

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
July 11, 2022**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Bartlett, Mrs. Brownknight, Ms. Geldbaugh, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Rankin, and Mr. York.

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin, to accept the minutes as written for June 27, 2022. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Communications:

From Police Chief Hines: June 2022 Monthly Report. Mayor Brown wanted to call attention to a thank you letter to Mariemont Police and Fire Departments from the Love family. Their son Curran's birthday party was held in the lot behind the Municipal building. He was thrilled and they enjoyed their interaction with the officers.

From Assistant Fire Chief Copeland: June 2022 Monthly Report

From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: June 2022 Monthly Report. Superintendent Scherpenberg gave a brief update on the mowing. Mowing is on hold for the moment as the Service Department is catching up on the clean-up from the recent storms. One mower is out cutting the high spots. He is concerned about mowing during leaf season. Minutemen will help with leaf collection, but they still need Village employees to operate the trucks. He thanked Mr. York and his wife and other volunteers who helped out over the weekend at Hopkins Park. They cleaned out the flower beds and trimmed the bushes. The mulching is slowly but surely getting done. They still have the path at Hopkins and the Concourse left to do. Dr. Lewis thanked the Service Department for all their work during the storms with all of the hanging branches and fallen trees. Mr. York asked about the availability of firefighters to help with mowing. Mowing in the fall will be difficult without extra help from the Fire Department. Superintendent Scherpenberg will reach out to them and try to make arrangements.

From Tax Administrator Barlow: June 2022 Monthly Report. He anticipates meeting projections for the year.

From Building Official Holloway: June 2022 Monthly Report.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin, to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Miscellaneous:

- Budget Hearing will be Monday July 25, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.
- Special Meeting of Council will meet Tuesday July 26, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Strategic Planning Session Report Summary
- Diversity Statement Process – Mayor Brown asked Council to share their thoughts on how to proceed with this...should it go into a Committee of Council or form a resident group to address it? Mr. Bartlett agreed that it should go into some kind of committee and agreed that it being a public process would be beneficial. Mr. York suggested sending out an email that we are interested in doing this and then assign it to a Committee of Council and agreed that the citizens should be involved. Mayor Brown said the most open and fair way would be to have a resident committee work on it and bring their recommendation to Council. Mr. Bartlett said it should be more of a belief statement to be published in a resolution. It should be separate from a mission statement. Ms. Geldbaugh would like to see a way to involve the school district and the kids in the community. Mrs. Rankin likes the idea of a resolution that mandates that we create the dialogue with the outcome being some kind of statement. Mrs. Brownknight will work with Mr. York to create a resolution to make a recommendation to create a citizen committee that will develop concrete recommendations based on Mr. York's positive aspirational statement.

- Mayor Brown referred the matter of amending part of the Zoning Code to the Planning and Zoning & Economic Development Committee. Dr. Lewis will work with Mr. Holloway to review the Zoning Code and will develop a process and priority list.

Resolutions:

Ordinances:

“To Enact New Section 151.094 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Synthetic Grass” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call: six ayes, no nays. Ordinance O-18-22 was adopted.

“To Amend Section 79, Schedule I of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances Regarding No Parking on West Between Thorndike and Madisonville Road” had a second reading. Mr. Bartlett suggested amending the sign to read “from here to corner” rather than “from Madisonville.” Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to amend the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Task List Updates:

