

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OCTOBER 27, 2014**

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. Marsland, Mr. Miller, Ms. Palazzolo, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Tinkham and Mr. Wolter.

Mayor Policastro introduced Mr. Michael Heines from JAE Capital LLC. Mr. Heines bought the steam plant which he plans to tear down and build on the property homes and townhomes.

Mr. Heines said he has been in the real estate industry for 30 years starting his own company several years ago. He has several projects under his belt including housing developments in both Hyde Park and Blue Ash. The steam plant project interests him because it is in the Village of Mariemont. The product will be similar to the one in Blue Ash consisting of one story. This property has topography issues, stream issues and hillside issues. He explained that the units will be homes/townhomes consisting of three bedrooms with a possible lower level walk-outs. They will have views of Wasson Way and the Little Miami River. It will consist of twelve units. As part of the proposal they are not going to use the option to build on the hillside but rather donate the hillside back to the Village of Mariemont for the bird sanctuary eliminating the worry that the hillside may one day be built upon. The geo tech survey has been done. They plan on being environmentally friendly by recycling as much as they can of the building materials by putting it down on the road so it will not have to be trucked through the neighborhood. They also are planning to leave as much green space as they can and also the small stream.

Mr. Tinkham asked the advantage of having the land deeded to the Village. Mayor Policastro said over the years there have been fears that the hillside would be built upon and Mt. Vernon would become a through street. Now this land will become part of the bird sanctuary. This will ensure to everyone that there will never be anything built on the hillside which is very volatile. Mr. Tinkham questioned why not leave it with the homeowner's association. Mr. Miller said the homeowner's association could sell it at any time. Mayor Policastro said this ensures that it becomes part of the Village and we will always be in control as to what would happen to the area in the future.

Mr. Wolter asked about parking and fire emergency equipment egress. Mr. Heines said he has not yet worked with the Village emergency team. What they have done is a concept plan. The next step will be to work with safety services. Parking will consist of driveways with additional space for four visitor vehicles. Additional parking is available on Miami Run should it be necessary. Mr. Heines said the units will be made with wood, stone and brick but no vinyl. They will be 1500-1800 square feet ranging in price from low \$300,000 to \$400,000.

Mr. Heines said there are some old steps that will be removed before the land is deeded over to the Village. He is going to work with the Village to make sure that everything is done properly as far as legal description and the survey. Mr. Wolter said we have fought a lot of hill slippage and asked if a geologist has been consulted. Mr. Heines said a geo tech survey done. We do not plan to disturb the bottom of the hill. Mr. Wolter said he is excited about this project because it will be a major improvement over something that has been a problem for us for quite some time. Mr. Heines said they will begin to clear the area and take down some trees to try to get the culvert in. He is hopeful to start work in the spring after the EPA process. Mayor Policastro said he looks forward to working with Mr. Heines and is excited for the economic growth.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Tinkham to approve the minutes as written for October 13, 2014. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From Police Clerk Maupin: Mayor's Court Statement for September 2014

From Ruth Varner: October 2014 Parks Board Meeting Minutes

From Assistant Fiscal Officer Eldridge: September 2014 Monthly Report/Trend Reports

From Mariemont Pre-School Parents: e-mail Dated October 17, 2014 re: Play Equipment at Dogwood Park. Mayor Policastro said the request is to split the cost for new play equipment and said the Pre-school parents wanted to get started on this as soon as possible. Mr. Wolter asked if the play equipment will augment the new equipment. Mayor Policastro said yes and the expense will be charged to the Permanent Improvement Fund. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said the Village is in the position to contribute \$2200 towards the project. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to approve the expense. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

From Chief Hines: Recommendation of Change to Salary Ordinance for the Fire Department. Chief Hines said Captain Chris Ramsey is the Assistant Chief's right-hand man and is requesting his salary be increased .50 cents per hour. He has taken on more administrative work and asked that he be compensated accordingly. Presently he is being compensated at the same rate as a Lieutenant. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee. Mr. Miller commented that it is roughly a 2 ½% increase.

Mr. Kyle Romick, 3599 Flintpoint Way, was granted permission to address Council. He asked which branch of government would be in charge of the townhomes to be built at the steam plant. Solicitor McTigue said it would be the Executive Branch of government that would handle the approval process for the townhomes to be built. Mayor Policastro said if there are any changes that need to be made they would have to come before the Planning Commission and extended an invitation to Mr. Romick to attend. Mr. Romick did not like the idea of trees being cut down. Mayor Policastro said it is in

our code that if you take down a tree you must replace the tree with another. We only take a tree down if it is dead or is dangerous.

Alex, Mariemont Crescent, was given permission to address Council. He asked if the steam pipes would affect anything. Mayor Policastro said he did not think they would affect anything because they are old steam pipes are no longer being used to heat houses. They are now obsolete.

Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to accept the recommendation of the Rules and Law Committee which met on Monday October 13, 2014 to discuss the need for a Swim Pool employee handbook based on the recommendation from our liability insurance provider. Present were Committee members Maggie Palazzolo, Jim Tinkham, Dennis Wolter, Mayor Policastro and Administrative Joanee Van Pelt. The pool employee handbook was discussed and minor edits were made. The Committee approved putting the handbook into practice beginning the next pool season. Ms. Palazzolo will make the edits and pass it onto the village office for the pool manager. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Tinkham moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Thursday October 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss holiday pay for full-time employees. Present were Finance Committee members Eric Marsland and Joe Miller. Also in attendance were Mayor Policastro, Superintendent John Scherpenberg and Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. Chairman Marsland explained that the merit bonus system was suspended in 2010. For calendar years 2010, 2011 and 2012 the employees did not receive any sort of bonus. The Finance Committee last year approved \$250 for each full-time employee. Chairman Marsland said he spoke with Fiscal Officer Borgerding who indicated that the Village was doing well enough to do more this year. Committee members unanimously voted in favor of a \$500 holiday bonus for all full-time employees. The Committee also recommends this be handled as an emergency measure to give Department Heads adequate time to make arrangements for this payment to be made the first pay period in December. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said he talked with Chairman Marsland prior to the meeting and said he would recommend \$250-\$500 would be fine with him. Mayor Policastro said our employees have done a great job for us this past year and they deserve it. We would be nowhere without them that is for sure. The Village has done well this year – better than what was expected – and he believes we should share it with our employees. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The Mayor read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Beggar's Night will be Friday October 31, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Village Offices will be closed Thursday November 27, 2014 and Friday November 28, 2014 in Observation of Thanksgiving.

Luminaria/Tree Lighting will be Saturday December 6, 2014 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Resolutions:

“To Reappoint Dave Tensi as Inspector for the Building Commissioner for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a second reading.

“To Reappoint Christopher M. Ertel as Village Engineer for Calendar Years 2015 and 2016; and To Set Compensation” had a second reading. Mayor Policastro said that Engineer Ertel has done a fantastic job getting the Village grant money.

“To Reappoint Donald White as Mayor's Court Magistrate for Calendar years 2015 and 2016; To Set Compensation” had a second reading. Solicitor McTigue said Mr. White is an excellent magistrate and is very efficient which saves the Village money.

“To Confirm the Reappointment of Edward J. McTigue as Solicitor for the Village of Mariemont for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a second reading.

“To Confirm the Reappointment of Jordan Schad as Swim Pool manager for Calendar Years 2015 and 2016; and To Set Compensation” had a second reading. Mayor Policastro said Ms. Schad has really stepped into the position without missing a beat.

“Resolution of Support for Green Umbrella Regional Trails Plan” had a second reading. Mayor Policastro said he believes this organization will help the Village in the fight against ODOT and the State Route 32 Relocation Project.

“Resolution of Support for Taking Root Regional Reforestation Campaign” had a second reading. Mayor Policastro said the Village is a Tree City USA and we support this campaign.

“To Appoint Cindy Slavik as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Dave Wuertemberger as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2015” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Peggy Keyes as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Joan Vago as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for the Calendar Years of 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

“To Appoint Rhonda Materese as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Jane Stalzer as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

“To Reappoint Charlie Thomas as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for the Calendar Years 2015 and 2016” had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“Ordinance Amending Chapter 114 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Include Notice of No Solicitation within the Village” had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved seconded by Mr. Marsland to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nay. Ordinance No O-27-14 was adopted.

“To Amend Mariemont Code Section 78, Schedule of Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a first reading.

“To Designate Section of Cherry Lane in Front of Mariemont Community Church as a School Zone; and To Amend Mariemont Code Section 78, Schedule III, of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a first reading.

“To Amend Ordinance O-21-14 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to accept the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Schwartz to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-28-14 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer