

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
DECEMBER 15, 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, Mr. Tinkham and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Tinkham to approve the minutes as written for November 24, 2014. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. (Ms. Palazzolo abstained due to her absence)

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From Police Chief Hines: November 2014 Monthly Report. Chief Hines said for the 5th straight year the Police Department was awarded the Platinum AAA award. It is the highest award given for traffic safety. He is proud of his officers for working hard for this honor. He credited Lt. Ostendarp for overseeing the project and all the paperwork that goes along with it.

From Assistant Fire Chief Kiefer: November 2014 Monthly Report. Mayor Policastro congratulated the department on their “2” rating from ISO.

From Service Superintendent Scherpenberg: November 2014 Monthly Report: Mayor Policastro said the department has done a good job this year with leave collection.

From Building Commissioner Hodulik: November 2014 Monthly Report

From Tax Administrator Busam: November 2014 Monthly Report. Mr. Wolter asked if House Bill 5 will move the Village into a position for central tax collection which would be a big concern. Mrs. Busam said it is not in the current bill but she believes it is likely on the horizon in the years to come. Mayor Policastro asked if the current bill has passed both the Senate and the House. Mrs. Busam said yes – it is on the way to Governor Kasich to be signed. She said there are a few things that could impact the Village but not as much as some other northern communities such as those that have zero loss carry forwards. We are already at five year net loss carry forwards so it should not hurt us as much. She has not seen the final draft of the bill but feels we should be okay for the next couple of years. Mayor Policastro said our new State Representative has said he will fight for us.

From Joanee Van Pelt and Sue Singleton: Thank you for the Kroger Gift Cards

From Police Clerk Maupin: Mayor’s Court Statement November 2014.

From Assistant Fiscal Officer Eldridge: November 2014 Monthly Report/Trend Reports. Mayor Policastro said for the 15th straight year we should end the year with a million plus General Fund balance. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said he is projecting \$50,000 annual deficit for the year which is better than the \$90,000 he first anticipated. Mr. Tinkham asked if we are still doing the rolling CD’s. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said he needs to get with Mr. Eldridge to get more small ones that will roll every quarter. Mayor Policastro also pointed out that we will have close to \$500,000 in the Permanent Improvement Fund at the end of the year. That will give us a great start for next year. A reason the fund did so well was the \$180,000 South Pocahontas grant we received. We are looking at more grants for next year.

From Building Commissioner Hodulik: Duke Energy/Murray Avenue Electric Utility Project. Mr. Hodulik said throughout this corridor west of Murray Avenue coming through Fairfax and past the high school Duke Energy is trying to upgrade and add power to supply this corridor for the future. The demand is close to being at capacity. They were initially talking about adding a second set of power poles and running along Murray Avenue from Plainville to approximately 6907 Murray Avenue and would stop just past the Livingood Condominium Development. Part of the plan would include removing the transformer and conduit that buzzes so much at West and Murray. It should help the homeowners in that area. Duke Energy was originally proposing to install wood poles and run the conduits off of that. Our zoning code states that if the power lines were not there prior to June 27, 1941 the power lines must be underground. Duke Energy is willing to take some of the cost upon themselves if the underground conduit is provided. A meeting was held with Duke Energy, representatives of the Village and Mr. Greiwe and it was agreed that the proposal from Mr. Greiwe’s contractor to perform the work was fair and reasonable. The proposal was dated in November and the price was good until December 14, 2014. Mr. Greiwe has indicated that the contractor extended the proposal for another 30 days so the Village Council would have time to meet, discuss and vote on approval. The goal is to put one pole across Plainville Road onto the Murray Avenue eastern side of Plainville Road. It will avoid tearing up Plainville Road at the five-way stop. It also means that we will not have to have an underground manhole transformer station which is more than \$20,000. The shared expense is determined by the lineal footage with the Village of Mariemont paying \$11,500 and North American Properties/Mr. Greiwe paying approximately \$10,000. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to approve the expenditure from the Permanent Improvement Fund. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Ms. Annie Wilkerson, 7954 Beechmont Avenue, was granted permission to address Council. Ms. Wilkerson said she is a Field Representative (Hamilton County) for Congressman Brad Wenstrup. She wanted to introduce herself and provided contact information should anyone have any concerns with any of the federal agencies, veteran’s issues/benefits etc. In addition, their office nominates students to the Service Academy (West Point, Naval, and Air Force). They can help walk them through the application process.

Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Ms. Schwartz moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Monday November 14, 2014 at 6:30 in Council Chambers to discuss a wage rate increase for the Captain position in the Fire Department. Present were Finance Committee Members Eric Marsland, Mary Ann Schwartz and Joe Miller. Also in attendance was Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines. The Committee members unanimously voted in favor to a \$1.00 per hour increase for the position of Fire Captain. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Tuesday December 2, 2014 at 5:00 in Council Chambers to discuss the purchase of a new Ford Explorer for the Mariemont Police Department. Present were Finance Committee Members Eric Marsland, Mary Ann Schwartz and Joe Miller. Also in attendance was Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines. Committee Members unanimously voted to approve the purchase and outfitting of a new Ford Explorer with a combined price not to exceed \$37,000. It was also determined that this purchase needs to be approved on an emergency basis due to the ordering deadline imposed by Ford Motor Corporation of January 2015. Chief Hines said historically we replace a vehicle each year and this will replace the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed Wednesday December 24, 2014 and Thursday December 25, 2014 in Observation of Christmas.

Village Offices will be closed Thursday January 1, 2015 in Observation of New Year's Day

Council appointed Ms. Palazzolo and Ms. Schwartz to the Volunteer Dependents Fund

Mayor Policastro referred to Safety Committee the matter of No Parking on one side of West Street between Emery Park and Nolen Park. Mr. Tinkham asked if this has been brought up with the Condo Association. Mayor Policastro said they should be invited to the Committee meeting.

Resolutions:

"To Reappoint Mark Erhardt as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

To Reappoint Andrew Seeger as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Joe Stelzer as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Tim Duever as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Karen Sullivan as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Rob Winget as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

To Reappoint Mark Glassmeyer as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Doug Welsh as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

"To Reappoint Jason Brownknight as a Member of the South 80 trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2015" had a first reading.

Ordinances:

"To Add the Property at 4101 Rowan Hill Drive to the Village of Mariemont List of Historic Landmarks" had a second reading.

"To Amend Ordinance O-21-14 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees" had a first reading.

"To Purchase a 2015 Ford Utility Police Interceptor Using the State of Ohio Purchasing Program 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 reading. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Tinkham moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to invoke the emergency. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-31-14 was adopted.

"To Supplement Ordinance No. O-1-14 Annual Appropriation" had a first reading. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Tinkham to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third reading. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second reading. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said this is a formality needed at the end of the year. At the beginning of the year we do an Ordinance to appropriate funds which allows us to spend money on certain items. At the end of the year we take a look at the appropriations to determine where we overspent and where we underspent. We cannot carry a negative balance in any fund going into the next year so we have to re-appropriate funds. The Ordinance had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-32-14 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer