

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
FEBRUARY 23, 2015**

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. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to approve the minutes as written for February 9, 2015 and the Committee of the Whole written for February 9, 2015. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. (Mr. Miller abstained due to absence)

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From Police Clerk Maupin: Mayor's Court Statement for January 2015

From Linda Bartlett: e-mail Dated February 4, 2015 re: Add-A-Guest Tennis Membership. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee.

From Mr. Tinkham: Letter Dated February 19, 2015 re: Letter of Resignation. Mayor Policastro said he is sad to announce that this will be Mr. Tinkham's last meeting. He read and presented Mr. Tinkham will a Proclamation and declared Tuesday February 24, 2015 as "Jim Tinkham Day" in the Village of Mariemont.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Fiscal Officer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Mr. Marsland asked if the log splitter purchased for the South 80 will make firewood available for residents. Mayor Policastro said there are several areas in the Village that the South 80 group wants to clear out. Those areas include along Wooster Pike by the Boathouse and Serpent Mound by the Swim Pool. To those that help there would be free firewood. It was discussed that the firewood could be sold fairly inexpensive. Mr. Wolter said there were so many Ash Trees to get rid of and to let them go to waste would be a sin. The group had been renting a log splitter for \$75-80 per day so he sees this as a good investment. They also plan on taking some of the wood to the elderly residents. Ms. Palazzolo asked if moving the Ash Tree wood was okay. Mr. Wolter said it is okay as long as it stays within the county. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro said Superintendent Scherpenberg had discussed the possible purchase of an Asphalt Hot Box with the Villages of Fairfax and Newtown. At the Permanent Improvement Budget meeting Council appropriated approximately \$20,000 for the purchase. Both Villages are not able to commit to the purchase at this time. Superintendent Scherpenberg found a demo that can be purchased for \$11,925.00. It is 3-4 years old and in good shape. The present cold patch does not last very long. If we had something like this we could do more timely repairs. Mr. Wolter said the other communities that do not want to participate have indicated that they would rent the equipment from us which will reduce the bottom line – at least he believes the Village of Fairfax is willing to. Mayor Policastro said we have money set aside to buy this equipment and he trusts Superintendent Scherpenberg's judgment that it is in really good shape. Mr. Tinkham asked if there was adequate storage space. Mayor Policastro said yes there is. Mr. Miller said this work could be done in the winter which would free up some of the department's time in the warmer months. Mr. Wolter said these repairs are relatively permanent as opposed to repetitive re-patching. Mr. Miller said everyone knows we have high taxes but this is the type of thing that makes those taxes worthwhile. Mr. Wolter said this will help extend the life of our streets. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to approve the purchase of the Asphalt Hot Box. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the recommendation of the Health and Recreation Committee which met on Monday February 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the purchase of new playground equipment for Ann Buntin Becker Park. Present at the meeting were Committee Chairperson Mary Ann Schwartz, Committee Vice-Chairman Maggie Palazzolo, Committee Member Dennis Wolter, Mayor Dan Policastro and Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg. After discussing the need to improve the park and the equipment that would be required to make those improvements, the Committee agreed to recommend the purchase of the Walnut Ridge Commercial Playground Structure in primary colors for a cost of \$20,453.00 which includes the structure, shipping and professional installation. The Committee further recommends the purchase of the Cyclone Challenger climber for a cost of \$2,010.00, which includes the structure and the shipping. The total cost for both playground structures is \$22,463.00. Part of that cost will be offset by the \$1,500 grant we received making the cost \$21,263.00. Installation of the climber will be done by our Service Department. The Service Department will always prepare the ground around and under the equipment with wood chips, as is required for safety. The Committee also recommends removing the existing skateboard ramp and offering it for sale on E-bay. In response to their request, the Committee agrees to allow Waldorf School to put in a sandbox made from natural wood stumps anchored into the ground and filled with fine play sand. They have also been granted permission to put in a garden measuring approximately 40'x100'. Both the sandbox and the garden will be located on the north side of the park. In order to take advantage of the current sale prices on the playground structures, the Committee requests that Council approve these recommendations immediately. Mr. Tinkham clarified that the skateboard ramp was coming out along with the teeter totter while the swing and slide were staying. Mr. Wolter said this gives us a park for older children than those that go to the Tot Lot. Mayor Policastro said the north side of the Village needs a good park. A year ago the jungle gym was \$25,000 plus installment fee so it has been discounted for the Village. We need to order the equipment by the end of February in order to realize the savings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which met on Monday January 12, 2015 to consider a request for a No Parking zone on West Street. After consideration, the Committee decided to recommend that there be No Parking on the north side of West Street from Madisonville Road to Thorndike and No Parking on the south side of West Street within 15' of either side of the fire hydrant. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Outstanding Citizen Nominations are due to Mrs. Van Pelt by Thursday March 19, 2015.

Village Offices will be closed Friday April 3, 2015 in observation of Good Friday.

Resolutions:

“To Amend Resolution of Existing Pick-Up Plan for the Mariemont Ohio Police Department” had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Tinkham to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-13-14 was adopted.

“To Amend Resolution of Existing Pick-Up Plan for Mariemont Ohio Fire Department” had a third reading. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Tinkham to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-14-15 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Chris White as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year 2015” had a second reading.

Mayor Policastro reminded Council that Town Meeting will be Sunday March 1, 2015 at 1:00 at the Elementary School. There was some concern that residents may not be aware since the meeting is early this year. Mayor Policastro said he hopes to get the signs up this week but with the snow it has caused some delay. Also, flyers should be distributed this week. The meeting is posted on the Village website and asked that it be posted on Nextdoor Mariemont.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

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Dan Policastro, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer