

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 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. Hlad, Mr. Marsland, Mr. Miller, Ms. Palazzolo, Ms. Schwartz and Mr. Wolter.

Mayor Policastro welcomed Mr. Hlad as our new member of Council to fill the un-expired term of Mr. Tinkham.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to approve the minutes as written for March 9, 2015. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. (Mr. Hlad abstained due to absence)

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From The Columbus Dispatch: Article Dated October 31, 2014 re: Ohio's Minimum Wage Rate Increase. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee as it will affect the recreational employees at the swim pool.

From Building Commissioner Hodulik: Memo Dated March 11, 2015 re: Establishment of Residential Building Code Appeals Board. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Rules and Law Committee. In order to do this we will need to have an Ordinance in place. Mr. Wolter asked if this was precipitated by a request from a resident. Mayor Policastro said years ago we had an Appeals Board but those on the Committee no longer live in the Village. The Building Commissioner feels it is best to have Hamilton County do it for us – and there is no cost. Mr. Wolter said that would take some of the politics out of it.

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

From Duke Energy: Letter Dated March 10, 2015 re: Gas Inspections. Mayor Policastro said he will include this in the next Mayor's Bulletin.

From Hamilton County Municipal League: Save the Dates for Upcoming Meetings.

From Superintendent Scherpenberg: Memo Dated March 17, 2015 re: New Dump Truck/Power Washer. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said we budgeted \$80,000 in the Permanent Improvement Fund for the dump truck purchase. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Finance Committee.

From Alicia Cline: E-Mail Dated January 29, 2015 re: Fencing for Dogwood Park Tot Lot. Mayor Policastro said we helped the Pre-School Parents put together the fencing that makes our kids safe and they want to finish it. Especially behind the Clarence Erikson Shelter there is a drop off that they want to close off. The cost is approximately \$6600 with the Village's contribution of \$3000. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to approve the request. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mayor Policastro said the Pre-School Parents are possibly going to help with future purchases of play equipment at Ann Buntin Becker Park.

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter 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.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Monday March 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chamber to discuss the salary ordinance for full-time employees Mariemont employees. Present at the meeting were Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Vice-Chairman Joe Miller, and Member Mary Ann Schwartz. Also in attendance were Mayor Policastro, Fiscal Officer Tony Borgerding, Police Chief Rick Hines, Assistant Fire Chief Jason Kiefer, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Tax Administrator Patty Busam, and Administrative Assistant Joanne Van Pelt. The discussion detailed how the Village of Mariemont has fallen behind in the rankings in pay scale for emergency services personnel when compared to other local agencies. In the interest of fiscal responsibility, it was decided unanimously that a raise of 3.5% would be given to all full-time employees. The Mariemont Salary Ordinance also needs to be clarified relative to vacation time. As recommended by Village Solicitor, Ed McTigue, the Committee voted unanimously to change the wording of Section XII to read – "(a) one year anniversary date of continuous service, two weeks; (b) seven year anniversary date of continued service, three weeks; (c) fifteen year anniversary date of continuous service, four weeks". Mr. Wolter said this is long overdue. Council deferred raises for the employees when times got tough and he whole heartedly supports this. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met on Monday March 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chamber to discuss the need for a tennis guest membership. Present at the meeting were Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Vice-Chairman Joe Miller, and Member Mary Ann Schwartz. Also in attendance were Mayor Policastro, Fiscal Officer Tony Borgerding, Police

Chief Rick Hines, Assistant Fire Chief Jason Kiefer, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Tax Administrator Patty Busam, and Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. The Committee voted unanimously to grant the request for a fee of \$40.00 and asked that the legislation include the emergency clause due to the fact that rates need to be established for the 2015 season prior to the May registration deadline. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

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

Resolutions:

“To Appoint Anita Hunt as a Member of the Pool Commission for the Calendar Year of 2015” (To Fill the Unexpired Term of Maggie Palazzolo) had a second reading.

“A Resolution Authorizing an Amended Agreement with the Center for Local Government Joint Self-Insured Benefits Pool” had a first reading.

Ordinances:

“To Amend Section 78, Schedule I of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Include No Parking on Certain Streets Within the Village” (West Street) had a second reading.

“To Amend Ordinance O-4-15 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees” had a first reading.

“Final Resolution Regarding the Safe Routes to School Project (PID No. 93533); and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Hlad to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-5-15 was adopted.

“To Provide New Rates for Tennis Passes; To Repeal Ordinance No. O-11-13; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Ms. Marsland moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ms. Schwartz moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-6-15 was adopted.

“To Accept Bid of Grass Cor; To Authorize Contract; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland 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. Mr. Wolter explained to those in the audience that the reason Council does emergency clauses is that a lot of the background work takes so long to get in place. Normally legislation needs three readings, with two weeks in between each reading, which puts something like the grass cutting for the Village or the tennis club opening their admissions for new members with the old membership rates outside the timeframe of when the action needs to take place or the work performed. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ms. Schwartz moved, seconded by Mr. Marsland to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-7-15 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer