

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
JULY 5, 2017**

Vice-Mayor Marsland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed retaining wall on Mariemont Avenue. The following Council members were present: Mr. Brown, Mr. Hlad, Mr. Marsland, Ms. Palazzolo, Ms. Schwartz, and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Marsland said we received a quote from Sunesis. Council needs to get a timeline as far as what we want to do and he wants to discuss what has already been done. Mayor Policastro said this is an estimate to help us figure out what we need to do.

Engineer Ertel said he is not sure of the length of the current repair. We did put down approximately 100' of gabion wall, one in the creek bed and two at the base of the hill. He estimates that we will need to go 200' lengthwise.

Mr. Marsland asked if there are other areas in the vicinity that are also experiencing issues so we can address those at the same time. Mayor Policastro said this area is where there is potential property in danger. Others areas that may be affected are in the woody area. In the future we need to look at Miami Bluff. Mr. Brown said he had some concern for the area west which looks so precarious. He suggested having an expert take a look at the area for assessment. Mayor Policastro said he talked to Mr. Hinebaugh who seemed to think his property was okay. He took the Village Solicitor to the area and it appears that the backyard is undercutting. We need to do something this year. He believes we have the money to get started this year. Due to the cost of the project we have to go out for public bid. He believes the sooner the better.

Engineer Ertel suggested the bid be a design bid process. We could perform the test borings ourselves and provide the information to the bidders the data on the soil. There was discussion regarding if the bidding companies would prefer to do their own soil testing. Mr. Brown suggested having a couple other companies take a look at the area and to also give us ideas of where the boring testing should take place. Mr. Wolter said he likes the idea of the company performing the boring testing and do the work so there is no finger pointing that the data that was provided was flawed.

Engineer Ertel said he would contact Goettle and HC Nutting to see if they would be interested in looking at the site. Mr. Hlad asked what steps Council needs to take to get real data to get real bids as quick as possible so we can fix this as quickly as possible. Engineer Ertel said his recommendation would be to get our own boring tests and then provide the data to the potential bidders. It could take six weeks to put together the specifics for the bid packet, advertise the project and open the bid results. This process is more extensive than the street rehabilitation projects. Ms. Schwartz asked if that was an accepted practice (to get your own soil test boring). Engineer Ertel said yes that is his understanding but he will certainly double check. We could put it in the bid specs that they could do their own testing as well. Mr. Wolter asked if the contract would have verbiage that if the contractor accepts our testing then the Village is released from the contractor saying the borings were not sufficient. Engineer Ertel said yes it would state in the contract that if they do not feel the test borings are appropriate then they should not bid or provide their own boring tests.

Mayor Policastro asked how many companies are in the area that can handle this type of project. Engineer Ertel said two or three. There will not be many competitive bids. Mayor Policastro asked if any of these companies would at least come take a look at the project. Engineer Ertel said it would be worth a call. Mayor Policastro said we should listen to our engineer and get this project on the road.

Ms. Palazzolo suggested contacting Terracon.

Mr. Wolter suggested getting a short term loan and doing all of the project this year so it does not further deteriorate. Mayor Policastro said he is not sure how much or if we can borrow any more money. Mr. Wolter said we should check into it to see if it is a possibility. Mr. Brown said we have a line of credit - can we draw from that. Mayor Policastro said the funny thing about borrowing money is you have to pay it back. Mayor Policastro said it is specific for the Municipal Building and all the spending needs to be reported to the State. The project is overseen by the State and he is not going to play any games and he wants to be above board on anything we do.

After further discussion, Mr. Marsland moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter that Engineer Ertel would make phone calls to see if any company would be interested in coming out to look at the area. It was suggested to have the Fiscal Officer engage in loan research for possible finance options. Mr. Brown and Mr. Wolter asked to be contacted if a viewing is arranged. Engineer Ertel said he would keep Council updated.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer