

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
August 8, 2022**

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

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett, to accept the minutes as written for the Council Meeting July 25, 2022. On roll call: five ayes, no nays (Dr. Lewis abstained due to her absence).

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to accept the minutes as written for the Tax Review Budget Hearing. On roll call: five ayes, no nays (Dr. Lewis abstained due to her absence).

Communications:

- From Police Chief Hines: July 2022 Monthly Report. Chief Hines said the Safety Village began for the kids. Officer Romano will demonstrate bike safety and Officer Kurtz will offer a K-9 demonstration. Mr. Bartlett noted an increase in drug abuse. Chief Hines said the numbers are up due to the K-9 which is good.

- From Assistant Fire Chief Copeland: July 2022 Monthly Report. Chief Hines noted that runs are up 70 runs from last year.

- From Tax Administrator Barlow: July 2022 Monthly Report

- From Building Official Holloway: July 2022 Monthly Report

- From Esther Osman: Picture/Request Re: Area in front of Rooster. Vice-Mayor Lewis said Mayor Brown indicated that he would reach out to the Tree Committee for recommendations. Mr. York stated that there are several areas in the Village that look similar. The Tree Committee is working on a plan and he believes we should follow the plan, not react on demand. Vice-Mayor Lewis said she has asked a representative from the Tree Committee to update Council on the scope of work at an upcoming meeting. There is much more than just choosing a tree. It requires surveying the environment including sidewalks, overhead power lines, width etc. to determine the proper urban site. The Tree Committee has surveyed all six districts with a plan in place for selecting trees.

Mr. Bartlett suggested this matter be placed on the Task List.

- From Douglas Gruver, Letter Dated June 28, 2022 re: Consent Legislation Snow and Ice Removal

Permission to Address Council:

Chris Ertel, Village Engineer, was granted permission to address Council. He was approached by Mel Taylor from Columbia Township regarding paving along Berwick Avenue between Murray and Cambridge. It is a split corporation. The cost would be \$8,000 with Columbia Township reimbursing the Village \$4,000. The current street rehab construction is scheduled to start Thursday and he will follow-up with the needed paperwork. Mr. Bartlett said Fiscal Officer Ford indicated that ARPA funds could be used once we pass the necessary legislation. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to share a paving contract for Berwick Avenue with Columbia Township. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and Chairman of the Finance Committee. Mr. Bartlett said he would be interested when the next round of tree work will take place. On roll call: six ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the recommendation from the Finance Committee which met on Friday, July 22, 2022 at 2:00 pm to discuss renewing the Village's risk management insurance. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Kelly Rankin and Marcy Lewis, Mayor Bill Brown, and Senior Administrative Assistant Joane Van Pelt. The Finance Committee reviewed the proposal for risk management coverage from Hylant. If we did not change any of the coverage levels in the plan, the Village's cost would go from \$35,383 in 2021 to \$36,021 in 2022, an increase of \$638 or 1.8%. Karie Novesl from Hylant previously shared that the average increase in Ohio for risk management insurance for municipalities this year was 6%. Ms. Novesl also shared several areas where the coverage limit has been increased at no extra charge. The Finance Committee had previously benchmarked our coverage levels versus Fairfax, Terrace Park, Newtown and Columbia Township and we are in line with the other municipalities. As such, the Finance Committee agreed to maintain the current levels of coverage and deductibles. The Finance Committee recommends agreeing to the new updated coverage and quote. If Council agrees with this recommendation, because this needs to be passed via resolution and it needs to be effective by August 26, 2022, the legislation will need to be passed as an emergency measure at the first Council meeting in August. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mrs. Brownknight to accept the recommendation of the Public Works and Service Committee which met on July 22, 2022 at 2:30 PM to discuss solid waste and recycling service beginning in January 2023. In attendance were Committee Chairperson Kelly Rankin, Committee Member Randy York, Committee Member Rob Bartlett and Mayor Brown. The Village participated in the SWORRE (Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse) Consortium for the provision of waste and recycling service in an RFP along with 5 other communities. By participating in this program via the Center for Local Govt., the Village had hoped to obtain more favorable rates for this service. The rates provided by the bid were compared to the rates we would pay if we contracted directly with Rumpke. Our current year contract is for a total of \$16.75/unit per month for 1,425 units at \$23,868.75 per month for all 3 services. The option year 2023 would increase rate 3% to \$17.25/unit per month for all 3 services. The 3-year firm rate option with the CFLG group bid is \$18.90 for trash and recycling and \$4.50 for yard waste or \$23.40 for all 3 services. The Committee recommends renewing the contract with Rumpke for the service year 2023. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

