

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL  
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO  
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER  
JUNE 11, 2012**

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. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to excuse the absence of Mr. Black. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mayor Policastro said if anyone is going to miss a meeting this summer to please let us know as soon as possible to make sure we have a quorum.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the minutes as written for May 29, 2012. On roll call; three ayes, no nays. (Mr. Andrews and Ms. McCarthy abstained)

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Police Chief Hines: May 2012 Monthly Report. Mr. Wolter commented on the 81% closure rate and expressed his appreciation for a job well done.

From Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner: May 2012 Monthly Report. Mr. Wolter said the draft is complete for the standard operating procedures manual. Solicitor Mctigue said he reviewed it and all seems to be in order. Mr. Wolter commended Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner for a job well done.

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: May 2012 Monthly Report. Mr. Scheeser said it is the time of year when lots of trees come down and asked for an update on removal and plans for re-planting. Superintendent Scherpenberg said most of the trees are large maple and oak. They are starting to decline due to the age of the tree. A few large trees have been hit by lightning. They will re-evaluate all the trees for a planting program for the fall. Right now the list stands at 33 trees. The recent drought years has also played a part in the decline of some of the trees. There are a lot on Joan Place and Bramble Hill that will be concentrated on first and then he will see where the budget leaves them. He is optimistic that there is enough encumbered to do all the work. The ash trees across from Starbucks are scheduled to be taken out next week. They will need to block the traffic. Mayor Policastro said he was disappointed in the grass cutting service over the Memorial Day holiday. Superintendent Scherpenberg said they mowed the week before and then were rained out two days. They did come back on Saturday but were unable to mow Ann Buntin Becker Park due to a party going on in the area. The Tot Lot had a party going on as well. He has been in contact with the supervisor who informed him one of the employees for this area was fired so we will have someone else working the Village. If any problems arise they are to call him right away.

The equipment at the Tot Lot has been removed. Hopefully the new equipment will begin installation on June 13, 2012. They found numerous damage to underground lines which had to be fixed. Completion is targeted for June 16, 2012. They were able to salvage the swing set which they plan to put at Ann Buntin Becker Park. Ms. McCarthy said she had someone ask about the monkey bars. Superintendent Scherpenberg said he does not believe those can be saved because they were added onto another piece of equipment.

From Building Commissioner Malone: May 2012 Monthly Report

From Tax Administrator Judd: May 2012 Monthly Report

From Pool Manager Beck: May 2012 Monthly Report

From CMC Property Management: Letter dated May 25, 2012 re: Trash Waiver for Jordan Park. Mrs. Judd had indicated that all necessary paperwork was in order. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to accept the request and grant the waiver. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

From Police Clerk Maupin: Mayor's Court Statement April 2012

From Engineer Ertel: Memo dated June 7, 2012 re: Municipal Road Fund (MRF) Ordinance and Agreement. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Public Works and Service Committee. Solicitor Mctigue said he reviewed the Ordinance and found all to be in order. The Committee should proceed with a meeting and a recommendation to Council.

From Mayor Policastro: Letter dated June 8, 2012 re: Roundabout concerns to ODOT

Mr. Charles Kroncke, 3716 Settle Road, was granted permission to address Council. His concern is the proposed traffic light at Wooster Pike and Belmont in conjunction with a possible dead end of Settle. He is concerned that the traffic study that is to take place will not be comprehensive and he is concerned about the increase in traffic on his street in front of his house because the traffic light will attract cars wishing to turn left on

Wooster Pike. His understanding is when the Fairfax work is complete there will be turn lanes which will make it easier to cross Wooster Pike. If you are easing traffic in one place the traffic has to go someplace else and he does not find justification with that. He is not in favor of either the dead end or the traffic signal until he has a better understanding of what is going to happen in front of his house and how it may affect his children. Mayor Policastro said he is going to refer it to the Economic Development and Zoning Committee of Council. The Building Commissioner informed him that it will also need to go before the Planning Commission because it will may involve lines being drawn. Mr. Miller suggested that Mr. Kroncke put his concerns in an e-mail he will forward it onto Engineer Duffy.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Clerk. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Miller said we are under time constraints with the school so his Committee is asking for \$22,300 and \$1500 for signage. He is going to recommend amending the report to reflect \$5500 for infrastructure to allow for islands with trees. To expand the retail business we needed to increase Village parking. The study showed we needed 114 spots to expand the movie theatre and accommodate a restaurant. Originally we looked at West Street but found it was going to be too expensive because the storm sewer had to be removed. Superintendent Imhoff met with Landscape Engineer, Martin Koepke, to see what we could do as a partnership on the school parking lot. The school was supportive of allowing the Village to use the school parking lot after 4:00 p.m. weekdays and weekends. Mr. Koepke came up with a plan to add 20 more parking spaces on the existing parking lot at the school and enabled now for a mini drop off area. A problem the school had was people using West Street parking in the morning for dropping off kids for school. After a.m. drop off, the lane will become visitor parking. The parking was increased from 79 to 101 spots. This is an inexpensive way to help our retailers. Police can now direct traffic to the parking area for the Porsche Rally and the Arts and Crafts Show.

Mayor Policastro said another positive is that we have two evenly balanced drop off areas to help avoid back ups in the morning. There will be no dropping off or parking on West Street. He will post a warning in his bulletin. Mr. Miller said hopefully it will also ease the parking situation for those who work at the Executive Building. He asked that for the first few weeks an officer be present to direct people to park in the lot.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to accept the recommendation of the Economic Development and Zoning Committee which met June 11, 2012 to discuss Village parking requirements. The Committee recommends that Council provide \$22,300.00 plus \$1500.00 for signage to accommodate Village parking requirements at the soon to be refurbished Elementary School parking lot. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to amend and accept the report to include that all legal documentation will be executed and coordinated by the Mariemont Board of Education and reviewed by Solicitor McTigue. In addition, \$5500.00 will be allocated for certain landscape requirements. Mr. Scheeser said this is an interesting idea and suggested it could be applied to additional zoning and additional commercial space. We might consider a more formal way for future applications for those who want to expand surface parking. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed Wednesday July 4, 2012 in observation of Independence Day.

Village fireworks will be held Tuesday July 3, 2012 at dusk

Mayor Policastro referred the matter of the Belmont traffic signal to the Economic Development and Zoning Committee.

#### Resolutions:

“To Appoint Laura McMahon as a Member of the Parks Advisory Board to fill the Unexpired Term of Lisa Gordon for the Calendar Years 2012 and 2013” had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-13-12 was adopted.

“Renewal 3.5 Mill Tax Levy in Excess of 10 Mill Limitation for Permanent Improvements for the Tax Years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016” had a second reading. Clerk Borgerding said the County estimates that it will cost \$58.00 per \$100,000 for a homeowner. It is a formality to get on the November levy. Mr. Andrews said he would not know how to go about it but suggested that Council discuss the idea of reducing the Permanent Improvement Levy and Increasing the General Fund Levy by an equal amount so the net tax impact to the homeowner would be unchanged given the current budget concerns in the General Fund. Mayor Policastro said he does not believe we should make a change at this time. We are in pretty good shape for the next three years. We need to make sure we continue to have funds in place to fix our infrastructure. Clerk Borgerding agreed adding that we need to fund a new fire truck in the near future. We are fine with what we have now and would not suggest dialing back at all. Mr. Andrews asked if Council is okay with a 60 second discussion or does it warrant further discussion. Mayor Policastro said not at this point but maybe next year or the year after. When we received a large amount of Inheritance Tax years ago Clerk Bahler at that point put a large amount in the Permanent Improvement Fund because we knew the municipal building was going to need help and we were going to have to buy an ambulance and ladder truck in the future. To dial back on the fund would be taking services away from the residents. Mr. Scheeser said if it is an even swap we are actually increasing services because the services more often than not come out of the General Fund not the Permanent Improvement Fund. He believes Mr. Andrews’s suggestion is worth further discussion if the money is more liquid for services in the General Fund. This is a five year renewal - once we are in we are in. We cannot revisit the discussion for five

years. It will be three years after the State's significant funding reduction. It seems like a reasonable request - not to reduce but will the money be more flexible to us in the General Fund.

Treasurer Kulesza asked how buying a fire truck in a government setting works. Clerk Borgerding said we are on a cash basis but options are available for payment over three years or we could do it all in one year if we wanted to. Mayor Policastro said to deplete the fund would be suicide. It does not leave room for emergencies such as sewer collapse or emergency repairs at the pool. Mr. Andrews said we need to make sure we plan even if it is a year from now to discuss and get ahead of what is coming and not wait until it is too late. Treasurer Kulesza said what worries him is taking money out of the Permanent Improvement Fund and putting it into the General Fund. There is a lot more hands that could be fed out of the General Fund whereas the Permanent Improvement Fund require more process. Clerk Borgerding said we passed a small Permanent Improvement Levy last year and if we think we need to adjust it we can do so in three years.

"Adopting the Budget for 2013" had a first reading. Mr. Andrews suggested starting the meeting earlier. Clerk Borgerding said the notice has already been posted and advertised. Solicitor McTigue said if need be at the time someone can move and second to postpone the start of the Council meeting in order to allow more time for the budget hearing.

Ordinances:

"To Temporarily Suspend Section 95.06 Liquor, of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances for the Time Period 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. August 18, 2012 and August 25, 2012" had a second reading.

"To Accept Bid of Adelta, Inc. for the 2012 Street Rehabilitation Project; To Authorize Contract and To Declare Emergency" had the third reading. Mr. Scheeser said his understanding is that the Village should not pay for damage to sidewalks that Village property did not create. One of the line items is a property on Settle that had been damaged over a driveway apron. Mayor Policastro said the Engineer looked at it and determined that a Village tree had created the damage. Mr. Scheeser asked if the continuation of sidewalks up Miami was appropriate for bid pack. Mayor Policastro said yes it is appropriate to spend funds for new sidewalks. Mr. Miller and Mr. Wolter moved to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-12-12 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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Dan Policastro, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk