

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
July 14, 2025**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Ayer, Mr. Bartlett, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Van Stone, and Mr. York.

Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. York, to excuse the absence of Mrs. Brownknight. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Minutes:

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer, to accept the Special Council minutes as written from July 7, 2025 and the Budget Hearing minutes from July 7, 2025. On roll call; four ayes, no nays (Dr. Lewis abstained due to her absence on July 7, 2025).

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: May 2025 Monthly Report. Mayor Brown pointed out a nice letter from Sheriff McGuffey regarding the work that Chief Hines did following the tragic death of Larry Henderson.

*From Tax Administrator Barlow: June 2025 Monthly Report. Collections are down slightly but that is normal and not a trend.

*From Building Official Holloway: May 2025/June 2025 Monthly Report. These are busy months in the Village. Official Holloway noted revenue was up due to about 30 permits per month when the usual is around 25 per month. Our biggest renter in the Village prepaid for all 74 rental inspections in June. Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Holloway for his tremendous help to both him and to the Village.

*From Rich Surace, Energy Alliances: Natural Gas Aggregation Renewal Update. Mr. Van Stone thought we already approved both the electric and the gas together. Mayor Brown noted this is the second year working with Energy Alliances and we should do a comparison before going into the third year to make sure we are getting the best value for the Village.

Permission to Address Council:

Mayor Brown recognized Linda Bartlett, 3611 Mound Way, and granted permission to address Council. Mrs. Bartlett is Chair of the Racquet Club Board. She wanted to know when they would be getting electricity back at the courts. There is an electrical issue there that needs to be repaired. Mayor Brown and Mr. Holloway have been in touch with an electrician. At this time we do not have a date when it will be fixed. It is a gray area if it is the Village's or Duke Energy's responsibility. Mr. Holloway will follow up with the electrician.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mr. York noticed the increased amount for Cincy Property Cleanup for Dogwood Park. The original quote for that job was \$28,535 but the amount paid was \$32,715. Mr. York said the extra \$4180 was deferred maintenance and should not come out of the Dogwood fund. Fiscal Officer Rankin said we can reallocate that amount and have it come out of the service department. Ms. Uhrig will make the correction. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer, to pay the bills. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Health and Recreation Committee

Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett, to untable the report. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

This is a portion of the tabled report from the last Council meeting. Mr. York spoke with Village Engineer Chris Ertel and the Mariemont Racquet Club, and they would like to move forward with the bid from J.K. Meurer to do the installation of the pickleball courts and bid out separately for the repairs, painting, and coating. Mrs. Bartlett got a quote from Tennis Tech that was dramatically lower than what we got from J.K. Meurer. We believe since it is below the

threshold we can avoid doing the public bids. We would like to go ahead and get this expansion scheduled to give the asphalt time to cure before it gets the topcoat. \$66,758.55 was the amount of the J.K. Meurer bid, to be paid exclusively out of the pickleball account. This bid covers the extension of the courts, the asphalt section of it. It is also the removal, extension, and reinstallation of the fence. It also covers inserting a fence between court 5 and the pickleball courts. The bids went out separately, one for extension and one for surfacing. The surfacing bid to fix all the cracks, coat, paint, and install pickleball nets is still out there. The Village's portion is about \$44,000 from permanent improvement. Mr. Van Stone confirmed that the bid from J.K. Meurer is just for the extension and the fencing. Mr. Bartlett noted that \$106,000 was raised, plus \$44,000 from the Village is \$150,000. Mrs. Bartlett is hoping to have enough left over to replace some of the nets.

Mr. Bartlett moved to amend the report for the second item to read "Accept the bid from J.K. Meurer for the installation of pickleball courts in the amount of \$66,758.55," seconded by Mr. Ayer. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Ayer moved to accept the amended report, seconded by Mr. Bartlett. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Public Works and Services Committee

Mr. Van Stone moved to untable the Public Works and Services report from the last Council meeting, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; four ayes, no nays (Dr. Lewis abstained due to her absence).

The Public Works & Service Committee met on June 18, 2025, at 5:05 PM. In attendance were the Committee Chairperson Bob Van Stone, Committee Members Randy York and Rob Bartlett, Mayor Bill Brown, Fiscal Officer Kelly Rankin, and Village Engineer Chris Ertel.

The first agenda item was a review of the bids for the 2025 repaving projects. Bids from 4 contractors have been opened. Engineer Ertel recommended awarding the projects to J.K. Meurer Corp. which submitted the lowest bid of \$287,365. These projects include:

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| 1. The rehabilitation of Harvard Acres | \$ 95,000 |
| 2. The rehabilitation of Lane L (Millard Rogers Lane) | \$ 15,000 |
| 3. The rehabilitation of Pleasant Street (Mariemont to Mariemont) | \$145,000 |
| 4. The replacement of the Trade Street storm sewer | \$ 10,000 |
| 5. The repair of Wooster Pike (curb work at Belmont, repaving at Indianview) | \$ 20,000 |

The funding of the Pleasant Street repaving is assisted by a grant from the Small Government program of the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC). OPWC will pay 44% of the cost (\$63,800).

After a lengthy discussion of the funding levels in the various street funds, Mr. York moved to approve the bid from Meurer pending council approval of a supplemental appropriation of the funds to be received from OPWC, which cannot occur until after July 2 when the village will receive the grant approval document. The motion was approved unanimously.

The second item was approval of the extension of the trash and recycling contract option with Rumpke for 2026. The option is a 4% increase relative to the 2025 cost. The 2026 option cost is \$357,920. Mr. Bartlett moved to approve the 2026 option. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Mr. York moved to accept the report, seconded by Mr. Bartlett. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

*Mayor Brown expressed his gratitude for the volunteers who put the little flags out for July 4th – Tom Walsh, Kim Beach, Scott Hamlin, and Mr. York. The Scouts helped as well – Mandy Rohal, Ben, Jamie, Phoenix & Willow Robinson, Aaron, Evan, and Claire McCloud, and Dwayne and Colin Friedhoff. The Village looked terrific!

*Mayor Brown highly recommends the new sandwich shop, Alveo, in the Strand. The sandwiches are unique, and the bread is so good! Dr. Lewis noted they have a visible presence on social media.

*Mr. Ayer suggested the following items be removed from the agenda: wading pool and Old Town Center lot lighting. He asked to add “summarize the traffic calming measures considered on Miami hill” to the Safety Committee. Mayor Brown approved.

Resolutions:

“Supplemental Appropriations; and To Declare Emergency” (OPWC) had a first reading. Mr. Van Stone moved to suspend the rules and allow for a second and third reading, seconded by Dr. Lewis. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The resolution was read a second and third time. Mr. York moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Van Stone. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved to evoke the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Bartlett. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution R-36-25 was adopted.

“Supplemental Appropriations and To Declare Emergency” (Pickleball) had a first reading. Mr. Ayer moved to suspend the rules and allow for a second and third reading, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The resolution was read a second and third time. Mr. Ayer moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Bartlett. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Van Stone moved to evoke the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Ayer. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution R-37-25 was adopted.

“Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Natural Gas Aggregation Agreement with a Natural Gas Supplier recommended by Energy Alliances, Inc., Dispensing with the Second Reading, and Declaring an Emergency” – Solicitor McTigue said there was previous legislation authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement.

“To Accept Bid of J. K. Meurer Corporation for the 2025 Street Rehabilitation Project; To Authorize Contract and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Van Stone moved to suspend the rules and allow for a second and third reading, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The resolution was read a second and third time. Mr. Bartlett moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Bartlett moved to evoke the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution R-38-25 was adopted.

“To Accept Bid of J. K. Meurer Corporation for the 2025 Tennis Court Extension Project; To Authorize Contract; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Dr. Lewis moved to suspend the rules and allow for a second and third reading, seconded by Mr. York. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The resolution was read a second and third time. Mr. York moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Dr. Lewis. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Ayer moved to evoke the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Bartlett. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution R-39-25 was adopted.

Ordinances:

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Kelly I. Rankin, Fiscal Officer