- Safety Services Night Out will be August 16, 2022 at the Bell Tower from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Special Meeting of Council will meet Monday August 29, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Strategic Planning Session Report Summary

Resolutions:

“To Renew Current Contract for the Following Kinds of Insurance: Real and Personal Property, comprehensive General Liability, Business Automobile, and Other Coverages; To Pay Premiums; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin 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. Geldbaugh to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. 30-22 was adopted.

Resolution Authorizing Village to Enter Into Easement Agreement with Duke Energy and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third reading. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Geldbaugh to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-31-22 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“An Ordinance Authorizing Application and Contracting with the Ohio Public Works Commission” had a first reading.

“Approval and Granting Consent to the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation Authority to Apply, Maintain and Repair Standard Longitudinal Pavement markings and Erect Regulatory and Warning Signs on State Highways Inside Village Corporate Limits, and Giving Consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to Remove Snow and Ice and Use Snow and Ice Control Material on State Highways Inside the Village Corporate Limits, and Giving Consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to Perform Maintenance and/or Repair on State Highways Inside the Village Corporation” had a first reading.

Task List:

Ms. Geldbaugh updated Council on developments happening at the Mariemont Swim Pool. A Safety Committee meeting was held last week that covered many issues regarding how to move forward with the pool. The communication between Council, the Pool Committee and Cincinnati Pool Management is not great. She was in contact with a representative from the Health Department who indicated that two of the pools failed inspection this past Wednesday. There was an additional inspection on Thursday. No one from Cincinnati Pool Management contacted anyone in the Village. She made multiple calls to Jeff Blume, Owner of Cincinnati Pool Management, to discuss the situation. She made Mayor Brown aware as well. She also reached out to Mike Lockhart, whom the Safety Committee would like to have employed next year as the Pool Manager. Documentation should have been left at the pool indicating why the pools (lap pool and baby pool) failed inspection. Mr. Lockhart went to the pool Friday and tested the water which showed no chlorine in the water at all. The pumps that hold the acid that is added to the water to keep the chlorine alive were empty and not turned on. The lights for the baby pool are hooked to the pump breaker which was being turned off at night. It should never be turned off. He performed what was needed to get the water levels where they should be. She finally heard back from Mr. Blume who insisted there was not a problem at the pool and the earliest he could get the reports to her was Monday. The pools were tested Thursday and were fine. Ms. Geldbaugh insisted on seeing the inspection reports to ensure that the pool was safe for our residents. Mr. Lockhart contacted Mr. Blume who explained all that was wrong to Mr. Lockhart. In conclusion, Nicole from Cincinnati Pool Management Company obtained the reports and met with Ms. Geldbaugh and Mayor Brown. Due to the weather and because so many chemicals had been put in the pool, they opted to close the pool for the day.

She also learned that the testing of the water was random and incomplete. They were also putting the acid in by hand from jugs which is dangerous, not recommended and can lead to the closure of the pool by the Health Department. It has been occurring all summer. It can only be handled by those 18 years and older. Many of the employees at the pool have never been taught how to test the water – it was assumed they knew how to test the water. Cincinnati Pool Management never taught anyone at our pool how to test the water. In conclusion, training is to take place and the water will be tested every 1-2 hours by those over the age of 18 with a log to be kept. A sign has been posted to not turn the breaker off at night. In addition, the tanks have been filled. Fiscal Officer Richard Ford and Mayor Brown are to meet to go over invoicing for July and August to obtain a monetary number on what Cincinnati Pool has not met per the contract. A meeting is planned with Cincinnati Pool Management, Mr.

York and members from the Pool Committee. Ms. Geldbaugh will continue to follow-up that testing is being done on a timely basis to ensure it is safe for our residents. If that does not or cannot be done, the pool will need to shut down. Tax Administrator Barlow offered to go to the pool and check the logs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Dr. Marcy Lewis, Vice-Mayor

Richard D. Ford, Fiscal Officer