

**Village of Mariemont
Regular Council Meeting
December 19, 2022**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Mrs. Brownknight, Ms. Geldbaugh, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin and Mr. York.

Mayor Brown read and presented to Ashley Crosh, Jess Evans and Becca Hlad of the MPPG a proclamation for working so diligently on the Annual Luminaria and Tree Lighting this year.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to accept the minutes as written for the Council Meeting November 28, 2022. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Bartlett noted that the 2021 and 2022 Annual Reports should be posted on the website when available.

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: November 2022 Monthly Report. Mrs. Rankin asked under miscellaneous what are 'places found open'. Chief Hines said it could refer to a business found open after hours during a routine check or a house open on their vacation list. They leave a note or contact the owners.

*From Assistant Fire Chief Copeland: November 2022 Monthly Report

*From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: November 2022 Monthly Report

*From Tax Administrator Barlow: November 2022 Monthly Report. He reported that the 4th quarter slowed down. We need \$40,000 to meet last year.

*From Building Official Holloway: November 2022 Monthly Report. He reported that building permit compliance issues generated 50% of the permits. The rental inspections are down for December with a meeting scheduled for January.

*From Fiscal Officer Ford: November Financial Reports. He noted that actual revenue received year to date and actual expenses should be black in most of the funds. The one fund we used carry over was the State Highway. In the General Fund we had to transfer \$278,000 out when we separated the Capital Improvement funds. We still have one payroll this year, but so far, we are trending well in all the funds.

*From Rex Bevis: Thank You Note Re: Sharon Bevis

*From United States Senator Rob Portman: Letter Dated December 19, 2022, re: Celebration of Mariemont Centennial Anniversary. Mr. Portman is unsure if he will be able to make the celebration. Mr. York said he has confirmation that Congressman Landsman and Ohio State Representative Sedrick Denson will be attending.

*From Becca Vianello Hlad: Thank You Mayor Brown and Service Department: Luminaria and Tree Lighting

Payment of Bills:

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to pay the bills. Fiscal Officer Ford said the reimbursement to Eli Wendler needs to be added to the bill list. She turned in a reimbursement request for expenses she incurred on her personal credit card over the course of the past couple of years. The reoccurring expenses have been changed

to charge to the Village credit card. The cost is \$101.87, but it cannot be paid without Council's approval. He stressed that reimbursements should be turned in the month they occur. Mrs. Brownknight asked if this sets precedent for Council having to approve future reimbursements. Fiscal Officer Ford said it has happened with one other person who will need to present to Council request for reimbursement. People should not be using their personal credit cards for any Village expenses. The Village though is liable for expenses that are legitimate Village expenses. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the recommendation of the Rules & Law Committee which met on Monday December 12, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Present were Kelly Rankin, Dr. Marcy Lewis, Mayor Bill Brown, Chuck Barlow, Chief Rick Hines, Joanne Van Pelt and Susan Brownknight. Mrs. Brownknight reviewed the process for updating the new employee manual and producing the current draft. The process included multiple meetings since May 2022 and edits from Department Heads. Department Heads also received three weeks to review and provide comment/edits to the final draft. Material edits were reviewed with the committee. Mrs. Brownknight thanked Joanne Van Pelt for her leadership in the process. Solicitor McTigue reviewed the manual and made one recommendation, which was incorporated into the draft. Said email is attached. The Committee recommends Council approve the updated Employee Manual and corresponding Employee Salary Ordinance which is recommended to be approved on an emergency basis due to the pending January holidays. The Committee also discussed Section 150.18. Pending concerns from Building Administrator Rod Holloway, it is recommended that Council continue with the original recommendation made by the Rules and Law Committee which were accepted by Council in October 2020 to strike Section 150.18 as full Council has now passed alternative language approved by The Economic Planning and Zoning Committee. It is recommended that the Solicitor prepare the necessary legislation. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

*The last week of leafpick-up will be December 19, 2022.

*Village Offices will be closed Friday December 23, 2022, and Monday December 26, 2022, in Observation of Christmas

*Village Offices will be closed Monday January 1, 2023, in Observation of New Year's Day

Resolutions:

"To Appoint Robert Van Stone as a Member of the Records Commission Board" 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-71-22 was adopted.

"To Reappoint Ted Beach as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024" had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-72-22 was adopted.

"To Reappoint Terry Donovan as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024" had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-73-22 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Mandy Rohal as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-74-22 was adopted.

“To Confirm the Appointment of Michael Lockhart as Swim Pool Manager for Calendar Year 2023; and to Set Compensation” had a third reading. Ms. Geldbaugh moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-75-22 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“To Amend Section 37.05 Swim Pool Commission of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-28-22 was adopted.

“To Amend Ordinance O-17-22 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Mrs. Brownknight said the change to the salary ordinance reflects the change in paid holidays per the new employee handbook. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-29-22 was adopted.

“To Supplement Ordinance No. O-22-22 Annual Appropriation Ordinance; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third reading. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Fiscal Officer Ford said this is to amend the 2022 budget with reallocations within the departments. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-30-22 was adopted.

“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, 2023” had a first reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Fiscal Officer Ford said the Capital Improvement projects are not yet in this budget. He has to wait for the official certificate that will include the revenue for the 4901 Fund which was just renewed at this past election. We will do a permanent Appropriation Ordinance in late January. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-31-22.

Task List:

It was agreed to remove the Murray Path/Submit invoices to ODNR for reimbursement.

Boathouse roof is ongoing with Mayor Brown resourcing materials.

Ms. Geldbaugh said she and Service Superintendent Scherpenberg are going to inventory the benches to determine those that need to be replaced. It will then be determined what bench type to order.

Ms. Geldbaugh said funds were appropriated to update the changing rooms at the pool. Fiscal Officer Ford said the pool lost \$28,000 in direct expenses. Meetings will be held with Administrator Barlow, Swim Pool

Manager Mike Lockhart and the Health and Recreation Committee to discuss going forward in 2023 the expansion of pool memberships to the school district. Plans are in place to clean the pump room.

The bids are out and due January 13, 2023, for the Bell Tower ball fields. Mr. York will follow up with Service Superintendent Scherpenberg about the lights at the batting cages etc.

Mrs. Rankin said she and Engineer Ertel walked Whiskey Creek and they are re-thinking their approach after learning of additional information from others who have walked the trail.

Mayor Brown said he needs to contact Mr. Spinnenweber regarding the light issue in the theatre parking light. His hope is when they are done with the old PNC Bank remodel and install outside lighting, the lighting on the theatre could be adjusted.

Administrator Barlow said he needs the contact information for the wooden Duke Energy poles. Ms. Geldbaugh said she will forward her information to him. Solicitor McTigue said he would contact Duke Energy's law department to get a good phone number.

It was agreed to remove the Tree Committee Recommendations.

Mrs. Brownknight asked about a 20-year facilities plan citing it would be nice to have prior to next year's Capital Improvement Budget Hearing. The Finance Sub-Committee is looking into that through the Ohio Plan. Mayor Brown said it is also possible that it can be done in house with Administrator Barlow.

Mrs. Brownknight asked if the Village does not have adequate facilities – how do we begin that conversation. If we are going to make repairs to the building, we should know if we need to renovate the building at some point. Mayor Brown said the subject has continually drifted in and out. Mr. York said it should fall under the Village overall comprehensive plan.

Mrs. Brownknight said legislation was passed to form an Inclusion Committee and asked for an update on this process. Mr. York said the committee has not yet been formed. It was agreed to revisit the question in the new year.

Mr. York said he wanted to recognize Council as he felt they accomplished a lot this past year. He noted we moved to direct deposit, Ms. Geldbaugh's lead on the swim pool and Mrs. Brownknight's leadership with the employee handbook. The street work at the square, establishing a foundation and updates to the Code of Ordinances by passing 28 ordinances. The Building Department inspected 60 rental units by rewriting Code Section 152. This is the first time since 2011 that every Council member stayed the whole year, and they were elected.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

William A. Brown Mayor

Richard D. Ford, Fiscal Officer

