

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
November 22, 2021**

Council member Avia Graves called the meeting to order at 6:30 with the pledge of allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Stelzer, and Mr. York.

Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Yor to excuse the absence of Mrs. Rankin. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Graves said that the fire department consultant, Mr. Kramer, was present to discuss his final report and to answer any questions that we might have. Mr. Kramer thanked Council for the opportunity to assist Mariemont on making sure its citizens get the very best fire and EMS service. His final report should have been read by now. His presence at the meeting was to answer questions and provide follow-up as needed. Once the decision was made clear by the Citizens Committee, by his report, and by Council, it became quite clear that we are going to try to preserve the Mariemont Fire Department intact to provide immediate fire and EMS service from the center of the Village. It is a quality operation and is very special. Mr. Kramer said he looks at several fire departments every year as a consultant and this is genuinely special. You have a good thing going. There is no need to rehash all the details of the report. That decision was made as a follow-up. It was agreed that there are ways to economize in the department, such as savings with equipment. If there is a reduction in the budget in the future, variable staffing options may need to be considered. There may also be more cooperation between fire and police so the police would be more of an ally as first or simultaneous response with the fire department. Many of these suggestions have already been discussed with Chief Hines and Asst. Chief Copeland that could be implemented now and some in the future. A summary of these ideas have been sent to Mayor Brown and Mr. Bartlett.

Mr. Bartlett thanked Mr. Kramer for the summary report he had sent and said he wasn't clear about the savings on equipment. He asked if Mr. Kramer had something specific in mind. Mr. Kramer said he and Chief Hines and Asst. Chief Copeland had discussed combining three vehicles into one and thinks it could be paid for by the sale of older apparatus. That could save six to seven hundred thousand dollars. He will continue to work with Asst. Chief Copeland to explain this as the department moves toward the required new pumper in 2026. Asst. Chief Copeland said he had been reviewing our equipment and how it was being used and what would be needed in the future. Looking at a \$750,000 for a fire truck and then looking at what EMS equipment would be needed, plus a staff vehicle, he found there is a smaller truck, called a mini pumper and it would provide more use and cost less to equip and maintain. There are still things to consider, such as the revenue received from EMS billing and grants that he can apply for, but he would continue to look at all alternatives. Mr. Bartlett asked which of Mr. Kramer's ideas should be given priority. Mr. Kramer said living quarters might be a good thing to look at first. Mr. Bartlett asked about a new lighting system that works in conjunction with traffic lights to let drivers know an emergency vehicle is coming. Asst. Chief Copeland said he is already looking into that and for grants from the proposed infrastructure bill. Mr. Bartlett reminded Asst. Chief Copeland that the Citizens Committee had asked for an annual report. Dr. Lewis said she would like to see a CPR class and Chief Hines said they are excited to put that in place. Mrs. Graves said we need to make sure the need for renovations to the building should be placed at the top of the list. Dr. Lewis stated that we missed out on a large private donation because of the Village considering sharing services with other communities, one of which the donor had been told not to work with.

Mrs. Graves asked that the minutes from November 22, 2021 be corrected to read Madisonville Road instead of Plainville Road. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to approve the minutes as corrected. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Communications:

*From Superintendent Scherpenberg: Outsourcing Mowing Contract. GrassCor does not want to take the renewal at 2%. Mrs. Graves assigned the matter to Public Works Committee.

*From Village Engineer Ertel: Memo Dated November 18, 2021 re: Murray Path Planting Plan Final Cost. Mr. Stelzer said that according to Mr. Ertel's memo, we are a little bit over on the Raymond Landscaping compared to the 'not to exceed' number, but we are under for the other Raymond Landscaping invoice for the water services so they kind of balance out. The reason that we are over is that we want the sod versus the seeding to get the thing done. We ran into construction delays which forced us to go to sod to get grass down before the weather changed. It actually looks a lot better out there so that's what's

going on with that one. The second one is the summary document that I had shared with council to indicate where we're at right now and the spending and the reimbursements and the rest of that. We're still looking at potentially having a surplus of private contributions after thing is finished but we have to wait to see what Ohio Department of Natural Resources reimburses us. If we do have extra funds left over at the end, I plan to reach out to our donors for input on what we should do with that money. It has been suggested that we include things like benches or drinking fountains. We could also use it to fund a design study for the next portion of the path. We still will have reimbursements to make to the Village.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mrs. Graves asked for a motion to pay the bills. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the recommendation of the the Health & Recreation Committee which met on November 18th to discuss options for the management of the Village Pool during 2022 season. Present at the meeting were Health & Recreation Committee members: Stelzer, Graves & Lewis, Mayor Brown, Councilperson York, Pool Commission President Pouder and representatives from Cincinnati Pool Management and Swim Safe Pool Management. The Committee was informed that the Village did not receive a letter of interest for the Pool Manager position. There was brief presentation by both Management Companies that included a question-and-answer session with meeting attendees. One change from the original Request for Proposal was discussed with the Management Companies. The Village of Mariemont requested the option until March 1 st, 2022 to remove the services related to Concession Stand from the new contract. This request will allow the Village to further investigate the selection of a different company to manage the concession stand only. This change was acceptable to both companies. Pool Commission President Pouder shared the unanimous recommendation from the Pool Commission to select Cincinnati Pool Management as the management company for the 2022 Pool season as well as some of the reasons for the selection. There was a deliberation of the various alternatives, and the Committee unanimously recommends to full Council the selection of Cincinnati Pool Management to manage the Pool for the 2022 season. Members of the Pool Commission are in the process of identifying Pool related tasks not covered by the Management Company proposal to assign responsibility to assure they will be properly completed next season.

Mr. Stelzer said he wished to commend Pool Commissioner President, Mandy Pouder, for a great job in taking some examples of requests for proposals we received from other municipalities. We have been fighting a battle with that pool for a while. Our revenues were decreasing and our attendance was going down. We made some changes in the last couple of years to try to improve those statistics and we did make some improvement. Some of that was because we raised prices. Now we have to be able to provide a product to match those higher prices. A management company is going to help us improve the overall quality of the pool and the experience for the residents. We will also consider having a separate management company for the concession stand. The individual we have been speaking with about this did not want to submit a proposal at this time because they typically wait until the spring to determine what they are going to do with the concession stand operation. That is why we asked to wait until March 1st to make that decision. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

Leaf Season is October 25, 2021 through Thursday December 23, 2021. Don't rake leaves into the street. Rumpke will take bagged leaves if residents don't want to wait for the leaf vacuum truck.

Village offices will be closed November 25-26 in Observation of Thanksgiving.

Council Meeting in December will be Monday, December 20th at 6:30 p.m.

Village offices will be closed Friday December 24th and Friday December 31st in Observation of Christmas and New Year's Day 9.

Resolutions:

"To Confirm the Appointment of Rod Holloway as Village Zoning Officer; to Set Compensation and to Declare an Emergency" had a second reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to suspend the rules to allow for a third reading.

On roll call: five ayes, no nays. The resolution received a third reading. On roll call: fives ayes, no nays. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to invoke the emergency. On roll call: five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-57-21 was adopted.

“Resolution Hiring Ken Geis consulting Group, LTD. For Consultation on Economic Development Projects Within the Village of Mariemont; And To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. York to suspend the rules to allow for a second and third reading. On roll call: five ayes, no nays. The resolution had a second reading. Mr. Stelzer said he would have preferred for Mr. Geis to volunteer his services as a Village resident, but he would not vote against the resolution. The resolution had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the resolution. On roll call: five ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency. On roll call: five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-58-21 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“Ordinance Amending Section 151.04 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances Regarding Fence Construction” (Third Reading) Tabled 7-12-21

“To Amend Section 79, Schedule I of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances To Include No Parking On West Street Between Thorndike and Madisonville Road” had a first reading.

Mr. Bartlett asked Fiscal Officer Mr. Borgerding if the audit could be passed on to the Audit Committee. Mr. Borgerding said we only have a draft at this point, but it could go to the committee. Mr. Bartlett said he would prefer to wait for the final copy.

Council discussed ways in which to move forward and choose priorities.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34

William A. Brown, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer