

**Village of Mariemont
Regular Council Meeting
January 25, 2021**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Present was Mr. Bartlett. Virtually present due to the COVID-19 pandemic were Mrs. Graves, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin, Ms. Palazzolo, Mr. Stelzer, Fiscal Officer Borgerding, and Solicitor McTigue.

Mayor Brown said longtime resident, Joe Stoner, died last week. He was a former Mariemont Preservation Foundation President and Treasurer. He had great knowledge of the Village and was known for the pictures he took that adorned the cover of the Village directory. Our community will surely miss him.

Mayor Brown swore in the Village K-9 dog “Dasty” with his handler, Officer Matt Kurtz. Police Chief Hines said Officer Kurtz and Dasty completed 16 weeks of training at the Cincinnati Police Canine Academy. The Matt Haverkamp Foundation bought Dasty for the Village. The vet services will be donated by Dr. Hill at Pet Care Animal Hospital. We have had several donations by residents and commitments of donations from local businesses. The program should fund itself. Dasty will be a great PR tool for the community. He will be used for tracking and drug suppression. Once we are able to gather, he looks forward to introducing him to the community.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the minutes for the Council meeting January 11, 2021 and Permanent Improvement meeting January 21, 2021. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Tax Administrator Darrah: Annual Report 2020

*From Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner: Annual Report 2020

*From Assistant Fiscal Officer Wendler: December 2020 Monthly Report/Expense/Revenue Report

Permission To Address Council:

No Requests

Motion To Pay Bills:

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chairman of the Finance Committee. Ms. Palazzolo questioned the long-distance charges – while not a lot of money she was shocked that anyone was paying for long distance. Mayor Brown said we would have to look at the bill. Ms. Palazzolo said she would follow-up with Ms. Wendler who set up the new landline phone service. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the recommendation of the Rules and Law Committee. Attendees: Rob Bartlett, Marcy Lewis, Maggie Palazzolo. The Committee discussed removing the residency requirement for the positions of Police Chief, Street Commissioner and Administrator. Our codebook states these positions must either be staffed by Village residents or (in the case of the Police Chief) that the person hired must become a Village resident in a specified amount of time. The Committee agreed that in all cases, we would be better served by a non-resident who has the expertise to do the job best whether that is a resident or not. The Committee unanimously recommends that the residency requirement be dropped for the positions of Police Chief, Street Commissioner and Administrator. The suggested changes in wording are attached as an addendum. The Committee recommends that the Solicitor prepare the necessary legislation. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 2:00 pm via video to discuss purchase requests from the Police Department. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Kelly Rankin and Joe Stelzer,

Mayor Bill Brown, and Police Chief Rick Hines. The Finance Committee reviewed the purchase request submitted by the Police Department as part of the Permanent Improvement Budget process for 2021. The Police department is requesting a new police car with the necessary additional equipment. We delayed this purchase in 2020 due to Covid. The cost of the new car plus all of the additional equipment and graphics is not to exceed \$45,000.00. The car will be purchased from Lebanon Ford. The equipment will be purchased from Cincinnati Safety Upfitters. The graphics will be purchased from A&A Safety. This equipment is being purchased via the state contract, which ensures we are getting the same low price from all dealers. Chief Hines will handle selling either the oldest police car, or the Fire Department's car and that money will be returned to the Village. This request by the Police Department for a police car was included in the approved Permanent Improvement budget for 2021 at \$45,000.00. The Finance Committee recommends going forward with this spending request, and to use the money budgeted in the Permanent Improvement Fund. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee met on January 15, 2021 at 2:00 pm via video to discuss purchase requests from the Fire Department and the Tennis Association. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Kelly Rankin and Joe Stelzer, Mayor Bill Brown, and Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feichtner. The Finance Committee reviewed the purchase request submitted by the Fire Department as part of the Permanent Improvement Budget process for 2021. The Fire department is requesting five new sets of turn-out gear. The cost of the five new sets of turn-out gear is not to exceed \$17,500.00. They will be purchased from Phoenix Safety Outfitters. This equipment is being purchased via the state contract, which ensures we are getting the same low price from all dealers. The Tennis Association is requesting improvements to the tennis shed. Currently, the water cannot be turned on in the shed until May due to the pipes potentially freezing (which has occurred in the past). Also, the bathrooms need to be renovated and the Tennis Association is proposing to add more storage space inside the shed. The Tennis Association has raised \$10,000 in private funds for these renovations. The total cost of the project is not to exceed \$30,000. The Tennis Association will reimburse the Village once the project is completed. Trick Custom Construction, LLC will do the work, and can begin in mid-February, so the bathrooms should be available by early March for the start of Mariemont's varsity boys tennis team (girls tennis is in the fall). Both projects were included in the approved Permanent Improvement budget for 2021. The 5 sets of turn-out gear were budgeted for \$17,500. The tennis shed renovation was budgeted for a net cost to the Village of \$20,000 (\$30,000 cost less the \$10,000 reimbursement). The Finance Committee recommends going forward with these two spending requests, and to use the money budgeted in the Permanent Improvement Fund. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