1. 2021 Financial Recap to Council with commentary/explanations: Mayor Brown – Mayor Brown will get a target date for the next meeting. He is giving new Fiscal Officer, Richard Ford, time to get his feet wet and he will ask him to provide that information along with the first six months of 2022.
2. Finish work on Murray Path/Submit invoices to ODNR for Reimbursement: Engineer Ertel – Set target date for Sept./Oct. 2022. Mr. Ertel said we are waiting on more costs to come in, but we are on schedule with Sept./Oct. 2022.
3. Boat House roof repair/potential grants for funding: Mayor Brown – The estimate came back at \$29,985. Mayor Brown sees an opportunity to save money by salvaging some of the stone that will be removed from the church roof. Set a target date for September/October. This is temporarily on hold as we are waiting to collect some of the stone tile off the old church roof that we hopefully can use in the repair of the Boathouse. We will update as the church repairs are made. If that remains on schedule then we should have a better idea soon on the timing.
4. Clean up Village (hydrants, benches, curbs etc.): Mr. York – Assistant Fire Chief Dan Copeland arranged for the owner of Miami Paint Supply to allow the Village to rent their Kubota which powers our machine to clean the hydrants. Timing to pain the hydrants will work around the painting of the streetlights. It could be as soon as the second week of August. We’ve got highway funds to do the 17 fire hydrants on Wooster Pike.
5. Assessing parks, what needs to be fixed/potential grants: Mr. York has plans for the Centennial for Dale Park, Dogwood Park, and Hopkins Park. Martin Koepke looked at Hopkins Park and has some ideas for what we need to get into a document and present to the Parks Advisory Board, Mariemont Preschool Parents Group, and other stakeholders to get input from everyone. Putting it together has been challenging. Mayor Brown commented on the recent rendering by Human Nature of the plan for Dogwood Park and it looks really good. Mr. York has about fifteen different grant applications in process.
6. SWIM POOL:
 - a. List of activities identified by Pool Commission/Action: Mayor Brown – This is ongoing. We are shifting this into the Safety Committee. Ms. Geldbaugh will be taking over activities at the pool, overseeing the pool, and the Pool Commission. There are multiple issues at the pool with the pool management company such as lack of lifeguards and chlorine.
 - b. Fixing Leak – Mayor Brown said we have fixed what little leaks we are going to fix. We are not fixing the big leaks this year because the cost is too high. This is ongoing.
 - c. 3-Year Master Plan Pool/Facilities – This is ongoing.
7. Master Plan for improving office space in Municipal Building: No discussion occurred on this topic.
8. Find backfill/replacement for Fiscal Officer & Asst Fiscal Officer: This is complete and may be removed from the list.
9. Relaunch of Rental Inspection Program: Mayor Brown – This is basically done. They did have a meeting with some of the landlords to explain the launch. The turn-out was not big but the response was positive. Mr. York said a rental inspection program has been established now and this can be removed from the list. Mr. Bartlett brought up a tax credit program from the State of Ohio for historic building rehabilitation that could help address

the condition of the outside of some of the buildings in the historic area. The State of Ohio will double the amount of tax credits that are available for the rehabilitation of historic buildings in 2023 and 2024. Mrs. Brownknight volunteered to make some calls about the program. OML Tax Credits was added to the Task List.

10. Improvements to Bell Tower baseball fields/batting cage: Mr. York – A permit was approved with All-Sport to get the batting cage done. They don't have a ballpark date yet as they are backed up. Mr. York does not have any additional updates at this time.
11. Walking Path Whiskey Creek: Mrs. Rankin/Engineer Ertel –Mrs. Rankin and Mr. Ertel were working on getting quotes on fixing the part closer to the street that has the most blockage. Mr. Ertel will have updates available next week after speaking with the EPA.
12. Parking Lot Light Issue: Mayor Brown/Mrs. Brownknight – Mrs. Brownknight said Mayor Brown has reached out to the resident with the concern, but she has not gotten back in touch yet. It is ongoing but not a huge problem at the moment as the leaves are out and block some of the light.
13. Porsche Rallye: Mayor Brown – Mayor Brown and Mr. York have confirmed the RPM event for September 17, 2022. They are working out details to make it better and bigger this year and involve more of the local merchants. The Village will not be covering the cost of traffic detail. Mr. York is looking to have an Oktoberfest theme. RPM is supposed to be giving us some more information soon.
14. Wooden Duke Energy Poles – Mayor Brown said Mr. Ertel spoke with Mrs. Fallen and provided her with some of the information she had requested. She offered to reach out to Cincinnati Bell.
15. Audit Committee Follow-ups – Mr. Bartlett requested this item to be added to the task list. He and Fiscal Officer Ford will show that all the items have been addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Richard D. Ford, Fiscal Officer