipton County Government. Alderman Mason questioned a payment of \$100.69 for Daryl Smith in August, this was a payment for work at the park. Ron Frazier received a payment of \$1,669 on 8-16-25, which was for repairs at City Hall for the air conditioning unit.

Alderman Harris had concerns of a payment of \$2,800 to David Wideman from accounts payable, Mayor Noeman said he would pull the records, and Vernetia said she believe the check got voided. Alderman Rivers questioned a payment for Reuben Meyer for \$5,500, and Vernetia said that was a payroll mistake and the payment was voided. Alderman Harris had concerns about Quality Tires- This would be where tires are purchased for the vehicles. Alderman Harris asked what is done with the old tires. There were two invoices for \$1,900 each and two for \$1,800, Alderman Harris questioned window tinting. Mayor Noeman mentioned two officers taking two different cars and stated that he didn't authorize it. Alderman Harris questioned if this was a requirement by law. Mr. Lewellen spoke of not paying by service authorization, and Mayor Noeman said Lt. Antle took the dodge truck for window tinting without his authorization.

Alderman Rivers had concerns of the Police Department having nice pursuit tires.

Alderman Mason spoke of 9-2-2025, Labtronix Inc. for \$1598, Vernetia said she would check on it. Alderman Harris questioned \$600 for Kelly Septic, this was for the Mason Jubilee, for porta potties. Alderman Rivers had concerns in October 2025, for some substantial amounts in other charges. Alderman Rivers questioned check number 4048 for training in the Fire Department for \$351.66 and who went to training because it showed as accounts payable, and the Fire



Department was furloughed in October. Alderman Harris said the Fire Department was furloughed on October 17, 2025.

### **Donations**

Alderman Mason questioned a donation of \$105, stating that it must come before the Board. Donations were \$300, \$40, \$120, and \$3500 from 9-11-25.

Alderman Rivers had concerns regarding transfers from water to general 10-31-25, for \$10,733.75 entered and corrected. Vernetia said corrections were made with the proper amounts, and these were keying errors. Alderman Harris questioned a payment of \$9K and some dollars, and Mayor Noeman said he gave Attorney Patterson Bray an advance of payment one month ahead. The invoice was received in February, but no invoice was received for January and the payment showed due for January through March. Mayor Noeman said there were no extra fees because Vernetia sent January and February invoices.

Alderman Rivers questioned November wages for the Fire Department of \$6,992.94 and stated that the Fire Department was furloughed with two people for no re-hire. Vernetia mentioned holiday pay, and said the pay showed in November. Alderman Harris said they were paid on 11-5-25, and 11-19-25 receiving the same amount of pay. Cheryl Wideman received \$536 from accounts payable for reimbursement receipts. Alderman Rivers said the pay should have been set by the Board. Mayor Noeman said the money was in the budget, and Alderman Rivers said all pay must come before the Board.

Alderman Harris said Cheryl Wideman was never the Fire Chief, and Alderman Rivers mentioned violating state laws, and nothing being allocated in the budget. Alderman Harris said the Board job is to do the budget, and know whether the employees are part-time, or full-time to put in the budget, and not knowing what employees are being paid. Alderman Rivers said no employees are to be hired without coming before the Board. The Resolution was passed and not knowing what to put in the budget. Alderman Rivers questioned a payment of \$1,514.74 in November to Cheryl Wideman, and the department was furloughed. Alderman Rivers voiced concerns of the Board making proper financial budget decisions, stating that the Board can dismiss without the pay being approved by the Board. Mayor Noeman said he would have an answer by the next Board Meeting.

Alderman Harris said money being paid that's not approved, decisions need to replace the money not being in the budget. Alderman Rivers said Reuben Meyer was paid on November 19, 2025, and December of 2025, and stated that they were fired with no re-hire. Alderman Rivers said Reuben was being paid throughout December and January. Alderman Rivers spoke to Vernetia as a warning that the Comptrollers spoke to the Board, and the Board can pull the money; noting that purchase orders are required and making certain money is in the budget. Alderman Mason mentioned that December 31<sup>st</sup> information was needed for the Auditors. Mayor Noeman said Mr. Hearn and Ms. Evans were given everything requested and they will communicate with the state. Vernetia said FY25 falls under Ms. Evans. The cover sheet comes from Vernetia. Mayor Noeman said he's waiting on the MDA (Management Discussion Analyst) from Ms. Evans.



Alderman Rivers has concerns that this would affect the grants, and the town could be denied things by not being up to par. Alderman Harris mentioned the ARP and could have the grant pulled if Utility Training is not up-to-date, and the town could be fined \$15K.

Vernetia said holiday pay was paid to Hannah and Reuben because they worked on the holiday, and they have six months to be paid. Holiday pay for December was \$700 and \$600. Alderman Rivers and Alderman Harris questioned if Reuben and Hannah got paid for working during the inclement weather. Mayor Noeman said someone else will pay TEMA or FEMA and not the town. **(Alderman Catron left the meeting at 7:47pm)**

Alderman Rivers said they were not supposed to drive any of the towns' vehicles and mentioned this being a liability to the town if there was an accident.

Alderman Mason questioned Big Butch Service for \$365.44, on 12-12-25.

Alderman Harris said Ms. Davis has a couple of invoices which were possible reimbursements and things were not supposed to be purchased like that.

Baba Quick Mart- Gas was purchased for the police officers because the gas tanks were locked. Alderman Rivers said Reuben got two checks 12-16-25 for \$675.09 and was not supposed to be getting paid. January 12, 2026, was a partial payment for water and gas, Vernetia said the whole total was paid. Alderman Rivers questioned paying Ms. Elaine, and Mayor Noeman said he wants to make sure everything is right. Mayor Noeman has requested a copy of Ms. Elaine contract.

### **Core Civic**

Alderman Rivers mentioned the bank statement for Core Civic and amend the budget to reflect the monies received and used for capital assets, and knowing what's being paid out of it. The money is to be used for capital assets, Mayor Noeman said he would be getting with the Comptrollers about it. Mayor Noeman said he wants to use the money for equipment, roads and not for payroll. Mayor Noeman said he wants to improve the town and equipment. Alderman Harris spoke about capital assets and not spending the money on payroll. This needs to be shown in the budget as revenue funds for the town as grant funding.

Alderman Rivers questioned the \$3,500 grants funds not showing in the Police Department, Vernetia said it was put in the grant funds. Alderman Harris asked Mr. Lewellen if the \$3500 was not put in the line item and accepted by the Board. Mr. Lewellen said it depends on the conditions of the grant; money spent on something that was not spent. Alderman Harris said that applies for the smaller donations; the Board is required to approve all donations, because all donations must be accounted for and amend the Budget. The Board would like to amend the Ordinance at the next Board Meeting.

Alderman Mason requests a copy of the credit card statements and questioned who get the T-Shirts for the town.



**2. WORKSHOP AND DISCUSSION FOR FY26 BUDGET.** (Discussed above)

**3. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON THE STATUS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.**

Bobby Cannon gave updates and a punch list of items; the hydraulic ladder rack won't come down. Move forward with the pump test and ladder test, and there's rust on the aerial truck.

FEMA Office shutdown due to cutbacks and Mr. Cannon has been in contact with Alderman Rivers about it. Fire Chief interviews proposals were sent to the Board, and this was built to build on to later. There were five Volunteer applications that has not been looked at. Mr. Cannon suggests advertising and reposting on the Website and assessing it once we have a pool of people. Alderman Rivers questioned the Mutual Aid Agreement, Mr. Cannon is waiting on Mayor Huffman to return from Washington DC, and Curtis can look at a cost for the small rack.

Curtis is certified to work on the vehicles and he's cheaper whether wire or pump.

Alderman Rivers want to clarify and make certain that the Fire Department can still get grants, and she's working on it. Mr. Cannon said FEMA offices are cut back, and they're closed and they want to see receipts of money awarded and purchased in the grant.

Mr. Lewellen said video recordings of Meetings are used as Public Record and the Public is entitled to it as a Public Record.

**\*\*NO OTHER BUSINESS WILL BE DISCUSSED\*\*\***

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Alderman Virginia Rivers

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Mayor Noeman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Broadnax: All agreed (Meeting adjourned at 8:14PM)

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Eddie Noeman, Mayor

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Date

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Lureatha Harris, Town Recorder