

**Village of Mariemont
Special Council Meeting
March 26, 2021**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Virtually present due to the COVID-19 pandemic were Mr. Bartlett, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin, Mr. Stelzer, Engineer Ertel and Pool Board Member Lorne Hlad.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to excuse Mrs. Graves and Ms. Palazzolo from the meeting. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Engineer Ertel said we received 6 bids for the Murray Multi-Use Path construction ranging in price from \$236,000 to \$348,000. The low bidder was Pinnacle Paving and Sealing with a bid of \$236,433.49. They have not worked for Mariemont in his tenure with the Village. The contractor submitted a statement of qualifications. He checked two references and received positive reviews. He feels they are capable of performing the work within industry standards and recommends awarding the project to Pinnacle Paving and Sealing.

Engineer Ertel said the next step is to adopt an Emergency Resolution to accept the bid. Mrs. Van Pelt indicated that emergency legislation cannot be adopted with only four members of Council present. Council agreed to pass the Resolution and to check with the Solicitor should it need to be adopted at the next Council meeting.

“To Accept the Bid of Pinnacle Paving and Sealing, Inc., for the Murray Avenue Multi-Use Trail Project; To Authorize Contract; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mr. Stelzer shared a Power Point presentation detailing construction costs (\$289,116), ODNR funding (\$203,468), Columbia Township contributions (\$75,000), private contributions (\$100,500) which allows monies for landscaping of \$89,852. Some costs were not covered/eligible under ODNR. He noted that construction costs could fluctuate during the process, however, amounts are not expected to materially change. Contributions continue to be received so fundraising total will probably increase. The Wasson Way path will connect with the existing Murray Path into our new Murray Path within the next year. This will take the path all the way to the University of Cincinnati and Xavier University in the near future. The timeline is for Council to award the project and have the updated landscape plan by the end of March. A utility pole needs to be moved which is scheduled for April. The landscape plan will be out for public input in April. The hope for May is that path construction is complete, and the landscaping plan is finalized. The landscaping will be done in phases due to timing of planting of plants and trees. Dr. Lewis suggested Wendi Van Buren, Arborist for ODNR, take a look at the plan.

Mr. Stelzer said the legacy of the project shows that neighboring governments, businesses, residents etc. can partner and come together to improve communities. It also shows leverage of the use of State grants and private contributions instead of raising local taxes to fund a project. It is a cost-efficient path that will provide a safe pathway, reduce surface drainage issues, provides a beautiful gateway to Mariemont and Columbia Township and provides an alternative transportation corridor which is very valuable.

Mr. Stelzer thanked the following for all their work, donations, support and time devoted to this project: ODNR, Rick Greiwe, Don Mills, Martin Koepke, Residents of the Village of Mariemont, Mayor Bill Brown, Former Councilmember Troy Hawkins, Engineer Chris Ertel, Columbia Township Trustees, current and former Administrators and their residents, numerous 250 financial contributors, Green Umbrella, The Crown Network, 50 West Brewery, Madison Place businesses, Matt Ayer, Lisa Wharton, Tony Schmidt and Gordon Rankin.

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the bid of Pinnacle Paving and Sealing. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mr. Stelzer provided a Power Point presentation reviewing the fencing options for the pool, final design and approval of cost. Due to timing, it is desirable to have the fence installed prior to the pool opening. The pool fence project is needed for many reasons. It presents the image that positive change is coming to the pool. Capital improvements at the pool were ignored for far too long. The existing fence is 60+ years old and is broken in many places. It is in bad shape and probably beyond repair. The barb wire isn't a good look aesthetically and creates a bad first-time impression of the facility. The existing fence is dangerous with barbed wire on top and open chain link on the bottom. Many spots of the fence allow someone to walk right through. It is more cost efficient to replace the fence than to repair due to the age of the fence and materials. The presentation included the scope of the project and the 6' fence material options including ultra-aluminum and color coated black vinyl chain link. The cost considerations: Ultra aluminum fence entire area \$46,000; Ultra aluminum in front and coated chain link in back \$37,000-43,000; Black vinyl coated chain link entire area \$34,000-\$40,000. The price variances are caused by fluctuations in material costs. The ultra-aluminum material for the entire pool lot versus only the front of the pool lost included the cost, aesthetics, and Mariemont's general discouraged use of chain-linked fences.

Mr. Hlad said the Pool Advisory Board prefers the ultra-aluminum and would recommend not to mix the materials. The contractors have indicated that the ultra-aluminum fence provides longer durability. The spear top presents a better safety measure. The Committee will be grateful with the decision of Council should the decision be to go forward.

Mr. Stelzer continued with other considerations of the pool fence project including durability and maintenance. The ultra-aluminum is most durable and has minimal maintenance. The availability of replacement parts in the future would not likely be an issue as the ultra-aluminum is currently the most popular fence and there should be plenty of replacement parts in the future. These are American made products.

Discussion ensued regarding the budget allocated for the pool both from the General Fund and the Permanent Improvement Fund. With the cost of the fence included, there would be approximately \$35,000 left in the budget for emergency repairs etc. Council also discussed future needs and repairs at the pool, such as a pool pump. Mayor Brown voiced concern spending such a large amount this year. The damage of the roof at the pool has been examined and the Mayor is waiting to hear back. Mr. Stelzer said if needed, he will make a call to the adjuster regarding the insurance claim. Mr. Hlad said the Pool Commission does not have any other items to bring before Council this year. Mr. Stelzer said the pool needs new umbrellas and starting blocks. He suggested looking at what those costs would be before the pool opens. Mr. Hlad said those purchases could wait compared to the fence. He estimated that the combined cost for those items would be \$10,000. He cautioned that now that the Village is aware that the fence is damaged, it could present challenges and problems. He also said the Pool Commission is very motivated to fundraise for projects that are enhancements, not capital improvements, such as the umbrellas, starting blocks and water enhancements. Council has approved the funds; it now has to simply approve the project. Mr. Bartlett said he would charge the Pool Commission with fundraising for the additional items needed as he believes that it is important to leave a cushion in the budget for any emergency purchases or repairs.

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin for the fence project to not exceed \$47,000 and to have the whole fence be one material and agreed on the Ultra-Aluminum material. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mr. Stelzer said Mayor Brown and Superintendent Scherpenberg will work with Mr. Hlad to complete the purchase order, finalize the design quote, contact the insurance company and check with the Solicitor that all legal requirements are met. In addition, they will confirm the availability of the contractor.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer