

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
October 28, 2024**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Ayer, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Van Stone and Mr. York.

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer, to excuse the absences of Mr. Bartlett and Mrs. Brownknight. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Minutes:

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone, to approve the minutes as written for the Council Meeting October 14, 2024. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone, to approve the minutes as written for the Special Meeting of Council October 24, 2024. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: September 2024 Monthly Report

*From Council Member Ayer: (5) Boulder for Landscaping Mariemont Connector. Not to Exceed \$5,000 (\$5,000 Donation from Tri-State Trails). Mr. Ayer said the Garden Club agreed to develop a landscape plan for beds to be installed in strategic places. These plans will not interfere with traffic, visibility, or the long-term Tree Advisory Board Plan for street trees. It will also maintain the large open green play area. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mr. York to approve the spending request. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Dr. Lewis asked to see the plans. Mr. Ayer said he will forward the plans to Council.

Permission to Address Council:

Ms. Stacy Shelton, 6948 Murray Avenue, was granted permission to address Council. She stressed there is a lot of pedestrian and bike traffic on Murray Avenue, leaving little room for parking. There are 25 parking spaces in the area which is not adequate. She understands that the bike path has been discussed in the area. With the work done by Columbia Township, she looked at the Auditor's web site and asked Council to consider widening the street and making more parking spaces. She estimates there is room for 7-12 more spaces. It is hard for cars to pass each other, especially if box delivery trucks are on the street. At the very least, she asked that the curbs be repaired. She would also ask that Council look at doing something with the six-way intersection when the path discussions occur.

Mayor Brown said the Village has general intentions to connect the Murray Path with the Mariemont Connector. It will run along Murray Avenue. He would suspect during the planning phase that parking concerns would be addressed. Restriping and repainting parking spots is certainly a possibility – he will look at the area with the Building Official.

Ms. Ellen Georgillis, 6754 Fieldhouse Way, was granted permission to address Council. She is aware that members of Council have been involved in the restoration/upkeep of the Concourse. She understands the trellis work is underway and thanked Mayor Brown for his contribution to this project. She understands that the wisteria had to go and that tuckpointing is in order for the foundation. We will need to relook at the trees in the area and other options for wisteria. She thanked everyone who has worked on the project. With that being said, she feels the project has gone on too long. Council did agree not too long ago that the number one project in the Village is the Concourse. She would like to see Council develop an encompassing plan and hire a landscape

architect as a project manager. Her request is that Council add a line in the budget to appropriate funds to get the project done in a timely fashion. It is a Village crown jewel, but in the current state, it is an embarrassment.

Mayor Brown said the idea of an overall comprehensive plan is something Council should discuss.

Ms. Julie Ackerman, Student at Mariemont High School was granted permission to address Council, She asked how someone would approach Council with a question or concern. Mayor Brown said anyone can attend a Council meeting as it is an open public meeting. During the Permission to Address Council, individuals are granted 3 minutes to discuss any concerns, thoughts, ideas etc. No written permission is required and the individual does not need to be a Mariemont resident.

Mr. Jeff Harman, 3739 Indianview Avenue, was granted permission to address Council. He wanted to give his support to the proposed plans for Dogwood Park trail development. His young family uses the park regularly and most young families would find the trail worthwhile and a nice amenity. Mayor Brown encouraged Mr. Harman to attend an upcoming public meeting to further discuss the project.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer, to approve the bills. Mr. York said the strategic tree removal work at the Concourse has been completed and asked for it to be removed from the Health and Recreation Committee. Mr. York and Mayor Brown are going to look at the options for light fixtures at the island. Mr. York said it has been 14/16 months and we have yet to pay Envision a dime. Dr. Lewis said we should be finished with the project in a couple of weeks. The proposal states there will be 13 deliverables – will the report state those? Dr. Lewis said some of the deliverables were deviated due to the Pease Brothers Grant. A detailed invoice will be submitted with the report. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to remove the Rules and Law report from the table. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

In attendance; Mayor Bill Brown, Chief Rick Hines, Councilperson Matt Ayer, Councilperson Marcy Lewis, Building Administrator Rod Holloway, Resident Matt Painter, Resident Doug Zemke & Councilperson Susan Brownknight. The Rules and Law Committee met September 3, 2024, from 6:03 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and discussed Village parking and accessory structures. Below are the outcomes of the conversation:

Parking:

Rear access pads: We recommend that the Village further refine rear access pad standards as we want to ensure that rear access pads are designed to allow a 10ft passage abutting the road.

RV Parking: Relax the rear lot standard to include the entire rear yard.

Trailers: We recommend we update the ordinance to clarify that vehicles with attached trailers cannot be left on the street unattended for longer than 2 hours. Trailers left unattached and trailers attached should not be left overnight on the street (this situation will require permitting). Additionally, we recommend that we update the code to require unattached trailers to be parked in the rear yard.

Front parking pads: We recommend enforcing our ordinance that states no front parking pads. The Village will be trending away from front parking pads with street projects that include installing curbs. We encourage residents to restore the right-of-way abutting their property if this area is no longer in use.

Driveways: We recommend that driveway standards should remain unchanged.

Accessory Structures:

Accessory structures: We must strengthen the code to ensure accessory structures are not habitable spaces. Additionally, we recommend that we define a minimum separation between habitable spaces. We recommend 10ft. separation between the principal residence and the detached structure.

Garage Height: We recommend we leave the 15ft. for one car garage and allow up to 18ft. for 2 or 3 car garages. This change is driven by the pitch of the roof and aesthetics. Further we recommend defining garages as only one-story structures that are permitted to have an attic for storage. We recommend we limit the size of the accessory structures. Accessory structures will either maintain the 30% of rear yard or be limited up to 576sq-ft for lots up to 50 ft wide. We recommend accessory structures must be in the rear yard. For lots bigger than 50ft, cap the accessory structure at 864 sq-ft. Currently people can put an accessory structure within 3 feet of their property line, however, any structure above 15ft, it is recommended be 6ft away from the property line and the structures maxes out at 18ft. tall.

Proposed regulation: When the accessory structure exceeds 200 square feet, the architectural board must approve the design. We would need to update the Architectural Review Board's code.

Street to street lot: We recommend updating the accessory structure code for street to street and corner lots, standards to be recommended by the zoning officer.

Building Official Holloway recommended the report should read..."Additionally, we recommend that we define a minimum separation between the habitable space and the accessory structure". He also said that there are words in the code that refer to unattended and we are trying to clarify what "unattended" means. He is working with the Village Solicitor on change specifics to the Village Code of Ordinances. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to amend the report to include 'the habitable space and the accessory structure'. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to accept the amended report. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

The Public Works & Service Committee met on October 22, 2024, at 7:02 PM. In attendance were the Committee Chairperson Bob Van Stone, Committee Members Randy York and Rob Bartlett and Mayor Bill Brown. The sole agenda item was the trash bid. Rumpke was the only supplier that responded to the Village's request for bids. Fiscal Officer Kelly Rankin opened the bid last week and Rumpke provided 2 options to the Village. Both were a bid for 2025 and options to extend the bid for 2026 and 2027. This structure was selected by the Village to permit a cooperative bid with the Center for Local Government starting in 2026. The costs are shown at the end of the report. The Committee preferred the alternate bid (right column) due to both the lower cost for 2025 and the total cost for the 3-year period. The initial bid increases the costs for the later years by 3% annually while the alternate bid increases those costs by 4% annually. There is no reported difference in service between the 2 bids. The Committee tabled the issue to more fully understand the contract pending a legal review and looking at the electronic copy of the bid which will be supplied by Rumpke. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

	Rumpke bid	Rumpke Alternate bid
2024	301,762	301,762
2025	356,745	344,154
2026	367,447	357,920
2027	378,471	372,237
2025 increase	54,983	42,392
percent	18.2%	14.0%
2025-27 cost	1,102,663	1,074,311

The Committee wanted to clarify the amount and that there would not be any change in service and that the contract/bid was reviewed by the Village Solicitor. His understanding is that all requests have been completed. Mr. Van Stone said he would call another meeting to make the recommendation. After discussion, Council did not believe it needed to go back to the Committee, since the Solicitor has reviewed the contract. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to amend the report last sentence to read “Therefore, the Committee recommends approval of the alternate bid after confirming with the Village Solicitor its acceptability”. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to accept the amended report. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

- Leaf Season will run through the end of 2024. As a reminder, please do NOT rake leaves into the street. Fiscal Officer Rankin emphasized the importance of keeping leaves out of the streets to keep the storm drains from getting clogged up and costing the Village a lot of money.
- Beggar’s Night will be Thursday October 31, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- December Council Meeting will be held Monday December 16, 2024, beginning immediately after the end of the Capital Improvement Meeting which starts at 5:30 p.m. Monday December 16, 2024.

Resolutions:

“To Reappoint Steve Pipkin as a Non-Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-67-24 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Marianne Prue as a Non-Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-68-24 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Larry Gray as a Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a third reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-69-24 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Mary Beth York as a Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Years 2025 and 2026” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-70-24 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Margaret Jevic as a Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Years 2025 and 2026” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-71-24 was adopted.

“To Appoint Scott Remer as a Non-Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a first reading. Mrs. Van Pelt said she believes the agenda showed the incorrect reading.

“To Appoint Marsha Lindner as a Non-Voting Member of the Tree Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Scott Hamlin as a Member of the Audit Committee for Calendar Years 2025 and 2026” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-72-24 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Kevin Taylor as a Member of the Mariemont Racquet Club Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-73-24 was adopted.

“To Appoint Kim Beach as a Member of the Mariemont Racquet Club Board for the Calendar Year 2025” had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“To Supplement Ordinance No. O-15-24 Annual Appropriation Ordinance; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Fiscal Officer Rankin said this is to appropriate an additional \$20,000 for police salaries/uniforms and \$7,000 for the Building Department. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York to invoke the emergency Clause. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-16-24 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Kelly I. Rankin, Fiscal Officer