

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
February 28, 2022**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:33 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Mrs. Brownknight, Ms. Geldbaugh, Dr. Lewis and Mrs. Rankin.

Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to excuse the absence of Mr. York. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to accept the February 14, 2022 Council meeting minutes as written. On roll call: four ayes, no nays. (Mr. Bartlett abstained due to his absence from the meeting).

Communications:

From Administration Office: Spending request form for 2022 fireworks. Mayor Brown said the Village does receive donations, but this would authorize the expenditure for the difference. The fireworks will be held on Monday July 4th, 2022. Council agreed to the expenditure.

From Grant Karnes, Email dated February 10, 2022 re: Rallye Porche Event. Mayor Brown said they would like to conduct the event again this year in Mariemont but are not positioned to pay for the overtime police detail and set-up which last year cost approximately \$2,500-\$3,000. We run the risk of setting bad precedent because there are other events such as the 5K, Warrior Run etc., where they shoulder the burden of the expense of putting on the event. The Village has to be consistent. He is hopeful that they may be able to raise the money. Council agreed that it needed to be consistent. Mayor Brown will reach out to Mr. Karnes that we would like to see the event continue but inform him of Council's decision. Ms. Geldbaugh said the parking in the school lot interrupted with the Farmer's Market.

From former Mariemont Tax Administrator Darrah: January 2022 Monthly Report. Mayor Brown said that the new Tax Administrator, Chuck Barlow, will be present at the next Council meeting.

Permission to Address Council:

Assistant Fire Chief Copeland distributed to members of Council information on a Mini Pumper that was part of the recommendation of the Kramer Report to incorporate some cost savings. A Fire Apparatus Committee was created within the Mariemont Fire Department to research and find a "Mini-Pumper" fire apparatus that will facilitate the best needs and protection of the Village. Fouts Bros has in available stock a unit that checks all the boxes of the Apparatus Committee and more and will be available in May 2022. It will combine three vehicles into one costing one-third of what the new full-sized pumper would cost. A mini pumper with ALS medical equipment and supplies would allow EMS billing units medical calls and provide a quick response to fires. Currently, the replacement cost of the Quint is nearing 1.5 million dollars. The cost is \$249,000 which will be off set with the sale of Engine 67 for \$125,000 and Medic 267 which was sold for \$31,500. Mayor Brown referred the matter to the Finance Committee and stated that time is of the essence.

Mayor Brown referred the matter of Bed and Breakfasts in the Village to the Rules and Law Committee. Time is of the essence as a State House Bill is pending which may limit or diminish the Village's ability to regulate. In many instances, the Ohio Revised Code trump local codes, however, he feels a bill that severely limits a municipality's ability to do something may be challenged.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mrs. Brownknight 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:

None

Miscellaneous:

Annual Outstanding Citizen Award Nominations are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by March 10, 2022

Plans for Memorial Day have not yet been determined if it will be the traditional parade with the presentation of the Outstanding Citizen Award or the emergency vehicle parade throughout the Village or a combination or both.

Regarding Council's recommendations for the Village Strategy Session, Mr. Bartlett said this was to have been determined at the last Council meeting. After discussion, those who were recommended and had confirmed were Mayor Brown, Mr. Bartlett, Ronn Ross (Mariemont Elementary School parent), Erika Fey (Preschool Parents Group), Kathleen Cail (Accessibility Perspective). Follow-up to include:

Village Square Retail Business Owner: Bill Spinnenweber as primary, with Lisa Hopkins or Jennifer Degerberg as potential back-up with Mayor Brown to contact.

Old Town Square Business: Karen Fallon as Primary with Ms. Geldbauh to follow-up, with Bill DeCamp as potential back-up with Mrs. Rankin to contact should Karen Fallon not be available.

Rental Property Owner: Chad Osgood as primary, with Dennis Hamilton as back-up (Mrs. Rankin to contact both).

Mariemont Renter: Michael Cain primary with Mr. Bartlett to follow-up. Janet Zack is back-up with Mrs. Rankin to contact.

Industrial District Business Representative: Rob Rye (Mayor Brown to work with Assistant Fire Chief Dan Copeland).

Resident over 60: Bobbi Bahler with Mrs. Rankin to confirm.

MariElders: Mayor Brown to continue to contact to determine interest.

Mariemont Preservation Foundation: Rex Bevis primary with Paul Mace as back-up (Dr. Lewis to contact both).

Resolutions:

"To Confirm the Reappointment of Christopher M. Ertel as the Village Engineer for Calendar Years 2021 and 2022; and To Set Compensation" had a second reading.

"Authorizing the Village of Mariemont to Participate in the Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse Consortium; and To Declare Emergency" had a second reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to suspend the rules to allow for the third reading. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to invoke the emergency. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-5-22 was adopted.

"To Authorize the Solicitation of Bids for 2022 Street Repairs; and To Declare Emergency" had a second reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to suspend the rules to allow for the third reading. On roll call; five ayes, no ayes. The resolution had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Resolution. 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. Resolution No. R-6-22 was adopted.

"To Increase the Tennis Fees for the 2022 Season" had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“To Delete in Their Entirety Sections 151.115 and 151.116, Solar Heating, Cooling, and Hot Water Systems, from the Mariemont Code of Ordinances and to Include New Sections 151.115 through 151.21 Solar Energy Systems” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mrs. Brownknight to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-3-22 was adopted.

“Ordinance to Amend Section 151.105 to Address Invisible Fences in the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Brownknight to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-4-22 was adopted.

“Ordinance Amending Section 151.091, Temporary Portable Storage Units, and Temporary Portable Toilets of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a third reading. Mrs. Brownknight moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-5-22 was adopted.

“To Confirm the Reappoint of Elissa Wendler as Part-Time IT Administrator for Calendar Years 2022 and 2023; and To Set Compensation” had a second reading.

“To Repeal Ordinance No. O-18-21 Pertaining to Maximum Pay Rates for All Grades of Recreation Employees and To Enact New Legislation Pertaining To Maximum Pay Rates for All Grades of Recreation Employees” had a second reading.

“To Amend Ordinance O-21-21 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances To Increase Payment for Employees” had a second reading.

“Ordinance Amending Chapter 150 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances regarding Building Regulations General Provisions” had a first reading.

Task List:

None

Updates on Council Committee assignments.

Mrs. Brownknight said the Rules and Law have an upcoming meeting scheduled for Monday March 7, 2022.

Mrs. Rankin gave an update on the Health and Recreation Committee. She met with Engineer Ertel and a representative from Beaver Creek Hydrology regarding Walking Path (Whiskey Creek). She recommends that it come out of this committee due to the large scope of work due to erosion issues. It was referred to the Task List with Mrs. Rankin and Engineer Ertel as point contacts.

Mrs. Rankin said they are trying to determine if the same company should inspect the Dale Park Hillside. It was agreed to have Mr. York make the call. There was discussion that there was a plan to plant ground coverings etc. that Mr. Stelzer had researched.

Mrs. Rankin said the Bell Tower restrooms can be removed from the Health and Recreation Committee.

The item of review process for formal acceptance of contracts was removed. It was resolved in the Finance Committee with the purchase order process of costs over \$5,000.

Mayor Brown gave an update from the Pool Commission meeting. It was agreed to not go forward with the large pipe replacement this year. They created a 2022 budget and decided on the concession stand vendor. They are trying to get secondary coverage for alcohol consumption at the pool. The Committee is looking into software provided by ESoft which allows for cashless transactions at the concession stand and

would help track inventory. It also has a membership attendance tracking system which they believe would be a good tool. They were going to set up a demo and asked the Tennis Association if they could utilize this as well. The Commission also wants to paint the bathhouses and possibly update the fixtures. There was discussion in the meeting of cutting a new window in the back of the snack shack to allow for walk-up sales. The minutes from the meeting are posted on the website.

Mr. Bartlett said the employee process target date is June 2022. Dr. Lewis said in the meeting it was discussed that this matter was not in the purview of the legislative duty. It was agreed that Mr. Bartlett would work with Mayor Brown.

Mr. Bartlett said the Operations Manager position will be posted by Mr. York when he returns. He is hopeful for a June 2022 target date.

Mr. Bartlett said the Village Strategic Plan target date is May 2022.

Mr. Bartlett said the assessment of grant opportunities with Hamilton County Planning & Development is targeted for April 2023. Council has a lot of projects up in the air and the hard deadline is April. The best opportunity to receive funding is the first time applying. He suggests waiting and put our best application forward next year and focus on the CDBG currently.

Ms. Geldbaugh said she is going to reach out to former Safety Committee Chair, Avia Graves, for information and then she plans on talking with the condominium residents and determine a target date by the next Council meeting. Mayor Brown said he will share emails from residents he has received.

Mrs. Brownknight said she has received complaints regarding lighting in a parking lot. Mayor Brown said he has gone back and forth with one of her neighbors regarding this issue as well as Mr. Spinnenweber and Village Engineer, Chris Ertel. They met in the parking lot to determine the light level and what must be done by code. We do not yet have a good solution for this yet, but Mr. Spinnenweber did agree to put a slight visor on one of the lights. It was recommended that the matter be added to the Task List.

Dr. Lewis said the creation of the CRA Council should have a target date of March 2022. The Solicitor is presently reviewing. She needs to go back and review exploring financial incentives for local businesses. She asked that working with MPF Task Force to take proactive steps to preserve Village architectural heritage be placed back on the agenda. She has been having conversations with Mr. Geis who is attempting to contact various business owners in the Industrial Zone. Kellogg's is on their third new Plant Manager. She does not believe he is ready to give an update to Council.

Mrs. Rankin said she received a quote for painting the lamp posts. The quote is for per pole/per type. Service Superintendent Scherpenberg is to meet with the company representative to go on a field trip through the Village. The Public Works and Service Committee will reconvene after that takes place. She is working on setting up a meeting to discuss the outsourcing of mowing.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer

