

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
January 10, 2022**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:35 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Mrs. Brownknight, Ms. Geldbaugh, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin, and Mr. York.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the minutes of December 20, 2021, as written. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Mayor Brown welcomed the two new members of Council, saying he looked forward to a healthy and prosperous year. He reminded Council members to adhere to the agenda and not discuss issues that are not listed on the agenda.

From Police Chief Hines: December 2021 Monthly report. Mayor Brown complimented the officers of the department for the good works they do, especially around the holidays, performing random acts of kindness. There was even mention about this on the news.

From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: December 2021 Monthly Report. Mr. Scherpenberg said they have already started picking up Christmas trees. He said they will continue doing so as long as needed.

From Tax Administrator Darrah: December 2021 Monthly Report. Fiscal Officer Borgerding stated the total deposits this year were much higher than last year like we expected because last year we were way down due to COVID. It's good to see it back up to where it should be. It is going in the right direction.

From Rod Holloway: Building Department 2021 Monthly Report. Mayor Brown commented that things are busy around the Village with people taking out building permits for remodeling. Mr. Holloway said he is having some trouble getting information from the utility companies. He also asked that recognition be given to Bob Van Stone for the number of volunteer hours he continues to put in.

From Assistant Fiscal Officer Wendler: December 2021 Monthly Report/Revenue Summary/Appropriation Summary. Mr. Borgerding explained that the General Fund balance would be a couple of thousand dollars higher, but they had put some money in reserve for police salaries to hold that fund over until revenue from the Safety Services levy came in. That usually happens in April or May.

Mayor Brown asked for nominations for Vice Mayor for 2022. Mr. York asked if there could be a brief description of the duties of the Vice Mayor and for it to be made clear that it is for one year only and this would be done next January, too. He suggested they go around and give each Council member the opportunity to say if they were interested in being Vice Mayor or not. Mayor Brown explained that the Vice Mayor would step in if something happened to him or if he were to be on vacation. The Vice Mayor also conducts any Committee of the Whole meetings. Dr. Lewis said that she feels her experience as a physician has shown that she works well under pressure. While on Council, she has enjoyed the opportunities she has had to work with the public and would consider it an honor to serve as Vice Mayor. Mr. York nominated Dr. Lewis as Vice Mayor for 2022, seconded by Mrs. Rankin. On roll call: five ayes, no nays, with Dr. Lewis abstaining. Dr. Lewis thanked everyone for their confidence in her.

Mr. Terry Gaines, 3901 West Street, Mariemont, Ohio, said he is a resident of Emery Park and some of the residents there are concerned about Council possibly prohibiting parking on West Street. He suggested an alternative of having limited parking in the mornings and afternoons when the school buses are going by. He told the other residents that he would speak to Council about it. He asked if Council would take another look at it. Solicitor McTigue said Council was to vote tonight on an ordinance that would prohibit parking on West Street. He explained that former Council member Avia Graves had looked at the situation very thoroughly and had spoken with several residents. It was only after a lot of discussion that the decision was made to prohibit parking altogether. He asked Mr. Gaines to let the residents know that it had been looked at very closely and very thoroughly.

“An Ordinance To Make Temporary Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village of Mariemont, State of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022” Fiscal Officer Borgerding

explained that in order to spend money, we have to appropriate it first. He said he had met with Finance Committee Chairman Bartlett, Mrs. Wendler, and the representative from the new software to work on this. We are going through a new process with the new software in hopes of being able to avoid doing many supplemental appropriations at the end of the year. He will be working with Mr. Bartlett in the next few months to establish a temporary holding account that can be allocated to different departments as needed. It would be a contingency fund. The ordinance had a first reading. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call: six ayes, no nays. The ordinance had a second and third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the ordinance. On roll call: six ayes, no nays. Ordinance O – 1 – 22 was adopted.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Mayor Brown made the following miscellaneous announcements:

Appointment by Council of Member to Planning Commission. After discussion, Mrs. Geldbaugh was nominated to the Planning Commission unanimously by Council.

Appointment by Council of Member to Architectural Review Board. Dr. Lewis said she would like to remain on ARB especially since there are some issues that the committee had started on but had not yet finished. On roll call: six ayes, no nays. Mayor Brown said he would like to have a seventh member on ARB.

Mrs. Rankin and Mr. York volunteered for the position to serve on the Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund. All members of Council approved.

Annual Outstanding Citizen Award Nominations are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by March 10, 2022

Preparing for Village Strategy Session. Mr. Bartlett explained that he and Mrs. Rankin and Mr. York had met to discuss how to go about creating a committee of residents, property owners, business owners, and other interested parties to get input from a broad demographic about issues to be focused on. He asked members of Council to put together a list of names of those who might be interested in participating and speak with them about it. It was his best estimate that the entire project should take about six hours of the participants' time.

Mayor Brown said appointments to the six committees of Council needed to be made for the year. After much discussion, the committee assignments were made as follows:

SAFETY

Leah Geldbaugh-Chairman
Rob Bartlett-Vice Chairman
Randy York-Member

FINANCE

Rob Bartlett-Chairman
Marcy Lewis-Vice Chairman
Kelly Rankin-Member

PLANNING/ZONING/ECON DEVELOPMENT

Marcy Lewis-Chairman
Leah Geldbaugh-Vice Chairman
Susan Brownknight-Member

RULES & LAW

Susan Brownknight-Chairman
Kelly Rankin-Vice Chairman
Marcy Lewis-Member

HEALTH & RECREATION

Randy York-Chairman
Susan Brownknight-Vice Chairman
Leah Geldbaugh-Member

PUBLIC WORKS

Kelly Rankin-Chairman
Randy York-Vice Chairman
Rob Bartlett-Member

Resolutions:

"To Appoint Betsy Bybee as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2022 and 2023" had a second reading.

"To Reappoint John Bentley as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for the Calendar Years of 2022 & 2023" had a second reading.

"To Appoint Matt Ayer as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for the Calendar Year of 2022" had a first reading.

"To Authorize Adoption of a Premium Only Insurance Plan" (For Health Savings Account) had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“Ordinance Amending Section 151.04 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances Regarding Fence Construction” It was pointed out that this ordinance had been tabled since July 2021. Mr. York clarified that the ordinance was regarding the use of chain link fencing in the Village. Solicitor McTigue said he needed to review the issue. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to remove the matter from the table. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mayor Brown referred the matter to the Planning & Zoning Committee.

“To Amend Section 79, Schedule I of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances To Include No Parking On West Street Between Thorndike and Madisonville Road” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the ordinance. On roll call: six ayes, no nays. Ordinance O – 2 – 22 adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer