

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL  
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO  
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER  
APRIL 8, 2013**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Andrews, Ms. McCarthy, Mr. Miller, Mr. Scheeser and Mr. Stelzer.

Ms. McCarthy moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to excuse the absence of Mr. Wolter. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to approve the minutes as written for March 25, 2013. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. (Mr. Scheeser abstained due to absence)

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Police Chief Hines: March 2013 Monthly Report

From Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner: March 2013 Monthly Report. Mr. Andrews thanked the department for installing the shutters on the Municipal Building and commented that they look great. Mr. Stelzer asked when the basis for year to year numbers is comparable. Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner said after April 2013 the numbers should all be compared apples to apples. He said the new fire truck is on schedule as planned. He will be going to Louisiana later this month for the pre-paint inspection. He will also go back the first part of May for the final inspection. He anticipates the truck being ready to go into service by June 1, 2013.

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: March 2013 Monthly Report. Mr. Stelzer thanked Superintendent Scherpenberg who has been working with the South 80 Trails Committee on several things including a \$2000 grant for signage. Superintendent Scherpenberg has also been talking with the adjacent land owners about the possibility of expanding the trails onto the adjacent property owners land. So far it has been somewhat favorable. Mayor Policastro thanked the department for all the work they did prior to the Colonel Don Shanks dedication of the Municipal Building. It really looked good.

From Building Commissioner Malone: March 2013 Monthly Report. Building Commissioner Malone introduced Kirk Hodulik who is currently inspecting the Historic District for deficiencies in the buildings. Mr. Hodulik is scheduled to become the Building Commissioner once Mr. Malone retires. This has given Mr. Hodulik plenty of opportunity to learn how the department works. He is an architect by trade.

From Tax Administrator Judd: March 2013 Monthly Report. Mayor Policastro said she and the new Tax Administrator, Patty Busam, will be here at the next Council meeting. Mr. Andrews asked what Mrs. Busam's background was. Mayor Policastro said she worked for the Village several years ago as Mrs. Judd's assistant and left to be the Tax Administrator in Norwood. She is excited to be back working for the Village of Mariemont. Mr. Scheeser said he thought the plan was to have the Assistant take over for Mrs. Judd. Mayor Policastro said she was offered the job and turned it down and he anticipates she will leave at the end of the year. Mr. Stelzer said it appears the tax receipts are holding to 2012 at many levels which is a good thing. In her report she mentions HB5 which may have significant impact and suggested at the next meeting she bring Council up to date on the matter and determine whether we need to pass a Resolution to reiterate the Village's opposition. Mayor Policastro said he is sure she will pass along whatever information she has and also said representatives from the Hamilton County Municipal League were to have met with Mayor Mallory to oppose it. He will find out if they plan to do anything else. Mr. Andrews questioned if the report states that the year-to-date figure for 2013 is a fraction over 2012. Mr. Stelzer said yes but reminded Council that 2012 was much higher than 2011. If we are still holding the numbers at this point we should be in pretty good shape. The real metric will be the month of April when everyone files their tax returns and thereafter as the extensions come in.

From Council Member Denise McCarthy: Letter Dated March 25, 2013 re: Letter of Resignation. Mayor Policastro said Ms. McCarthy will be with us until we find a replacement and he thanked her for all her work.

From Mayor Policastro: Letter Dated March 26, 2013 re: Acceptance of Ms. McCarthy's Resignation

From State Farm Insurance: Settlement in Full \$23,583.92 for Auto Accident Damage Wooster Pike and Indianview. Mayor Policastro said we were paid for everything we asked for. He and Superintendent Scherpenberg met with the light contractor. Superintendent Scherpenberg showed the new LED lights that will be mounted at the intersection to replace those damaged in the accident. They are more cost efficient. We are able to control the brightness of the light and the continual blink. It comes with a 17 year warranty.

From Carl Stich: Letter Dated March 27, 2013 re: Letter of Resignation from Planning Commission. Attorney Val Garber was appointed by the Mayor to fill his unexpired term.

From Hamilton County Municipal League: Meeting Notice April 27, 2013. Mayor Policastro said he anticipates that there will be discussion on HB5.

Mr. Rex Bevis, 4011 Miami Road, was granted permission to address Council. It has been his experience in the past that the tennis courts have been repaired, maintained and resurfaced in the amount of approximately \$20,000 for each expense. These expenses are paid for with taxpayer's funds. The Tennis Association is proposing non-residents pay a higher membership. He does not believe that non-residents should be joining the tennis courts because of the unfairness of shouldering the cost. He also said in past years fees that are paid by members of the tennis courts have been on an honor system. He thinks if there is an increase in membership fees it might end up not being an increase in revenue and might actually be a decrease. As far as pool parties are concerned he does not think it is a good idea that our 16 and 17 year old lifeguards should be required to guard adults who are drinking alcohol at the swim pool. That is his main reservation about alcohol at the swim pool. Our young people should be able to go the pool without it being an alcoholic event. Ms. McCarthy said as far as the social hours at the pool - the Swim Pool Board did vote no on the issue.

Mr. Don Slavik, 3717 Homewood Road, was granted permission to address Council. He is a member of the Pool Board. They are planning an end of the year party for families, movie night, and kid's parties. They are planning one adult party. All the activities they try to be self-sufficient. Mr. Beck picks the older guards that he feels are more mature to handle an adult party. It is the party where they raise the most amount of money. He thanked Council for their support. Ms. McCarthy said the Pool Board is made up of a great bunch of people.

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

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met February 21, 2013 to discuss the pool membership rates and social hours. After discussion the Committee recommends that the pool membership rate not be increase for the 2013 year. The request for social hours was put on hold for further discussion by the Pool Board. The Pool Board subsequently voted to withdraw the request. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Ms. McCarthy moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met February 21, 2013 to discuss the Adult Pool Party. In addition to the Committee, Mayor Policastro and resident Dina Wilder were in attendance. At the time of the meeting the Pool Board had not set a date for the adult party but did know that they would only request one party for the 2013 season. The Board has since requested that the Pool's Adult Only Party be held June 22, 2013 from 7:00-11:00 p.m. with a rain date of June 29, 2013. The Committee recommends Council approve these dates and pass the Ordinance to allow alcohol be allowed at the Adult Only Pool Party. Mr. Scheeser said he gets a lot of positive feedback on this event and still likes the idea but Mr. Bevis's comments are interesting and the idea of having 16/17 year old lifeguards is a fair argument. He would like to see Council brainstorm to see how they could man those chairs differently. Mayor Policastro said Mr. Beck and Ms. Jordan are there for the entire party. Mr. Slavik said older college kids are usually picked and are encouraged to talk with their parents prior to the party. Mr. Scheeser said that makes him feel a bit better. We should set a good example for our kids. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Stelzer moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met February 21, 2012 to discuss various items regarding the Tennis Association. In addition to the committee, Mayor Policastro and resident Dina Wilder were in attendance.

After much discussion, the committee recommends the Tennis Membership Rates increase as follows:

Type	Prior to 5/26	After 5/26
Family	\$ 85.00	\$ 100.00
Adults	\$ 40.00	\$ 47.00
JR (<18)	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00
Senior (65+)	\$ 35.00	\$ 40.00

Included in the above member ships will be free member guest passes 2 /individual and 4 /family. Mr. Andrews said the rates have not gone up in previous years and there is a sensitivity and balance that we need to strike on how much it should be increased. Overall he thinks the rates are still reasonable. Mr. Scheeser said Ms. Wilder was very instrumental in helping to determine the new rates. She encouraged us to do this last year but we ran out of time and were confident that this was a fair increase. There was some discussion that a tournament may be a better way to raise money without raising the rates. Mr. Miller said there has not been a rate increase in at least 13 years. Ms. McCarthy said they did not want to do multiple small increases over several years. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to accept the recommendation of the Economic Development Planning and Zoning Committee met at 6:00 p.m. on Monday March 25, 2013 to discuss two issues. The first agenda item discussed was a proposal from the Planning Commission to change the zoning of the Masonic Temple to a Landmark. All three Committee Members voted to recommend to Council that this change take place. The second agenda item was review of the additional rules and regulations compiled by Building Commissioner Malone to aid in the enforcement of property maintenance standards in the Historic District. All three members agreed with the additions and recommend to Council that the changes be included in the Village’s Building and Property Maintenance Code. Mr. Scheeser asked about the screens that need to be fitted to all operable windows in units that are not equipped with air conditioning. Building Commissioner Malone said it is a health and sanitation concern with bugs and insects. It is in the Building Code as well as the Zoning Code. He does not believe it would require a large number of people to put in screens but it does add some teeth in the Code so it can be enforced. Mr. Stelzer asked about adopting the changes to Village Ordinance NO. O-11-10 and asked if this is really a change to what is in there. Building Commissioner Malone said we started off with 2006 Property Maintenance Code which was revised in 2009. The original Property Maintenance Code had a set of amendments in it already. This is amending the pre-existing legislation. Mr. Stelzer asked if within the property Maintenance Code are there minimum levels of conditions for example garage doors. In the Historic District there is some questionable stuff. Building Commissioner Malone said unfortunately there is not. The stipulations that are in the Property Maintenance Code are somewhat generic and somewhat generalized which is why they want more specificity. It does not address the uniformity. Mayor Policastro said we want to stop situations such as putting plywood over windows in garage doors. It does not make sense to have a Historic area and allow for plywood to be nailed over the mullions. Building Commissioner Malone said what he thinks is happening is they are painting the inside of the glass rather than actually putting plywood over the glass. The carriage doors on some of those garages are really expensive to replace. In his opinion the 16 panel pre-finished doors that you can get at Lowe’s or Home Depot for \$300 look good enough on garages. Mr. Hodulik said in the inspection reports they are asked to replace them with 9 panel overhead garage doors with no glass windows. Mr. Stelzer asked if the current owner of the Masonic Temple is okay with the Zoning change. Building Commissioner Malone said both the current owner and the possible new owner are both in favor of the change. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro referred the matter of fees for online swim and tennis registration to the finance Committee. Mr. Stelzer said they will discuss whether to surcharge residents who are using the online registration. In addition, he will recommend to both the swim and tennis boards that they utilize more social media when communicating upcoming events.

Resolutions:

“To Enter Into a Contract with the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation to Complete the Safe Routes to School Project” had a third reading. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-6-13 was adopted.

“To Confirm the Appointment of Jordan Schad as Swim Pool Manager for Calendar Years 2013 and 2014; and To Set Compensation” had a third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-7-13 was adopted

“Fixing a Time for Public Hearing on the 2014 Budget” had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“To Amend Ordinance O-22-11 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees” had a third reading. Ms. McCarthy moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-8-13 was adopted.

“To Repeal Ordinance No. O-10-12 Pertaining to Maximum Pay Rates for all Grades of Recreation Employees and to Enact New Legislation Pertaining to Maximum Pay Rates for All Grades of Recreation Employees” had a third reading. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-9-13 was adopted.

Mr. Scheeser said he wanted to comment on the back and forth e-mail exchange regarding the website administrator. He was encouraged by the new technology which makes it simpler. We need to think about post life of Council sitting in these chairs and have Mrs. Van Pelt and Mrs. Singleton support. He asked if Mayor Policastro was supportive to Mr. Andrews’s retooling the website so it would be easier to transition for the Administration Staff to maintain going forward. Mayor Policastro said he is going to have Premier Internet come in and redo the website. Mr. Andrews asked what the expense will be. Mayor Policastro said he does not know yet but he will look into it and refer the matter to the Finance Committee if needed. He does not want to put anyone down but he has had nothing but complaints in the last six months regarding the website saying that it is hard to navigate. We continue to have problems in the Tax Department and the Administration Office with the computers day in and day out. We need to get the new computers up and running. He has found Premier Internet to be reasonable and very responsive to our needs. Mr. Scheeser said after they set us up he suggests appointing a group of technological savvy residents that makes interventions and helps beautify the Village in a virtual way. Mr. Stelzer said he would make contact with Mr. Steve Barker who has extensive background with websites.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Dan Policastro, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk