

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FEBRUARY 11, 2019**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Graves Ms. Palazzolo, and Mrs. Rankin.

Mayor Policastro read an email from Ms. Schwartz requesting her absence be excused. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to excuse the absence of Ms. Schwartz. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro asked for a moment of silence for Clermont County Deputy Bill Brewer who was killed in the line of duty last week.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the minutes as written for the Council meeting January 28, 2019. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. (Mrs. Graves abstained)

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From Police Chief Hines: February 2019 Monthly Report/2018 Annual Report

From Assistant Fire Chief Kiefer: February 2019 Monthly Report/2018 Annual Report

From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: February 2019 Monthly Report

From Building Administrator Keyes: February 2019 Monthly Report. Mr. Brown said he thought there was discussion last year about charging when utility companies come in the Village and cuts a street that a building permit be issued and a fee charged. There is a notation about Cincinnati Water Works making a street cut on Joan Place but there was no charge. Ms. Palazzolo said Council did discuss the matter and also that someone would make an inspection. Mr. Brown said he will contact Mr. Keyes.

From Tax Administrator Busam: February 2019 Monthly Report. Mrs. Busam said that her assistant, Debbie Combs, will be retiring March 8, 2019. She would like to get someone hired as soon as possible to train. Mayor Policastro said he would appoint someone and Council would vote on it. Solicitor McTigue said the Mayor would appoint someone temporarily and if the Tax Administrator would be satisfied after six months, would make a recommendation that the person be hired by the Village on a Full-Time basis. Mr. Bartlett said the salary would need to fit within the salary range. Mrs. Busam said the individual she wants to hire is outside the salary range. Mr. Bartlett said he is holding a Finance Meeting on Wednesday to discuss the Tax Department Software and Systems and asked to have it referred to the Finance Committee to look at salary alignment for the new hire in the Tax Department. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said we are up \$60,000 from last January and asked if it was due to the tax law change. Mrs. Busam said most of it is due to the change of filing date for estimated payments. Assistant Fiscal Officer Wendler asked since the salary ordinance is already referred should the Finance Committee then review for Full-Time, Part-Time and Appointed Officials. Mrs. Van Pelt said she does not know if the Finance Committee is in a position to review them prior to the meeting on Wednesday and said that decision would be up to the Finance Committee Chairman. Minimum wage did go up in Ohio and the pay scale for the recreational employees will need to be adjusted accordingly. She recommends to look at that ordinance sooner than later to avoid doing it on an emergency basis. Mr. Bartlett asked Mrs. Van Pelt to get him the necessary information.

From Assistant Fiscal Officer Wendler: February 2019 Fiscal Officer's Monthly Report

Mr. Mike Smythe, 3607 Flintpoint Way, was granted permission to address Council. He said rumors are flying through the Village regarding our Solicitor Mr. McTigue. He endorses Mr. McTigue and believes he has done

a good job for the Village for 20 years with perhaps a few hiccups here and there with the code. He believes there is probably a lot of pro bono over the years.

He received a disturbing email today regarding Waldorf School which Village Council is aware of. They are our neighbor. There are some things in the email that make him believe it was not sent from legal counsel. We can extend an olive branch to our neighbor. He believes there has been a change in leadership with Waldorf when they engaged in Dale Park seven/eight years ago. Things have changed. Millennials are there, new parents etc. There is a mound that needs to be protected. He would like to see Council reach out and not spend legal money. The Mayor has done a nice job addressing this. It is possible that maybe we have had someone over there that has ruffled the feathers and could have maybe not had the communication or message delivered to us. He said that may be Louise who does a great job. He would like to see an olive branch reached out to the Waldorf School and fix the problem. He loves to hear the bells coming up Wooster Pike and see children playing. If the Principal at Waldorf is not addressing needs such as the mound, cemetery, ball field property etc. it needs to be addressed and put to rest.

Mayor Policastro said he is working with Waldorf School. He is going to put in the Mayor's Bulletin listing of special events at the school so residents in the area are aware of upcoming events for parking concerns. He said Ms. Schomburg does a great job and he is going to have Superintendent Scherpenberg take down the sign and put another sign up indicating a historic area. Mr. Smythe said that would be a good step.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to pay the bills as approved by the Fiscal Officer, Mayor, and Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to accept the recommendation of the Health & Recreation Committee which met at 3:10 p.m. on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 in Council Chambers, to discuss an increase in Mariemont Tennis Association (MTA) fees. Present at the meeting were Health & Recreation Committee Chairperson Bill Brown, Vice Chair Rob Bartlett, and member Mary Ann Schwartz. Also present were Linda Bartlett and Dina Wilder. Dina Wilder, MTA President, came before the Committee to request a rate increase for MTA membership for the 2019 season, with new rates to become effective March 1, 2019. Linda Bartlett, MTA Membership Chair, explained that membership is up, and with improvements made at the courts over the last year, plus comparing our prices with other local clubs, a slight increase in rates is warranted. The following is the suggested MTA price increase:

<u>On or before Memorial Day</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Family	\$85	\$100
Adult	\$40	\$45
Jr (under 18)	\$20	\$25
Senior (60+)	\$35	\$40
 <u>After Memorial Day</u>		
Family	\$100	\$120
Adult	\$47	\$50
Jr (under 18)	\$25	\$30
Senior (60+)	\$40	\$45

Guest fee can be prepaid at above membership amount.

The Committee recommends the proposed rate increases and requests that the necessary legislation be passed on an emergency basis so the new rates may be implemented prior to the start of registration. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

The applications for Outstanding Citizen of the Year are to be turned in to Mrs. Van Pelt by Thursday March 13, 2019.

Village Offices will be closed Monday February 18, 2019 in Observation of Presidents' Day.

Resolutions:

“To Appoint Becky Moore as a Member of the Pool Commission to Fill the Unexpired Term of Wes Iredale for the Calendar Year 2019” had third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-1-19 was adopted.

“To Appoint Peter Wren as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for the Calendar Years 2019 and 2020” had a second reading. Mayor Policastro said Mr. Wren is a registered architect.

Ordinances:

“To Provide New Rates for Tennis Passes; To Repeal Ordinance No. O-6-15; And To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Mr. Brown said there has not been a rate increase since 2013. This is a very modest increase. Mrs. Bartlett said membership has increase from 80 in 2013 to 140 presently. Mr. Bartlett said MTA proactively came to Council and the Committee wants to see if there is something that can be done regarding the pipes at the shelter. He was glad to have some money appropriated in the Permanent Improvement Fund. It is a chance to improve the facility and maintain membership. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-2-19 was adopted.

Chief Hines said he was late to the Permanent Improvement meeting and the reason being he was at Channel 9 doing a telethon for fund raising for The Shield which he serves on the Executive Board as the Benefits Coordinator. The Shield provides assistance to families of officers that are critically injured or killed in the line of duty such as Officer Woods and Deputy Brewer. It is a 5013C organization so contributions are tax deductible. If anyone would want to make a donation or has questions he would be happy to assist.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony Borgerding, Fiscal Officer

