

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
MAY 9, 2011**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Andrews, Ms. McCarthy, Mr. Miller, Mr. Scheeser and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to excuse the absence of Mr. Black. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

“In Recognition of William Ebelhar” had a third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mayor Policastro read the Resolution and presented it to former Council member Bill Ebelhar along with a key to the Village. Mr. Ebelhar said he appreciated his time on Council and he appreciates the Council and the staff that work for the Village. He commented that the new Council members are doing a good job and he thanked them for their time and commitment. Resolution No. R-8-11 was adopted.

Mayor Policastro introduced Mitch Graham of BioWheels who presented to Council a proposal for a bike race to be held in the Village. Mr. Graham said one of his hobbies is bike racing promotion which he has been doing for 15 years. He is proposing a cycle-cross race which is an road/off road sport. It is 3K or two miles involving pavement, cobblestone, grass etc. In January 2013 they scored the world championship for cycle cross and they have asked him to put on a lead up event the weekend before here in Cincinnati to help build the tourism in Louisville. By having an event the week before in Cincinnati they are hoping to get some Europeans to come and compete as well as the top Americans. He has been using a venue for several years. With this event it would bring international attention to Cincinnati. Last year they held a race in Madeira and had 5,000 people watch the event. It provides good atmosphere and good entertainment. He passed out the basic proposal of the map of the race. The course involves most of the central business district which will shut down one side of Wooster Pike and then would go to the Bell Tower and Dale Park. The Village is a unique community and would photograph well. Those individuals would follow the Tour de France would follow this race as well. He already has sponsors so he is not asking for financial backing. There would be a need to have a committee formed, such as Chamber of Commerce, to help the venue be as good an event as possible. They would work closely with the police department in shutting down roads. It is a course that is traveled multiple times with all categories completing it in approximately five hours. He is also looking at venues at Xavier University and Devue Park.

Mr. Andrews said he and Mr. Black met with Mr. Graham and they both felt this would be a neat opportunity to put in the Economic Development and Zoning Committee to see if this is something we can do. Just to encourage groups like this to bring something like this to the Village shows how important it is to have a group to work through these opportunities.

Mr. Scheeser asked about damage repair to landscaping and the turf. Mr. Graham said he has landscaping sponsors and he also takes out an insurance policy for \$10,000.

Mr. Miller suggested leaving Dale Park in the condition as is after the construction is done until the race is over.

Mayor Policastro said his concern is the Beech Grove. He does not want the roots of the trees to be damaged. He said they would also have to submit liability insurance naming the Village as an additional insured. Mr. Graham gave the Mayor a copy of the \$1,000,000 insurance policy they took out for the Madeira race. Mayor Policastro agreed that type of insurance would be sufficient.

Mr. Wolter asked how the expenses for police presence along the route would be handled. Mr. Graham said that would be part of the Village’s proposal to him. He has to look at which venue would be the most economically feasible for the event.

Ms. McCarthy asked if there would be special concerns shutting Wooster Pike down such as contacting ODOT because it is a state road. Chief Hines said he is sure it could probably be worked out. Wooster Pike has been closed on one side or another on a number of different occasions. It would not be a problem as long as they can continue the flow of traffic. It would take some manpower to do that.

Mr. Scheeser said the other interested participant would be the church. We are skirting around the church and the main building. We will need to contact them as the route gets defined.

Mr. Graham said the Village would also need to provide some sort of shower facilities for the athletes. Mr. Miller suggested the high school.

Mr. Wolter asked if it became necessary could the race be routed to the side streets. Mr. Graham said possibly but the reason for the race to be routed along Wooster Pike is because the photos would show the center

of the Village. Mayor Policastro said he personally would like to do Wooster Pike because when this was done 10-15 years ago we had a lot of complaints from those living along the side streets. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Andrews asked why not refer it to the Economic Development and Planning Committee. Mayor Policastro said he thinks it is important for each Council member to talk with residents in their district for their input because he is sure there will be some push back. If the Committee of the Whole agrees to this then it can be referred to the Economic Development and Planning Committee.

Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to accept the minutes as written for April 25, 2011. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Police Chief Hines: April 2011 Monthly Report

From Assistant Fire Chief Travers: April 2011 Monthly Report

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: April 2011 Monthly Report. Mr. Scheeser asked if on the monthly report it could reflect the number of trees taken down and the number of trees planted. He said he would find that information very helpful. Superintendent Scherpenberg said that would not be a problem. He mentioned that we did get 70 saplings donated to the Village. They will stay at the tree farm for a couple of years and then they will be planted. He commented that he got several pots from the residents and Foreman Davis had 70 pots donated from a friend of his. Mr. Andrews asked what we get for the expense paid to the Arborist. Superintendent Scherpenberg said he is doing a comprehensive study of all the street trees. He is going to perform tests on twelve trees to see if they are hollow on the inside based on what he sees on the outside. It will give us a comprehensive study on how much work we are going to have to do in each area and then bid the work out. We did this five years ago and it helped quite a bit to get the trees back in shape. Mayor Policastro said the tool the Arborist wants to use costs approximately \$3000 +. We have a call into Davey Tree to see if we can utilize theirs.

Mr. Wolter asked where the Village is at with the Ash Borer. Superintendent Scherpenberg said we have removed 60% of the infected trees. He anticipates having all the trees removed by next year. They will replace the trees on Beech Street once the stumps are removed and the curb work is completed.

From Building Commissioner Malone: April 2011 Monthly Report

From Tax Administrator Judd: April 2011 Monthly Report/Waste Report. Mr. Wolter commented that he liked the way the numbers were moving and hoped they would continue to go in that direction.

From ODNR: Ohio Leads Nation with Tree City USA Communities

From Hamilton County Auditor: 1st Half Inheritance Settlement \$100,393.00. Clerk Borgerding said the repeal of the Inheritance Tax is slated for January 2013. It will be a hit to the budget of approximately \$250,000 to the Village per year. Mayor Policastro said the Ohio Municipal League is still battling the issue.

From Police Clerk Maupin: Mayor's Court Statement March 2011

From Mariemont Park Advisory Board: Meeting Minutes May 3, 2011

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: Memo Dated May 5, 2011 re: Repairs at the Tennis Courts. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Health and Recreation Committee. Superintendent Scherpenberg said 28 tennis balls were found in one section of pipe. They have cleaned the pipe and placed a cover on it.

Ms. McCarthy moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Finance Chairman and Clerk. Mr. Andrews questioned what the current practice is for using Don Pennington. Mr. Van Pelt said typically he would come in on a quarterly basis but since we are not sure where the Committee is going with the computer guidelines she asked the Mayor if Mr. Pennington could be called in to look at her computer because it was running slow. It is not an automatic quarterly call but he is called as needed. Mr. Andrews said that was wise. He questioned the \$160 payment to ZP Systems. Building Commissioner Malone said it is the annual update for the Pro Zone system the Building Department utilizes. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Tuesday April 26th, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. to review the proposal from Duke Energy Retail Representative John Finnegan. Present were Committee members Andy Black, Jeff Andrews and Denise McCarthy as well as Mayor Dan Policastro. Based upon the review of the Committee members and Solicitor McTigue, Committee members unanimously agreed to accept Mr. Finnegan's proposal to lock in at a fixed rate of \$0.0399 for traffic and street lighting and \$0.0549 for all other locations through December 31, 2013. During this period if lower rates are approved by the Public Utilities Commission the Village would have the opportunity to opt out of this particular agreement (with Duke Energy) and go with another utility company. Alternatively we could elect to stay with Duke Energy if they chose to match the rate. Mr. Finnegan explained the program by saying the Village went through a competitive process a year ago and chose Duke Energy Retail. At that time the best available discount was 12% with a total savings of \$4,000. The discount will be 30% based on what the Village is paying today. After reviewing the Village's account now would be an opportune time to lock in the fixed price so the Village's electricity expenses will be going down by one third for the next two years which is

\$12,000 each year compared to \$4000 this year. It would be assumed that the usage pattern would stay the same. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Monday May 2nd, 2011 at 7:45 p.m. to review Police-Fire Chief Rick Hines's request for replacing the apparatus doors in the Fire Department. Present were Committee Members Andy Black, Jeff Andrews and Denise McCarthy. Also present were Councilmen Dennis Wolter and Joe Miller in addition to Clerk Borgerding, Mayor Policastro and Fire Marshal Tim Feichtner. After reviewing the three bids from AE Door (\$7,984), Overhead Door of Greater Cincinnati (\$11,314) and Budget Door of Cincinnati (\$13,938), the Committee unanimously agreed to accept the bid from Overhead Door of Greater Cincinnati. Overhead Door has provided superb service on the existing doors and is the regional leader in commercial doors. Mr. Scheeser asked if it is an insulated door and if it is aesthetically appealing. Chief Hines said it is an insulated door and there are windows at eye level. It would be very expensive to have all windows like we presently have. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to accept the recommendation of the Economic Development and Zoning Committee which met Monday May 2nd, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the list of recommended members for the Vision 2021 Steering Committee. Present at the meeting were Committee members Joe Miller, Andy Black and Dennis Wolter. Also present were Council members Denise McCarthy, Jeff Andrews and Cortney Scheeser as well as Mayor Policastro, Building Commissioner Dennis Malone, several residents of the Village and other guests. The list of recommended members to the Steering Committee was prepared and presented by Mr. Miller and Mayor Policastro. During discussion it was decided that three additional members should be included on the list with those members being age 40 or younger as these individuals will have a stake in the Village over the next 20-30 years. Mayor Policastro agreed to follow up with recommendations for these additional members. The meeting concluded with the Committee agreeing to meet at a later date to review the Mayor's additional recommendations. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Police Appreciation Dinner will be Thursday May 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tudor Room.

Village Offices will be closed Monday May 30, 2011 in Observation of Memorial Day

Memorial Day Parade will be Monday May 30, 2011 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Resolutions:

"Fixing a Time for Public Hearing of the 2012 Budget" had a second reading. Clerk Borgerding said the process will start this month working with Department Heads and the Finance Chairman to put together a budget. The budget needs to be submitted to Hamilton County by mid-July. Ms. McCarthy asked if the time frame was sufficient. Clerk Borgerding said he is following Mr. Tontillo's notes and his timeline.

Ordinances:

"To Accept Bid of Queen City Blacktop, Inc. for the 2011 Plainville Road Rehabilitation Project; To Authorize Contract" had a second reading. Engineer Ertel said he is waiting for the signed contract from Schumacher Dugan and the Street Rehabilitation work should begin mid-June. Mayor Policastro said the steps in front of the Municipal Building need to be the first priority. Engineer Ertel said construction has been delayed due to the rain. It was decided to wait to paint the front doors until the work on the steps was completed and there would be several warm days without rain.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk