

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
March 23, 2026**

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

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

Minutes:

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Stock to approve the minutes as written for March 9, 2026. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Police Chief Hines: February 2026 Monthly Report

*Mayor Brown referred to the Rules & Law Committee review of the Outstanding Citizen Award Legislation. He has had a couple of requests for the legislation to be modified to allow for the nomination of someone who is deceased.

*From Arbor Day Foundation: Mariemont Tree City USA Status and Growth Award. Mayor Brown thanked the Tree Board for their dedication and involvement.

*From Engineer Ertel: Spending request to expand the concrete sidewalk from staircase to new fence gate for pickleball courts (Not to Exceed \$5680.00). The expenses have been budgeted and appropriated. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mrs. Stock to approve the spending request. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

*From Engineer Ertel: Spending Request: Spending request to prepare application to SORTA. \$5,000 is needed to contribute to Columbia Township who will hire TEC Engineers, Inc., to study and prepare the application. Columbia Township and Mariemont will both contribute \$5,000. Crown will contribute up to \$20,000. Current TEC proposal \$28,000. This will study simplifying and improving the six-way intersection for traffic, pedestrian and bike safety. This will not oblige the Village to apply for grants. There is enough money in the budget to pay the Village's half of the cost. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to approve the spending request. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

*From Service Superintendent James: Spending request not to exceed \$5050.00 for removal/grinding of two Maple trees located by the maintenance shed at the Municipal Building. One tree is dead and the other is dying. Mayor Brown said he mistakenly put the ribbon around the wrong trees. The Maple will remain; the Hackberry trees are to be removed. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to amend the spending request and the quote estimate to reflect which trees are to be removed and grinded. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to approve the amended spending request. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Brown said he received several emails which he shared with Council from residents concerned about the Dogwood Park sidewalk. There is a contract in place to put the sidewalk in and we are not in any position to make any changes.

Mayor Brown said he met with a representative from Green Umbrella regarding a fellowship program with the Village. He referred the matter to the Planning and Zoning & Economic Development Committee. The deadline to commit is April 10, 2026.

Permission to Address Council:

Pay the Bills:

Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stock to pay the bills. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Public Works

The Public Works and Service Committee met on March 16, 2026, at 4:15 pm. In attendance were the Committee Chairperson Lila Wells, Committee Member Bob Van Stone, Mayor Bill Brown, Village Engineer Chris Ertel and Fiscal Officer Kelly Rannkin. The purpose of the meeting was to review bids collected by Chris Ertel for the 2026 Street Rehabilitation Project and provide any recommendations accordingly. After review and discussion of the bids, Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to accept the bid from JK Meurer in the amount of \$335,947.35. JK Meurer has performed well over several Village projects in the last 10 years. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion ensued regarding the details and potential add-ons to this project considering the harsh winter, grant allocations, and recent repairs by our Village Maintenance Department. Specifically (1) add-on \$9500 per separate bid from JK Meurer for repair to Miami Road sink hole; (2) Remove \$16,000 from bid Indianview Avenue at Miami Road since it has been sufficiently patched at this time; (3) Deduct \$63,000 from Village cost per covered by Ohio Public Works Commission Grant. Considering these calculations, the total cost of the project is \$270,000 which exceeds the existing appropriation of \$255,000 by approximately \$15,000. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to appropriate \$15,000 from the Permanent Improvement Fund to cover the scope of the 2026 Street Rehabilitation Project. Motion passed unanimously. The tow motions passed will be presented to Council for approval. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

The work will include Miami Bluff Drive (\$70,000), West Street (\$145,000), Indianview south of Wooster Pike (\$55,000), Center Street (\$50,000 Miami Bluff to Mt. Vernon). West Street will also include repair to two catch basins. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to accept the recommendation of the Public Works Committee. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

Mayor Brown said Cindependent has been doing spectacular job in getting the theater back in shape with the assistance of many volunteers; Tim Ackemeyer, Cortney Scheeser, Matt Hays, Jon Bradford and Dirk Richards. They are putting together another work detail and more volunteers are needed. Information to sign up can be found at Mariemonttheatre.org.

Resolutions:

“Resolution Transferring Balance of Funds in Wading Pool Project Fund to Permanent Improvement Fund” had a third reading. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-20-26 was adopted.

“A Resolution Authorizing Application and Contracting with the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority” had a second reading.

“To Appoint Nine Iredale as a Member of the Mariemont Racquet Club Board for the Calendar Year 2026” had a first reading.

“To Appoint Alvaro Pasquel as a Member of the Mariemont Racquet Club for the Calendar Years 2026 and 2027” had a first reading.

“To Accept Bid of J.K. Meurer Corporation for the 2026 Street Rehabilitation Project; To Authorize Contract; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mrs. Stock moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells to invoke the Emergency Clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-21-26 was adopted.

Ordinances:

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Kelly I. Rankin, Fiscal Officer