The Outstanding Citizen Award nominations are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by March 11, 2021.

Resolutions:

“To Appoint Tom Gilmore as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Year of 2021 To Fill the Unexpired Term of Anita Hunt” had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-1-21 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Don Keyes to the Position of Building Department Administrator for Calendar Years 2021 and 2022; to Set Compensation” had a second reading.

“Resolution to Update Swimming Pool Fees” had a second reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to amend the Resolution to read “on or before” May 1, 1956. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

“Resolution to Update Tennis Court Fees for the Season” had a second reading.

“To Purchase a New Police Cruiser, Necessary Equipment, and Graphics; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-2-21 was adopted.

“To Purchase Five New Sets of Turnout Gear Using the State of Ohio Purchasing Program; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-3-21 was adopted.

“To Perform Work for Permanent Improvements Related to the Tennis Shed and Bathrooms; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-4-21 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“To Amend Section 51.025(A)(1)(a) of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances relative to the Architectural Review Board” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-2-21 was adopted.

“Creating a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area for Downtown Mariemont and Enacting Regulations” had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-3-21 was adopted.

“Ordinance To Remove Chapter 79, Schedule II(B)(1) and (2) and (C) Restricting Overnight Parking” had a second reading. Dr. Lewis said Council received a letter from a resident and asked if anyone reached out to her. Mrs. Rankin said she will reach out to her.

“To Amend Mariemont Code of Ordinances Chapter 79, Schedule I(B)(1), No Parking; Chapter 79, Schedule II(A) Limited Parking; Parallel Parking” had a second reading.

“To Amend Mariemont Code of Ordinance Chapter 75.09, Riding on Sidewalks” had a second reading.

“Ordinance to Remove Section 37.20 through Section 37.22 Regarding Civil Defense Organization” had a second reading. Ms. Palazzolo said we contract these services. This is simply to bring code book up to date.

“To Amend Mariemont Code of Ordinances Chapter 95 Parks and Recreation: Municipal Swimming Pool” had a second reading.

“To Amend Mariemont Code of Ordinances Chapter 31 Executive Authority, Village Fiscal Officer” had a second reading. Mr. Bartlett said once the legislation is passed Council will need to name those who will be on the Audit Committee. Mr. Bartlett will follow up.

“Ordinance Establishing a Tree Advisory Board in the Village of Mariemont and Creating New Section 37.06 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a second reading. Mayor Brown had a conversation with Board Member, Barb Whittaker, who suggested that members have some sort of identification when working in the Village. Some ideas were a placard, colored vests etc. Also, they suggested having materials they could leave at the residence to let them know they had been there.

“Ordinance Amending Section 32.13 Rules of Council (Y), Rule 24, of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a second reading.

Fiscal Officer Borgerding sent the Annual Fiscal Officer’s Report to the Finance Committee. Mr. Stelzer said he wanted to look it over. He asked if there would be a revised Appropriation Ordinance that would become the true budget for the Village. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said we could do a Supplemental Ordinance to make changes.

Council agreed to do the Code of Ordinances recodification this year.

Mr. Bartlett asked to remove from the Finance Committee the deep dive into the budget from the agenda.

Ms. Palazzolo set the target date for the recodification is March 2021. Mrs. Van Pelt will make the change on the agenda.

Ms. Palazzolo set the target date for email policy procedures and retention policy for February 2021. Mrs. Van Pelt will make the change on the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer