

**Village of Mariemont
Regular Council Meeting
November 28, 2022**

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

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to excuse the absence of Mrs. Brownknight and Ms. Geldbaugh. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to accept the minutes as written for the Council Meeting November 14, 2022. On roll call; three ayes, no nays (Mr. York abstained due to his absence from the meeting).

Communications:

*From Fiscal Officer Ford: October 2022 Monthly Financial Reports. Fiscal Officer Ford said at the December meeting Council will pass legislation accepting all the reallocations he has made throughout the year. Mrs. Van Pelt will send an email to Council asking them to check their availability for a Capital Improvement meeting starting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday December 19, 2022. It will be prior to the Council meeting with the Council meeting beginning directly after.

Payment of Bills:

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to pay the bills. Mr. Bartlett noticed the final payment to Cincinnati Pool Management. Solicitor McTigue said both parties have come to an agreement. He will have Cincinnati Pool Management sign a release.

Mr. Bartlett said regarding the purchase of salt, he believed the Village used beet juice. Mayor Brown said both road salt and beet juice are used.

Mr. York confirmed that the payment to Kleinger's Group will be reimbursed from the Crown. Fiscal Officer Ford said we will need to be reimbursed the same year the money is spent. Mayor Brown said both the Municipal Building renovation and the ambulance will be paid off in 2024. Fiscal Ford said the information can be found on the Village Annual Financial Report. It was suggested to post this report on the website. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met on Tuesday November 22nd at 5:30pm. Present at the meeting were Health and Recreation Committee members Randy York (Chair), Susan Brownknight (Vice-Chair), Leah Geldbaugh (Member) and Mayor Bill Brown. Also in attendance were Service Supervisor John Scherpenberg and Tax Administrator Chuck Barlow. The purpose of the committee meeting was to determine if rehabilitation and/or repairs were necessary for the pool and tennis courts in advance of the 2023 season so that the necessary resolutions could be prepared for the solicitation of bids for such work. The Committee recommends that bids be solicited to contract for the resurfacing and repair of the tennis courts at Mary Emery Park and that a resolution be prepared for the solicitation of bids. The committee recommends that bids be solicited to contract for the rehabilitation of the interior of the pool house at the swimming pool. The rehabilitation would include the men's and women's changing area and include painting, tile work where necessary, and the updating of plumbing fixtures. As long as the amount is less than \$50,000, there's no need to go out for public bid. It is always recommended to obtain 2-3 bids to make sure we are getting a competitive price. We choose companies that are reputable and can provide proof of insurance with the Village

listed as an additional insured on that policy. Finally, the committee reviewed a recommendation by the Mariemont Centennial Committee and the Mariemont Preservation Foundation concerning oversight and management of the centennial park rehabilitation projects. These groups recommend that the Health and Recreation Committee provides recommendations to council concerning the timing and final details of the planned park rehabilitations related to the Centennial Commemoration. The committee agreed to take on this responsibility and will schedule Health & Recreation Committee meetings as necessary.

Mr. York said he will work with Ms. Geldbaugh to try to get estimates for the pool work prior to the Capital Improvement Meeting on December 19, 2022. The Pool Board is working on their budgets for 2023. We need to decide philosophically what the pool means to the Village. He feels the upcoming year will give us an idea of where we are heading. Surveys were sent out on the many projects. Most were in favor of doing the work at Dogwood Park. The hope is to have the cash flow to do both the Dogwood Park Project and the Statutory Project concurrently. Both projects will be done in phases. Public meetings will be held and posted. Fiscal Officer Ford said if the Village is going to have to pay, he suggests opening a Capital Improvement Fund so the funds can be kept separate. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 2:00 pm to discuss opening an account at STAR Ohio for investing the Village's surplus cash. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee members Rob Bartlett, Kelly Rankin and Marcy Lewis, Mayor Bill Brown, Fiscal Officer Richard Ford, and Tax Administrator Chuck Barlow. Currently, the Village invests its surplus money in a Fidelity Federal Money Market fund via an investment account at PNC, who also has our checking and sweep accounts. As of November 18, the money market account is yielding 3.3%, and it is cumbersome to move money between the investment account and the sweep account as it requires sending an email to a PNC manager in Columbus to initiate any transfer, which can cause the process to take up to 5 business days. As such, we keep more in the sweep account than we need to, and we are earning only 0.1% on the money in the sweep account. Fiscal Officer Ford has found a government investment account run by the state of Ohio called STAR Ohio. As of November 18, STAR Ohio is yielding 3.8%. Since 1995 it has maintained Standard & Poor's highest rating of AAA. Also, the account can be set up such that Fiscal Officer Ford or Tax Administrator Chuck Barlow (as his back up) can initiate a funds directly transfer themselves, reducing the time to transfer funds to 2 business days. The Finance Committee recommends that the Village establish an account at STAR Ohio to invest the Village's surplus cash, and that Fiscal Officer Ford and Tax Administrator Barlow be given access to the account so they can transfer funds between the STAR Ohio account and our PNC sweep account on an as needed basis. If council agrees, a resolution will need to be voted on to officially make this change. In order to start earning the higher interest rate as soon as possible, the Finance Committee also recommends that the resolution be passed on an emergency basis. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 2:00 pm to discuss reclassifying the MariElders fund within UAN. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee members Rob Bartlett, Kelly Rankin and Marcy Lewis, Mayor Bill Brown, Fiscal Officer Richard Ford, and Tax Administrator Chuck Barlow. Fiscal Officer Ford shared that we should change how the MariElders fund is classified within UAN. Currently, the MariElders fund is classified as a Special Revenue account, but it should be classified as a Custodial account because it is essentially a pass-through account where the expenses equal the revenue received. For a Special Revenue account, if we were to receive more funds than originally appropriated, then we would have to create and approve a new appropriation in order to be able to pass those additional revenues on to MariElders. Whereas if the MariElders account was classified as a Custodial account, then any additional revenue would just automatically pass on through to MariElders without any additional legislation. The Finance Committee recommends that the Village reclassify the MariElders fund from Special Revenue to Custodial in UAN effective with the 2023 budget. This change requires a resolution. Since we would like to make this change as part of the new 2023 budget, the resolution will need to be passed on an emergency basis. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

*The last week of pick-up will be December 19, 2022.

*The December Council meeting will be held December 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

*Village Offices will be closed Friday December 23, 2022, and Monday December 26, 2022, in Observation of Christmas

*Village Offices will be closed Monday January 1, 2023, in Observation of New Year's Day

*The Annual Tree Lighting and Luminaria will be Saturday December 3, 2022

Resolutions:

“To Reappoint Eric Marsland as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board for Calendar Year 2023” had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-64-22 was adopted.

“To Appoint Robert Van Stone as a Member of the Records Commission Board” had a second reading.

“To Reappoint Ted Beach as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024” had a second reading.

“To Reappoint Terry Donovan as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024” had a second reading.

“To Reappoint Mandy Rohal as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Years 2023 and 2024” had a second reading.

“To Confirm the Appointment of Michael Lockhart as Swim Pool Manager for Calendar Year 2023; and to Set Compensation” had a second reading.

“Resolution Creating a New Position for a Part-Time Administrator for the Village of Mariemont; 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 reading. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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. Resolution No. R-65-22 was adopted.

“To Confirm the Appointment of Chuck Barlow as Part-Time Village Administrator for Calendar Year 2023; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-66-22 was adopted.

“To Confirm the Reappointment of Richard Ford as Village Fiscal Officer for Calendar Years 2023 and 2024; 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. Dr. Lewis 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. Resolution R-67-22 was adopted.

“Designating State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR OHIO) as a depository of the Active Deposits of the Village of Mariemont; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett 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 Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-68-22 was adopted.

“Resolution Creating a New Custodial Fund for MariElders; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The resolution had a second and third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-69-22 was adopted.

“To Authorize the Solicitation of Bids for 2022 Tennis Courts; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and 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 Dr. Lewis to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-70-22 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“To Amend Section 37.05 Swim Pool Commission of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances” had a second reading.

Other Business:

Mayor Brown referred the matter of the Salary Ordinance for Full-Time, Part-Time/Recreational Employees and Appointed Officials to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Bartlett asked for an update on the Ken Geis contract. Dr. Lewis said they are pursuing other ideas as well. Mr. Bartlett noted that a warehouse in the Industrial District was for lease and was curious if he was working on finding a tenant. Mayor Brown said there are avenues for that space that are being explored, but it is not up for discussion at this point. There was a meeting with a select group of volunteer residents who specialize in economic development and from that they were put in contact with someone who does development work for the City of Madeira. They are still working on development work and direction at this point. In time it will go to the Economic Planning & Zoning and Economic Development Committee or the Sub-Committee. Mr. Bartlett said he and Mrs. Rankin had a meeting with one of the members of the group who felt they were unsure of what deliverables were expected from the group and that there was a sense of secrecy. Mayor Brown said there is no secrecy only they are still working on outlining the process. Mr. York said he is committed to getting something done in 2023. Mayor Brown referred the matter to the Sub-Committee of the Economic Planning & Zoning and Economic Development Committee and stated Council will clearly be involved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

William A. Brown Mayor

Richard D. Ford, Fiscal Officer

