

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL  
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO  
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER  
MARCH 12, 2012.**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Andrews, Mr. Black, Ms. McCarthy, Mr. Miller, Mr. Scheeser and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to accept the minutes as written for February 27, 2012 and the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting February 27, 2012. On roll call; five ayes (Mr. Andrews abstained).

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Police Chief Hines: February 2012 Monthly Report. Mr. Wolter said he was curious as to why people do not have a valid driver license. Chief Hines said it is a combination of points, lack of insurance, O.V.I., drug arrest etc. Solicitor McTigue said a lot of times the people will get notifications from the State of Ohio but they have moved. The Bureau of Motor vehicles will automatically suspend their privileges.

From Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner: February 2012 Monthly Report. Mr. Miller said he noticed when the ambulance went to Mercy St. Theresa the fire engine also went. He was curious why both apparatus need to go. Assistant Chief Feichtner said they respond with one paramedic and one EMS personnel on the ambulance but the State of Ohio requires that we have two paramedics on scene. It provides additional personnel should they need it and several times they are called on another run when already dispatched. It is standard procedures for most communities. Mr. Miller suggested sending a smaller vehicle. Assistant Chief Feichtner said when considering that possibility there is equipment that cannot be exposed to the cold weather temperatures. Also, there is a lot of expensive equipment that we do not want to leave in the car outside. Mr. Scheeser suggested sending two paramedics in the ambulance. Assistant Chief Feichtner said the problem they could run into is that everyone is not cleared to be a fire apparatus operator. Usually the fire apparatus operator is a paramedic.

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: February 2012 Monthly Report

From Building Commissioner Malone: February 2012 Monthly Report

From Tax Administrator Judd: February 2012 Monthly Report

From Hamilton County Police Association: Letter dated February 20, 2012 re: Chief Hines

From Chief Hines: Letter of Commendation dated February 21, 2012 re: Cameron Shaw

From Hamilton County Municipal League: March 29, 2012 Membership Meeting Notice

From Mayor Policastro: e-mail dated March 1, 2012 re: West Street Parking

From Jan Ring, Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati Foundation: Letter dated March 1, 2012 re: Thank you

From Engineer Ertel: Miami Road Project Bid Results. Engineer Ertel said he recommends awarding the project to Queen City Blacktop which has also worked in the Village before.

From Britton Martin: e-mail dated March 6, 2012 re: Support Murray Avenue One-Way

From Kelly O'Keeffe: e-mail dated March 4, 2012 re: Support Murray Avenue One-Way

From Department of Commerce: News Release: Ohio Minimum Wage. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee. Mr. Scheeser suggested having the Ordinance ride with the Ohio statue. Solicitor McTigue said the language in our Ordinance would need to change to reflect Ohio minimum wage.

Ms. Black moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Clerk and Finance Chairman. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Tuesday March 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss the Police Department's request for a 2012 Charger and the required accessories. Present were Committee Members Andy Black, Cortney Scheeser and Joe Miller. Also present were Mayor Policastro, Police Chief Rick Hines and Clerk Tony Borgerding. Police Chief Hines presented to the Committee a report detailing the age and mileage of the current fleet of (4) marked and (2) unmarked vehicles. Chief Hines also presented a fleet replacement program currently in use by neighboring municipalities that emphasizes mileage over age, which provides a better return on investment at resale time. Committee Members unanimously approved recommending Council approve the

Police Department's request at a cost not to exceed \$35,438.87 and pass the measure under the emergency clause. The meeting concluded at 7:35 p.m. On roll call; five ayes, one nay (Mr. Andrews dissented saying he is not on board with the department needing six vehicles).

Mr. Black moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee meeting which was held on Wednesday March 7, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss changing the south side of Murray Avenue to become a one-way street westbound from Plainville Road to Settle Road. Present at the meeting were Safety Committee Chairman Dennis Wolter, Safety Committee Vice-Chairman Jeff Andrews, Committee Member Andy Black, Mayor Dan Policastro, Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines, Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feichtner and approximately twenty residents. After much discuss between the Committee members and residents, and relevant input from Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines and Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feichtner the Committee recommends the Village change the south side of Murray Avenue to one-way westbound as described above. Mr. Scheeser asked what the motivation for westbound and eastbound traffic was. Mr. Wolter said the highest traffic demand was for 4 p.m. to 7: p.m. outbound east from the city. When Wooster Pike gets clogged up people cut through Settle Road to get to Murray. The thinking is one-way westbound on Murray would make that more tedious and hopefully motivate people to stay on Wooster Pike. Also, with the parked cars on Settle it is hard to get cars let alone a fire truck through. Mr. Scheeser said there is a boundary line between Madison Place and the Village of Mariemont. Motorists see that as a two-way boulevard and he thinks it will be intuitively opposite of what people would be used to. He wonders if it will pose a safety issue with people driving the wrong way. Mr. Black said one of the big motivators for it was the traffic count. Mr. Scheeser said the other concern he has is if this will impact the opportunity to redevelop at the six-way intersection. Will it hamper our ability to partner with Columbia Township in the future for a better intersection that is conducive to development? Mr. Black said that was discussed at the meeting. The Murray Street decision to make it one-way can be reversed if needed. Mr. Wolter said the main motivation is the safety issue for Settle and Homewood. Mayor Policastro said this is Phase I. Phase II involves the Engineer talking with ODOT. The hope is to put a light in at Wooster Pike and Belmont. If that happens we can make Settle Road a dead end. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Black asked how close we are to Phase II. Engineer Ertel said he has contacted ODOT but has not yet heard back. He said it would involve a traffic study at the proposed location. Mayor Policastro said he has talked with the Mayor and Administrator for Fairfax. They are to discuss it at an upcoming meeting. Without their consent the project will not happen. Mr. Andrews said if Council wants to go forward with Phase II he would like to see Council talk more about what they would like to see at the six-way intersection. Mayor Policastro said anything that would be proposed at that intersection would need to first go through the Planning Commission.

Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Black to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which met on Wednesday March 7, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the purchase of a thermal imaging camera. Present at the meeting were Safety Chairman, Dennis Wolter, Safety Vice-Chairman Jeff Andrews, Committee Member, Andy Black, Mayor Dan Policastro, Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines and Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feichtner. The meeting opened with Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner describing the need for and the technical aspects of the Evolution 5800 thermal imaging camera and the necessity to purchase it on an emergency basis. After the Committee discussed this new camera, warranty details and possible trade-in value of the old camera, the Committee recommends that the Village purchase an Evolution 5800 thermal imaging camera and to do this on an emergency basis.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which was held on Wednesday March 7, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the purchase of turnout gear for the Fire Department. Present at the meeting were Safety Chairman, Dennis Wolter, Safety Vice-Chairman Jeff Andrews, Committee Member, Andy Black, Mayor Dan Policastro, Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines and Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feichtner. The discussion opened with Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner presenting the need for the type of equipment requested. The Committee discussed possible alternatives and some technical points about this specific equipment. Assistant fire Chief Feichtner also expressed an immediate need for this equipment and hoped it could be purchased on an emergency basis in order to bring all of our turnout gear up to compliance. The Committee recommends that we purchase the turnout gear listed below at a total cost of \$14,825.00 and to purchase this on an emergency basis:

5 sets of turnout gear @ \$2200.00	\$11,000.00
5 new fire helmets @ \$250.00	\$ 1,250.00
5 new Nomex hoods @ 50.00	\$ 250.00
5 pairs of firefighting gloves @ \$80.00	\$ 400.00
5 pairs of leather firefighting boots @ \$285.00	\$ 1,425.00
2 additional fire helmets @ \$250.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL	\$14,825.00

Mr. Wolter said this should bring the department up to compliance. In the future we are going to incrementally buy this equipment on a schedule so it will keep us from having to make a big purchase at one time. Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner said next year when we purchase 5 sets everyone will be in compliance. The recommendation would be to purchase 5 of each of the listed items on a yearly basis. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Nominations for Outstanding Citizen Award are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by Thursday March 22, 2012.

Lima Company/Marines of Always Brothers 100 Mile Run will be held Saturday May 26, 2012 starting at 6:00 a.m.

Memorial Day Parade will be Monday May 28, 2012 (Lineup begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Mr. Scheeser said he left a zoom-in screen capture on everyone's desk of the opportunistic square parking lot he brought up at the last Council meeting. He wanted to submit it for the Committee to brainstorm over during their discussions. It would be inexpensive to implement and easy to change back if it does not work. Mr. Miller said obviously striping will help and we will have to include some sort of signage. Mr. Wolter suggested asking the business operators have their employee's park in some of these proposed areas and leave the more convenient high demand parking spaces for patrons.

Mr. Andrews brought in the Recycling Award the Village was presented with last fall from Hamilton County. Mayor Policastro said he will have it displayed in the curio cabinet in the entrance way.

Mr. Scheeser said he was unable to attend Town Meeting and asked Mayor Policastro if he could expand on the Annexation topic he discussed. Mayor Policastro said he does not have a lot of information. He has asked the Solicitor to work on doing research to see if it is legally feasible. With Newtown coming up from the east we have no choice but to go west. Mr. Scheeser said anyway we are still meeting Newtown and asked why we would spend the time, hassle, cost and loss of goodwill with neighboring communities to meet them at the bottom of the hill versus welcoming them at the top of the hill. Mayor Policastro said one reason is economic growth which we sorely need. The gentleman at the Promenade wants us as does the gentleman who owns McDonalds. He has also spoken with the manager of Kroger. All want to be located in Mariemont not in Newtown. He said Newtown's request was denied by Hamilton County Commissioners. We have been talking about this for years and now is the time to look at it. Mr. Miller said there really is not a downside. Mayor Policastro said he estimates we are talking about 100 jobs. Solicitor McTigue and Mr. Wolter said Columbia Township would still get the property tax. Treasurer Kulesza asked if Newtown worked its way up the hill would children then go to Turpin. Mayor Policastro said that would not change. Mr. Andrews said Council would need to make sure we understand any legal fees and other fees, impact on police & fire, costs etc before we rush into this. Mayor Policastro said Chief Hines does not see any downside because we are down there anyway with mutual aid. There will be some diminishing return but the good will out weigh the bad. If this is something that we find we can go forward with - it will be put into the Economic Development and Zoning Committee. Mr. Andrews said he cannot understand why those businesses would want to subject their employees to an earnings tax they are not paying today. He has a hard time seeing what is in it for them.

#### Resolutions:

"A Resolution Authorizing an Amended Agreement with the Center for Local Government Joint Self-Insurance Benefits Pool" had a third reading. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Black to adopt the Resolution. On roll call, six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-5-12 was adopted.

"To Authorize Ohio Department of Transportation to Proceed with Safe routes to School Project PID No. 90898 County/Route/Section: Ham Mariemont - SRTS; and Enter Into Contract" had a third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-6-12 was adopted.

"To Appoint Scott McIntosh as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Year of 2012" had a second reading.

"To Authorize the Solicitation of Bids for Street Repair and To Declare Emergency" had a first reading. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-7-12 was adopted.

"Resolution Declaring the Necessity of Levying a Tax in Excess of the 10 Mill Limitation for Permanent Improvements and Requesting the County Auditor to Certify Matters in Connection Therewith" had a first reading.

#### Ordinances:

"To Amend Chapter 78, Schedule III of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances" had a third reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-5-12 was adopted.

"To Purchase a 2012 Dodge Charger Police Cruiser Using the State of Ohio Purchasing Program and To Declare Emergency" had a first reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, one nay (Mr. Andrews dissented). The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, one nay (Mr. Andrews dissented). Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, one nay (Mr. Andrews dissented). Ordinance No. O-6-12 was adopted.

Chief Hines said our Fire Department partnered with Little Miami Fire and Rescue to sell t-shirts with all proceeds going to the Red Cross for the tornado victims. Successful Products donated the shirts and over two days they were able to raise over \$9,000. He thanked Gordon Hammersmith with Successful Products for their efforts on this worthy cause.

Mr. Rick Greiwe distributed information on the roundabout he is proposing on Murray Avenue. It is critical to have the roundabout in order to do the 114 apartment units he is planning on developing along with some commercial investments. The packet addressed some public issues expressed with the initial design in 2011. It also included a preliminary design for the new roundabout along with a fact sheet and educational materials on how roundabouts are being used around the country to reduce pollution and improve traffic flow through congested areas. He requested that the matter be referred to the Planning Commission. Mayor Policastro said to get in touch with Building Commissioner Malone to set up a meeting with the Planning Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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Dan Policastro, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk