

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
JANUARY 27, 2014**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Marsland, Mr. Miller, Ms. Palazzolo, Ms. Schwartz, and Mr. Wolter.

Mayor Policastro said Mr. Tinkham had surgery today and was not able to attend. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland to excuse the absence of Mr. Tinkham. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland to approve the minutes as written for January 13, 2014. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

There were no communications read by Mayor Policastro:

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

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met on January 20, 2014 to discuss the possibility of converting the recycling service with Rumpke from the use of 18-gallon recycling bins collected from behind the house to 35-gallon or 65-gallon wheeled recycling carts with lids to be collected from the curb. In attendance were members of the Health and Recreation Committee, Mayor Policastro, Dean Ferrier of Rumpke, Lisa Wakeland of the Eastern Hills Journal, Village resident Jim Howe and Staff Assistant Sue Singleton. Based on a survey conducted by the Village, the majority of residents would prefer the use of the wheeled carts with each household being given the option to choose between the smaller 35-gallon cart or the larger 65-gallon cart, with all carts being collected from the curb rather than from behind the house. Concern was raised if the type of truck Rumpke would use to collect the carts from the curb would be too large to operate in the narrow lanes of the Historic District and/or other properties where recycling is collected from lanes rather than from the street. It was Mr. Ferrier's opinion that Rumpke would make special consideration for those locations. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Village convert to using wheeled recycling carts with lids to be collected from the curb. This recommendation is contingent upon Rumpke being able to make special accommodations for those households that must be serviced from the lanes. The Committee further recommends that any legislation that needs to be voted on to allow for this change to be done as an emergency so that this change may go into effect as soon as possible. Ms. Schwartz said she has received a report from Rumpke as to how they plan to service the Historic District and she plans on having a second Committee meeting next week to discuss it in more detail. Mayor Policastro said this change would result in a \$17,000 savings per year for the Village. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Public Works and Service Committee which met on Monday January 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss the revised 2014 rehabilitation projects. Present at the meeting were Public Works Chairman Dennis Wolter, Vice-Chairman Mary Ann Schwartz and Committee Member Eric Marsland. After thorough discussion, the Committee recommends that we rehab the Mariemont streets as listed:

Lane C from Lane C to Lane B (parallel to Oak Street)	\$ 11,870.00
Lane L from Miami Avenue to Thorndike Road (curb & sidewalk no paving)	\$ 14,305.00
Pocahontas Avenue from the south terminus to Wooster Pike	\$183,201.00*
Engineering Consultant Fee (Choice One Engineering)	\$ 13,630.00**

Other items recommended:

Grace Avenue from Rowan Hill Drive to Grove Avenue	\$ 21,815.00
Expansion of Administration Building Parking Lot	\$ 3,800.00

TOTAL	<hr/> \$248,621.00
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*Pocahontas Avenue is eligible for \$91,600 in grant funding that will be decided on May 1, 2014. If this grant is not approved, we will reconfigure the Pocahontas work scope to allow us to do this project in two segments in order to stay within our annual budget. **To install curb on Pocahontas Avenue, engineering construction drawings need to be prepared to determine the elevation of the curb and the location of drainage structures. Mr. Wolter said our Village Engineer, Chris Ertel, said our chances for the grant money is better than 50/50. Pocahontas Avenue is really in need of repair. If we do not get the grant money we will have to split the work over a two year period. Solicitor McTigue suggested having the bid specifications worded so potential bidders can bid accordingly if we do not get the grant money to do the entire job. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

The Mayor read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed Monday February 17, 2014 in Observation of Presidents' Day.

Resolutions:

“Resolution Adopting the Hamilton County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan” had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-4-14 was adopted.

“To Appoint Paul Haffner as a Member of the Architectural Review Board for Calendar Years of 2014 and 2015” had a second reading.

“To Amend Resolution of Existing Pick-Up for the Mariemont, Ohio Fire Department” had a first reading.

“To Amend Resolution of Existing Pick-Up for the Mariemont, Ohio Police Department” had a first reading.

“To Authorize the Solicitation of Bids for Street Repair and to Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz 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. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-3-14 was adopted.

Ordinances:

“To Accept Funds from the Hamilton County Stormwater District” had a second reading.

“Ordinance to Modify Section 90.01 (A)(1) of the Mariemont Code of Ordinance” (Leash Law) had a second reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to amend the Ordinance to add the grassy boulevard area between Hiawatha and Rembold as an area where a dog may run off leash. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

“Ordinance to Abolish the Positions of Clerk and Treasurer and Enact a New Position of Village Fiscal Officer” had a second reading. Mr. Wolter said he thinks this is a good move. We have tried to get people to run and have been unsuccessful. In an elected position should a problem arise getting a person out of the position can prove to be very difficult (He said this is meant as no offense to Mr. Borgerding). With an appointed position it can be done internally and would probably be more cost effective. He likes the idea of being able to vote on our employees.

Solicitor McTigue said it is important to have someone who is qualified and not someone who won a popularity contest.

Mr. Wolter said he has had conversations with Mr. Bahler and Mr. Bevis and believes all the bases have been covered. We have good back-up and good transition. We would have two people looking at the books and checking each other. He does not see a downside. A lot of municipalities appoint and not elect this position and it is working well for them.

Mr. Marsland asked if there would be a supplemental ordinance needed to pass in order to appoint the Fiscal Officer and the assistant. Mayor Policastro said there would be an Ordinance voted on by Council to accept the recommendation of the Mayor for the positions. The positions would have a 180 day probationary period.

Mr. Wolter thanked Mr. Borgerding for doing both jobs the past twelve months. He has been very gracious about it but we have to solve this problem. Mr. Borgerding said he spoke with the Mayor approximately six months ago about continuing to do both jobs. It is a big time commitment. He has a full time job and two young children who are very active. He does know that there was trouble finding a candidate to run in the last election. He has met Mr. Eldridge who would be a great candidate with excellent qualifications. He is looking forward to working with him.

Mayor Policastro said we will be saving money having both positions. Mr. Borgerding will be paid \$4000 per year and the assistant position will be paid \$2500 per year which will result in a \$1500 per year savings. In addition, we will be saving approximately \$1000 with the Board of Elections every four years. He is very appreciative of the work Mr. Borgerding has done for the little pay he takes. He is truly a volunteer.

Mr. Marsland said one of the concerns he has heard is that the position would not necessarily need to be a Mariemont resident. He asked if other appointed official positions have residency requirements. Mayor Policastro said no. We have incentive to find a Mariemont resident but this gives us flexibility. Solicitor McTigue said the Mayor was in the mindset to have the position be a resident of the Village. He suggested making that the intention but give yourself the option, should you not be able to find someone in the Village, to be able to go outside of the Village. As an elected position it would require that the individual be a member of the electorate of the Village.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to go into Executive Session to discuss confidential information relating to negotiations with another political subdivision regarding their request to enter into an economic development zone. The information to be discussed relates directly to request for economical development assistance under section 715 of the Ohio Revised Code and that the Executive Session is necessary to protect the applicant's interest. Solicitor McTigue said the other political subdivision wants to keep their identity confidential at this point which they are allowed to do under state statute. It does require a unanimous vote of Council to go into Executive Session. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro called a brief recess at 7:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:35 for Executive Session.

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to return to regular session of Council. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk