

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
February 13, 2023**

Mayor Bill Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Mrs. Brownknight, Ms. Geldbaugh, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin, and Mr. York.

Mr. York moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to accept the minutes as written from the Special Meeting of Council February 2, 2023, and the Committee of the Whole Meeting February 6, 2023. Mr. York noted on the Council Meeting from January 23, 2023, the discussion on the pool should read \$1820.00 not \$820.00. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: January 2023 Monthly Report/2022 Annual Report. Chief Hines said theft was up a bit, but the department maintained a high closure rate. Mr. York asked that the annual recap be posted to the website.

*From Assistant Fire Chief Copeland: January 2023 Monthly Report

*From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: January 2023 Monthly Report/2022 Annual Report/Spending Request Form for tree work and truck repair. Mr. York asked about the new lights at the Bell Tower. Superintendent Scherpenberg said the Village replaced the light which was damaged by a fallen tree limb which also damaged part of the fence. The light was placed on the shed because there was no pole at the batting cage. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to approve the \$18,000 tree work spending request (which was budgeted) and \$6200.00 for truck repairs. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. York said the gateway signs are up and the centennial signs hopefully will go up this week. Mrs. Rankin noted that the report should omit the awarding of the mowing contract to GrasCor.

*From Tax Administrator Barlow: January 2023 Monthly Report. He said the monthly projection would have been made but timing issues had payments come in on February 3, 2023.

*From Building Official Holloway: January 2023 Monthly Report. He reported that it was a good month with two big projects, both by Spinnenweber Builders. The Quarter is undergoing a kitchen renovation and will be closed for approximately 30 days. Eight of the nine building inspections were first time applicants. Mayor Brown referred the matter of Building Fee Assessments to the Public Works and Service Committee.

*From Fiscal Officer Ford: December 2022 Monthly Report

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to pay the bills. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which met on Thursday February 2, 2023, at 4:00 pm. Present at the meeting were Safety Committee members Leah Geldbaugh (Chair), Rob Bartlett (Vice Chair), Randy York (Member), Mayor Bill Brown, John Scherpenberg, Chris Ertel, Dave Meyer, Chuck Barlow and multiple residents.

This report amends the recommendation made by the Safety Committee on January 18th, 2023, regarding no left turn from Plainville Road onto Wooster Pike. After further discussion with residents, Chris Ertel and Dave Meyer the Safety Committee has decided to not allow a left turn from Plainville Road onto Wooster Pike from Monday to Saturday during the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am and 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Solicitor McTigue will prepare the necessary legislation with an emergency clause.

The Health and Recreation Committee met on Monday February 13, 2023, at 5:30pm. Present at the meeting were Health and Recreation Committee members Randy York (Chair), Susan Brownknight (Vice-Chair), Leah Geldbaugh (Member) and Mayor Bill Brown. Also in attendance were Village Engineer Chris Ertel and Tax Administrator Chuck Barlow, and Maintenance Supervisor John Scherpenberg.

Bids have been opened for the 2023 Tennis Court Rehabilitation project.

The bids are as follows:

J.K. Meurer Corp. \$ 169,823.30
Cincinnati Asphalt \$ 207,179.30
Neyra Paving \$ 212,059.80

The Engineer's estimate was \$160,000.

The Committee selected the bid of JK Meurer Corp. As it was the lowest and the Village has contracted with J.K. Meurer Corp for several projects in the last 10 years. They performed well on all of them. The project was bid with alternates. The base bid contained Courts 1 and 2 for \$72,365.20. Courts 3 and 4, was \$63,655.10. Court 7 was \$33,803.00. The Committee recommended that the Village contract JK Meurer to complete the rehabilitation of courts 1-4 for a total of \$136,020.30. This bid is over the \$130,000 allocated in the 2023 capital improvement budget so the difference would need to be reconciled. The Village has been negotiating with the Mariemont School district for a contribution based upon the percent use by the school district and it is hoped that this can make up the difference. The Committee requests an annual report and 3-5 projection from the Mariemont Tennis Association. The Committee further recommends that the solicitor prepare the necessary legislation.

Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to amend the report to read the Committee recommends the Village contract JK Meurer to complete the rehabilitation of courts 1-4 for a total of \$136,020.30 contingent upon the passage and written commitment of \$25,000 from the Mariemont School District. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to amend the report to read the Committee requests an annual financial and membership report from the Mariemont Tennis Association. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the report as amended. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

- Annual Outstanding Citizen Award nominations are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by March 16, 2023
- Village Offices will be Closed Monday February 20, 2023, in Observation of Presidents' Day
- Mr. York moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to nominate Mrs. Rankin and Dr. Lewis as representatives to the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Resolutions:

"To Reappoint Leah Geldbaugh as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024" had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-2-23 was adopted.

"Resolution Creating a New Fund for Opioid Settlements" had a first reading.

“Resolution to Update Swimming Pool Fees and to Include Non-Resident Mariemont School District Membership Fees” had a first reading.

“Resolution to Update 2023 Season Rates for Garden Plots” had a first reading.

“To Confirm the Reappointment of Christopher M. Ertel as Village Engineer for Calendar Years 2023 and 2024; and To Set Compensation” had a first reading.

“To Confirm the Reappointment of Elissa Wendler as Part-Time IT Administrator for Calendar Years 2022 and 2023; and To Set Compensation” had a first reading.

“A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into an Agreement for Retail Electric Service Provider Through the Center for Local Government Electricity Consortium” had a first reading.

“To Authorize Adoption of a Premium Only Insurance Plan” had a first reading.

Engineer Ertel said he would contact JK Meurer regarding the tennis court resurfacing and ask them to proceed and place the Village on the list while waiting for the written agreement with the school district. Amending the Resolution to enter into contract with JK Meurer was discussed. Council agreed that Fiscal Officer Ford should review the contract before passing the Resolution entering into contract. It was further agreed to hold a Special Meeting of Council later in the week.

Ordinances:

“To Delete Section 150.18 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a third reading. Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-1-23 was adopted.

“To Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village of Mariemont, State of Ohio, During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Barlow brought to Council’s attention that the Ordinance appropriates \$130,000 for the tennis court repair not \$136,020.30. It was uncertain if extra monies were appropriated. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. Geldbaugh and Dr. Lewis were concerned about adopting the Ordinance if the money was not properly allocated as Fiscal Officer Ford has stressed to Council. Council has not yet committed to spending the \$136,020.30. After discussion, Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to table the Ordinance and pass it at the Special Meeting of Council. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

“To Delete Sections 150.01 (B)(5) and 151.075(H)(2)(k)(1) of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a first reading.

“To Delete Section 151.075(H)(2)(i) of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a first reading.

“To Repeal Ordinance No. O-7-22 Pertaining to Maximum Pay Rates for All Grades of Recreation Employees and To Enact New Legislation Pertaining to Maximum Pay Rates for all Grades of Recreation Employees” had a first reading.

“To Amend Ordinance O-29-22 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees” had a first reading.

Task List:

Mayor Brown updated Council on the matter of the parking lot lights. He spoke with Scott Malone who is heading up the construction project for Spinnenweber Builders. He re-related to Mr. Malone the issue of the big lights on the back of the theater who is going to look into the matter. Mayor Brown will update the resident who complained by email.

Ms. Geldbaugh provided an update on the park benches. She got the quote for ordering 2 benches. There are a handful of benches that are beyond repair. A list is being prepared of those that can be cleaned. The hope is to buy 5 benches per year. Mr. York suggested getting public input on the benches. Mayor Brown would like to see a picture of the bench once weathered. Ms. Geldbaugh said she will send pictures to Council.

Ms. Geldbaugh thanked the Fire Department for putting the windows in at the pump house at the swim pool. The process of interviews will begin shortly, and they have a candidate for the swim coach.

Mrs. Van Pelt will send out an email regarding the date and time for the Special Meeting of Council.

Mr. Bartlett said he and Mr. York have been contacted by some of the people who participated in the strategy session asking where it is. In October at the Committee of the Whole meeting Council agreed to post the extra summary online. When asked why it had not yet been posted, it was because Dr. Lewis had questions. Dr. Lewis said she had some concerns with the cover letter. If it has been changed, she has not seen it. Mrs. Rankin said she will send the summary to Dr. Lewis.

Chief Hines said the police car ordered last year through Beechmont Ford has not yet been built. It will be time in the next month or so to order another car for this year. He contacted Joseph Chevrolet about the chance of getting a Chevrolet Tahoe. His understanding is the price difference could be \$14,000 more than last year's price.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Richard D. Ford, Fiscal Officer