

**Village of Mariemont
Council Meeting
April 8, 2024**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mr. Ayer, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Van Stone and Mr. York.

Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to excuse the absence of Mrs. Brownknight and Dr. Lewis. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Minutes:

Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to accept the minutes of the Council meeting March 25, 2024, as written. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mr. Bartlett said Council agreed to appropriate \$5,000 for the door at the Bell Tower. Mrs. Rankin said she was definitively aware that Council agreed to that appropriation. We can pass supplemental legislation at the next Council meeting. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the minutes as written for the Special Meeting of Council March 27, 2024. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Communications:

* From Assistant Fire Chief Copeland: March 2024 Monthly Report/2023 Annual Report. It was noted that Mr. Ayer helped put together the annual report and it turned out really well.

*From Maintenance Superintendent James: March 2024 Monthly Report. Council commented that they like the new report style. Mayor Brown said he is extremely pleased with Superintendent James in the few months that he has been on the job.

*From Tax Administrator Barlow: March 2024 Monthly Report

*From Fiscal Officer Rankin: February 2024 Financial Reports. She said when looking at the revenue we have not yet received the first half installment of property tax from Hamilton County. With the upheaval in the Auditor's office, she suspects it will be delayed.

*From Building Official Holloway: Updated Project List

*From Goshen Township: Letter Dated February 20, 2024: re: Mutual Aid Thank You/Reimbursement \$9,317.30. The money will be earmarked for Fire Department improvements.

Permission to Address Council:

Mr. Syd Sabo, 3857 Indianview, was granted permission to address Council. The submission of another petition regarding Trolley Line Park at the Council meeting January 12, 2024, should have made it clear that there must be a meeting about the Trolley Line Park and it needs to be an open forum like we had on the Miami intersection last February. Council may remember that the outcome of the February meeting was not a recommendation proposed by the experts. The decision of the Trolley Line Park needs to be discussed and be decided by those who live there.

Ms. Mandi Beecroft, Hamilton County Public Library Mariemont Branch, was granted permission to address Council. She said the eclipse program was a success and was well attended. Upcoming events include

the composting program April 27. Members will be in attendance to promote the Mariemont program as well as a representative from Hamilton County to talk about residential composting. A music and math program for the children will be held on April 25th. On May 9th there will be a new Baby Bootcamp which will include car seat installations, CPR class and early literacy. Mrs. Van Pelt will work with Ms. Beecroft to include the programs on the Village website.

Motion to Pay the Bills:

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to pay the bills. On roll call: four ayes, no nays.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which met on Tuesday March 26, 2024, at 9:30 AM. Present were Safety Committee members Matthew Ayer (Chair), Rob Bartlett (Vice Chair), and Randy York (Member). After review and discussion, the Committee unanimously endorsed the 2024 Business Plan provided by the Pool Commission. In broad summary, the Pool Commission estimates revenue within approximately \$10K of its projected operating expenses. The Committee reviewed a proposed plan to replace the Kiddie Pool with a project in Fall 2024/Spring 2025. Total project cost \$225K. After discussion of available permanent improvement funds and the village 5-year plan, the Committee recommends that Council plan for a \$75K allocation for this project in FY 2025. The project would be contingent on the Pool Commission's Capital Campaign to raise the remaining two-thirds (\$150K) from private sources through the Mariemont Legacy Foundation. Funds or pledges would need to be at or near the \$150K target by September 2024 for this project to be a "go" for 2025. Otherwise, the project would likely need to be deferred to 2026 or beyond. The Committee commended the Pool Commission volunteers for their detailed work, and also the community supporters who have donated \$7K in private funds this year for other pool improvements. Mr. York suggested a Town Crier article to recognize them. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Mr. Van Stone said procedurally the Capital Improvement projects are determined later and this project would need a "go ahead" prior to that meeting. This report does not actually put the recommendation in the Capital Budget. He asked if the Capital Budget meeting could be held earlier. Fiscal Officer Rankin said it could be done in September if the funds are raised. Mr. Ayer said the Village would not need Village funds until well into 2025, but we would still need to be able to appropriate funds. Mr. Bartlett said this would fall under the 5-year plan. He could move this timeline up to August on the Project List. Mr. Ayer said donations for year-end awards will most likely funnel through the Legacy Foundation. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Miscellaneous:

*Memorial Day Parade and Presentation of the Outstanding Citizen Award will be held Monday May 27, 2024.

*Village Offices will be Closed in Observation of Memorial Day Monday May 27, 2024.

*The Regular Council Meeting Scheduled for Monday May 27, 2024, will be held Tuesday May 28, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

*Mayor Brown referred the medical, life and dental insurance renewals to the Finance Committee.

Resolutions:

- "To Appoint Douglas Zemke as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for Years 2024 and 2025" had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-18-24 was adopted.

- “Authorizing an Increase in the Building Permit Schedule of Fees” had a third reading. Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-19-24 was adopted.
- “To Authorize Adoption of a Premium Only Insurance Plan” had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-20-24 was adopted.
- “To Authorize Fiscal Officer to Advertise for Bids for Waste Collection and to Pay for Advertising” had a second reading.
- “Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Execute and File Applications with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, To Apply for Financial Assistance in Connection with the Mariemont Centennial Parks Projects; 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 reading. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second and third reading. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. York moved, seconded by Mr. Van Stone to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-21-24 was adopted.

Ordinances:

- “To Amend Section 151.087 Permitted Obstructions in Required Yards and Add New Section 151.087.1.2.3.4.5.6 and .7” had a third reading. Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. York to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-7-24 was adopted.
- “An Ordinance Authorizing Application and Contracting with the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority” had a second reading.

Mr. Bartlett referred to the community meeting handout regarding economic development strategy and asked for more information. Mayor Brown said this will be a meeting of what the Economic Development Committee has been working on with Emil on strategies for economic development. It will give the community time to ask questions and exchange ideas. A final report will be available and will be shared with everyone. Mr. Bartlett suggested there should be a second meeting as this is the first-time residents have heard of this. It should also be posted on our Village website so residents can come prepared with questions and suggestions. A survey will also be available April 19, 2024, on the Village website for feedback. A highlighted version was suggested to be made available to residents prior to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

William A. Brown, Mayor

Kelly I. Rankin, Fiscal Officer