

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
FEBRUARY 14, 2011**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Andrews, Mr. Black, Mr. Miller, Mr. Scheeser, Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Wolter.

Mayor Policastro said sadly Ms. Sullivan has announced her retirement from Council. He enjoyed working with her. When he started as Mayor we were in our infancy with our website and getting crazy bills from our then webmaster. Ms. Sullivan came on board and with her talent revamped our website and got us started in the computer age. He thanked her for all her work and presented her with a key to the Village. Mr. Wolter presented Ms. Sullivan with flowers and a card expressing how much everyone enjoyed working with her. He said Ms. Sullivan was touting economic development years ago and the need for a Village master plan. Ms. Sullivan said thank you to everyone and she would still like to be a part of the future of the Village.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the minutes as written for January 24, 2011 and Committee of the Whole February 7, 2011. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Police Chief Hines: January 2011 Monthly Report/2010 Annual Report. Mr. Black thanked Chief Hines for keeping his budget in line. Mr. Wolter also thanked Chief Hines for coming in under budget. Crime is at its highest level ever in the Village. The Police Department has been under a lot of pressure. The more economically viable we keep the Village he believes we will be able to keep crime down. He is most impressed by the number of closed cases. He looked at Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati and they would love to have 40% closure rates and here we are with 60% even being shorthanded. It speaks highly of our officers and their commitment. Mayor Policastro said the part-time system is working well hiring John Feldmann back part-time. We are looking for another retired officer to keep the three man shift alive. Chief Hines said Officer Feldmann comes in a couple days a week filling in shifts when we are short and it has worked very well. He thanked Ms. Sullivan for all the support she has given the safety service departments. She has always been willing to listen and help out. He considers her a friend.

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: January 2011 Monthly Report. Mr. Scheeser asked if the department would start work this month on erosion control behind the Bell Tower. Superintendent Scherpenberg said the plan is to work down there towards the end of the month. Mr. Scheeser would like for him to keep an eye on the area through the spring and summer as he is concerned if the erosion is not stopped. Mayor Policastro asked if we have looked in the rocks inside cages for that area. Superintendent Scherpenberg said no because it is very expensive. Mr. Wolter suggested using Boy Scout Explorers who are working on their Eagle Badge. They have to do a civil project and perhaps this would be something they would be willing to do. Superintendent Scherpenberg said they need to move the trees to the side to help hold up the hillside. Mr. Andrews said ODNR offers good resources as well. Superintendent Scherpenberg wished Ms. Sullivan the best and offered his congratulations.

From Building Commissioner Malone: January 2011 Monthly Report/2010 Annual Report

From Tax Administrator: January 2011 Monthly Report

From Mariemont Preservation Foundation: Meeting Minutes December 2, 2010

From Solicitor McTigue: e-mail dated January 25, 2011 re: Clerk & Treasurer Reelection/Appointment

From Mayor Policastro: Letter dated February 2, 2011 re: Trash Pick Up and Stickers. Mayor Policastro said he talked with Mr. Turchiano of Rumpke and they are planning on having a meeting soon to go over everything. The latest Mayor's Bulletin outlines how to dispose of garbage. Mr. Turchiano said he talked to his employees who deny telling residents they did not need a sticker on the can if they brought the can to the curb but we know that is not true. Mr. Wolter's said his wife was told no sticker was necessary by a Rumpke driver last year. Mayor Policastro said the problem is confusion with the 90 gallon cans and only half is full of garbage residents are not going to put two stickers on the can. They drivers do not know whether or not to take the can. He referred the matter back to the Health and Recreation Committee. He would recommend putting one sticker on a 90 gallon can unless it is filled to the brim. Mr. Scheeser suggested red stickers that the drivers could put on cans indicating they are out of compliance. Mayor Policastro said the drivers would not like that because at the end of the day they are told by the office to go back and service the address by making an extra trip. Mr. Scheeser said not to give them enforcement but give them a red sticker indicating the non-compliance but service the can anyway. Mayor Policastro said in his next Mayor's Bulletin he is going to suggest to residents that they buy the 45 gallon cans instead of the 90 gallon cans.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to pay the bills. Mr. Scheeser asked about the payment to the Ericksons reimbursement of damage. He did not know that we caught the responsible parties and got restitution. Mayor Policastro said yes they are minors so we cannot say a lot. Mr. Scheeser said that is awesome and he is really pleased. Mr. Wolter commented that the graffiti is still on the building on Maple. Mayor Policastro said we have collected ½ of the money needed to do the repair. The owner will do the damage repairs once he has the money in whole to do so. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Ms. Sullivan moved, seconded by Mr. Black to accept the recommendation of the Health & Recreation Committee which met on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 to review: 1) Requests for improvements at the Tot Lot; and 2) Permanent Improvements related to the Swimming Pool. Present were Committee members Kim Sullivan, Cortney Scheeser and Jeff Andrews. Also present were Mayor Dan Policastro, Councilman Dennis Wolter, Village Engineer Chris Ertel, Superintendent John Scherpenberg and three representatives from MPPG: Beth Brown, Jill Welch and Natalie Lynch. After discussion, the **Committee recommends that Council:** Accept \$4,000 in funding from MPPG to assist with the cost of installing a 3-sided fence around the Tot Lot near the Bell Tower to help prevent young children from running towards traffic on Wooster and/or Pleasant. The Committee recommends immediately proceeding with this installation per the quote provided by EADS Fence Company at a total cost not to exceed \$8,200. The Committee requests these recommendations be approved by Council. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Black to amend the report to add that this work be done on an emergency basis. Mr. Scheeser asked the basis for the emergency. Mayor Policastro said the sooner the fence is up the safer the children will be. Superintendent Scherpenberg said with the revised quote we can save \$200. Solicitor McTigue said he will have the necessary legislation for the next meeting with an Emergency Clause. Mr. Scheeser said he has had communication with Mr. Andrews regarding the height of the fence. The railing at the Pavilion is 3' and this proposed is 4'. He wondered why we could not consider a 3' fence - it would still be safe but visually less intrusive. Mr. Andrews said the state guidelines for fences are strictly guidelines but we are being influenced by our liability insurance company saying if you want to minimize any kind of lawsuit you need to follow the guidelines. It states what kind of fence and how high it should be etc. The guidelines call for a 4' fence and we are trying to be good stewards of the guidelines. Mr. Scheeser said he would concede the point. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Sullivan moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to accept the recommendation of the Public Works & Service Committee which met Thursday February 8, 2011 to discuss renewal of the outsourced mowing contract for 2010 with Grass Cor Lawn. It was decided to renew the contract with one small change - that Grass Cor no longer needs to maintain the Village Administration Building, which will now be maintained by the Fire Department. The cost is \$48,100 a year. Mayor Policastro asked since we are changing the contract do we have to go out for bid. Solicitor McTigue since you are only eliminating one line item the Village would not have to go out for bid. Mr. Black asked why the contract was not taken out to bid this year. Ms. Sullivan said the thought was we would be protecting ourselves from a possible increase and locking in the price we had as opposed to taking a gamble that the price would come in higher. Mr. Andrews said there was an open discussion on the quality of the work. Mr. Black said there was a lot of discussion with the initial start of the contract. He does not want to feel that we just went through the motions just because we balanced the budget. He wants to keep doing the things that got us there. He does not feel it would be a bad practice to get into even if we get burned every once in awhile. As Finance Chairman he believes Council should bid everything out. Mr. Andrews said if a contract renewed for a 2%-3% increase it is different than renewing at a flat rate especially with costs going up. He does not believe Council needs to bid every contract out. Mr. Black said he believes there would be a lot of people interested in the Village's business. Ms. Sullivan said there was a lot of discussion in the Committee meeting and the Department Head thinks Grass Cor did a good job. On roll call; five ayes, one nay (Mr. Black dissenting).

Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Black to accept the recommendation of the Public Works & Service Committee which met Thursday, Feb. 8 to discuss the 2011 street rehabilitation program. Present at the meeting was Village Engineer Chris Ertel, Maintenance Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Council members Kim Sullivan, Jeff Andrews, Courtney Scheeser, Dennis Wolter and Mayor Dan Policastro. The street listed below is recommended for the 2011 Street Rehabilitation Project.

	<u>Village Engineer's</u> <u>Estimated Cost</u>
Murray Avenue from Oak Street to Homewood Road	\$39,050
<u>Other Items of work</u>	
Sidewalk repair (various locations)	\$17,000
Beech Street curb at removed ash trees	\$ 6,000
Bramble Hill Drive curb (piecemeal)	\$25,000
Joan Place curb (piecemeal)	\$15,000
Ambulance bay driveway repair	\$ 8,000
Village Municipal Building front steps	\$10,000
Speed Humps (5)	\$ 5,000
Plainville Road from Chestnut St to Murray Avenue*	\$14,000

Total: \$139,050

*This is the matching amount for a grant application that the Village has received from the State of Ohio State Issue 2 Program to leverage an additional \$56,000. Plainville Road was approved as an expenditure by Resolution No. 0 – 3 – 10 passed on February 8th, 2010. Clerk/Treasurer Borgerding said there is approximately \$27,000 in the fund now and he anticipates bringing in \$120,000 so it could be close. If necessary we can move money from the General Fund. Sometimes we come under budget so we will have to bid out the work and see what happens. Mr. Andrews complimented Engineer Ertel on what good work he does. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Solicitor McTigue said he will prepare the Resolution for bid for the next meeting with an emergency clause.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Mayor Policastro referred the matter of the House Alert System to the Safety Committee as discussed in the Committee of the Whole meeting February 12, 2011.

Mayor Policastro referred the matter of the Cardiac Monitor to the Safety Committee as discussed in the Committee of the Whole meeting February 12, 2011.

Village Offices will be closed Monday February 21, 2011 in Observation of Presidents' Day.

Nominations for Outstanding Citizen of the year are to be returned to Mrs. Van Pelt by March 18, 2011.

Mayor Policastro referred the Mariemont Preservation Foundation Vision Plan 2021 to the Planning & Zoning/Economic Development Committee.

Resolutions:

“To Appoint Wes Iredale as a Member of the Pool Commission to fill the Unexpired Term of Joan Erhardt for the Calendar Year 2011” had a first reading.

“To grant Signatory Authority to Clerk and Treasurer; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Black moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Resolution had a second reading. Solicitor McTigue said this is basic housekeeping to allow for Clerk Borgerding and Treasurer Kulesza to sign documents for the Village. The Resolution had a third reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-1-11 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“To Increase Building Permit Fees to Equal Fees Charged for Building Permits in Hamilton County” had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-3-11 was adopted

“To Repeal Ordinance O-2-08; To Enter into Contract with H. Hafner & Sons, Inc. for Brush, Gravel, Dirt Construction Fill and Leaf Dumping in Consideration for Money and the Right to Farm Part of the South 80 Acres” had a second reading.

Mayor Policastro said he talked with Todd Keyes of Town Meeting and at this time Denise McCarthy is the only person who has indicated that they want to run for a Council seat for District 5. Ms. McCarthy does a good job with the Neighborhood Watch Program. At the next meeting he asked for the support of Council to vote her in. If someone else comes in then it will be a contest but at this time she is the only one.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk