

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 26, 2018**

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: Mrs. Graves, Mr. Hawkins, Ms. Palazzolo, Mrs. Rankin and Ms. Schwartz.

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to excuse the absence of Mr. Marsland. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Due to illness the following emergency Legislation was read out of order so Ms. Schwartz could leave the meeting.

“To Authorize the Solicitation of Bids for Street Repair and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Ms. Schwartz moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves 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. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Hawkins to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ms. Schwartz moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-8-18 was adopted.

“To Amend Ordinance O-14-17 of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances to Increase Payment for Employees; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Ms. Palazzolo 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 Ordinance had a second reading. Mrs. Graves asked what exactly this is for. Ms. Palazzolo said it is a two percent increase to the full-time employees and the implementation of the safety services levy. Mayor Policastro said it is the 1.98 levy that was passed. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said we gave the full-time Police/Fire personnel 6% increase last year and agreed to give them the rest this year after the money came in. The Ordinance had a third reading. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Schwartz to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-12-18 was adopted.

Ms. Schwartz was excused from the meeting.

Ms. Kelly Hartman, Manager of the Mariemont Branch of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County was granted permission to address Council. Issue 3 on the May 8th ballot is a one mill 10-year levy. It will cost less than \$3.00 per \$100,000 of property value. With it they can embark on the capital improvement repairs needed to make every neighborhood’s library well maintained such as roofs, windows, brickwork, lighting, electrical updates etc. Many of the libraries are not ADA compliant making it difficult for those in wheel chair to get to the bathroom or even through the front door. This is in addition to the levy in place which is also a one mill 10-year levy which was renewed in 2013. That levy will provide a dependable source of revenue through 2023 but will not provide any potential for growth. The library has not increased their budget in 20 years. In 2009 when the state drastically cut the funding to the library they are funded 65% from the State Public Library Fund and 31% is local from Hamilton County. The library provides valuable services such as job searches, meeting rooms, work spaces with Wi-Fi and online classes and training. They also provide homework help and a safe place afterschool for thousands of school kids. Since March 2017 they have served 21,036 food insecure children at 18 locations in addition to summer lunch programs. She thanked the Mayor and Council members for their time and encouraged anyone to reach out to her should they have questions or be willing to place a levy sign in their yard she can give you instructions on how to do so.

Mrs. Graves moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to approve the minutes as written for the Committee of the Whole February 19, 2018, Council Meeting March 12, 2018 and the Capital Improvements Budget Hearing March 12, 2018. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following Communications:

From Police Chief Hines: February 2018 Monthly Report

From Avia Graves: E-mail Dated March 12, 2018 re: New No Parking Signs on Murray Avenue. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Safety Committee. As you can see by the following communications both the Fire and Police Chiefs believe this is a hazard. Solicitor McTigue said if the Mayor thinks it is an imminent danger he can react and have a Committee then discuss the issue.

From Police Chief Hines: Memo Dated February 26, 2018 re: Parking Issue on Murray Avenue

From Assistant Fire Chief Kiefer: Memo Dated March 15, 2018 re: Parking Issue on Murray Avenue

From Fiscal Officer Borgerding: Calculated Community Loss from Local Government Fund since 2011. Mayor Policastro said this shows that the Village has lost approximately \$273,000 from the cuts over the years.

Mr. Bill Brown, 4030 Lytle Woods Place, was granted permission to address Council. He welcomed Mrs. Rankin to Council and proceeded to give an update on the status of the renovation to the Municipal Building. He said we are approximately 50% through the construction build. We are, however, two thirds through the contractual time allotted to build. By contract the renovation should be complete by May 13, 2018. He is optimistic that it will be accomplished. The brick is up around the building and the stucco work will soon begin. The roof is 95% complete. Hopefully it will help with the water coming through the doorway in the police department. The remaining flashing still needs to be installed. One submittal for grant money has been submitted and the money has been received by the Village. The State reimburses only half of the submittal at a time to make sure that the project will be completed. He gave both Mrs. Van Pelt and Mrs. Singleton special thanks and said without their help he is not sure this would be going forward. The break through is still weeks away. They will give us notice prior so we have time to prepare. It is hopeful that we will still be able to hold Council here. If not, it will have to be scheduled somewhere else. Ms. Palazzolo asked what happens if we miss the deadline. Mr. Brown said the Village would not pay a penalty but there would be a discussion between the Village and Perkins Carmack. In order to receive the final payment of the grant money we would have to have the artifacts in place.

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

Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers to discuss the network and computing needs of the Village. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Finance Committee Members Troy Hawkins, and Kelly Rankin, Mayor Dan Policastro, Mariemont Police Chief Rick Hines, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler, Mariemont Pool Facilities Manager Ed Beck, and Mariemont Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. After discussing the need for a thorough evaluation of the IT infrastructure in the Village and the need to hire an expert in the field of IT, the Finance Committee recommends hiring Eli Wendler as our IT Administrator on a Part-Time basis at a rate of \$40.00 per hour. The Committee further recommends that the Ordinance be passed on an Emergency basis so the position may commence April 1, 2018. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Hawkins to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers to discuss the network and computing needs of the Village. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Finance Committee Members Troy Hawkins, and Kelly Rankin, Mayor Dan Policastro, Mariemont Police Chief Rick Hines, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler, Mariemont Pool Facilities Manager Ed Beck, and Mariemont Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. After discussing the need of a thorough discussion of the IT infrastructure in the Village led by Mrs. Wendler, the Finance Committee recommends purchasing a Network Attached Storage system to back up our existing data in the amount of \$870.00. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Hawkins to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers to discuss raises for full time employees. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Finance Committee Members Troy Hawkins, and Kelly Rankin, Mayor Dan Policastro, Mariemont Police Chief Rick Hines, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler, Mariemont Pool Facilities Manager Ed Beck, and Mariemont Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. After discussion of the new emergency services levy passed in 2017 with the goal of raising police/fire salaries to a competitive level, the Finance Committee recommends raising the salaries of the full time police and fire personnel by 12%. All other full time employees are recommended to receive a 2% raise. It was recommended by the Committee that the Ordinance be passed on an Emergency basis so the new rates may commence with pay period beginning April 8, 2018. On roll call; four ayes no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Hawkins to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee which met Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers to discuss new umbrellas for the Mariemont Swim Pool. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chairman Eric Marsland, Finance Committee Members Troy Hawkins, and Kelly Rankin, Mayor Dan Policastro, Mariemont Police Chief Rick Hines, Service Superintendent John Scherpenberg, Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler, Mariemont Pool Facilities Manager Ed Beck, and Mariemont Administrative Assistant Joanee Van Pelt. As the umbrellas are in great disrepair and they are over 10 years old, the Finance Committee recommends purchasing 12 new umbrellas and mobile bases at a cost of \$6,280.00. Mayor Policastro said Mr. Beck did a good job negotiating the price down from \$8,000. On roll call; four aye, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves to accept the recommendation of the Public Works and Service Committee which met on Thursday March 22, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss the revised 2018 street rehabilitation project. Present at the meeting were Public Works Committee Chairman Kelly Rankin, Vice-Chairman Troy Hawkins, Mayor Dan Policastro, Village Engineer Chris Ertel and Village resident Jerry Vianello. After thorough discussion, the Committee recommends the following: Issue new Resolution for the Street Rehabilitation bid authorization to include Homewood Road and Madisonville Road. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed on Friday March 30, 2018 in Observation of Good Friday.

Resolutions:

“To Appoint Bill Brown as the Native American Cultural Center Grant Coordinator for the Village of Mariemont” had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo asked who will oversee the position. Mrs. Graves moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to amend the Exhibit “A” of the Resolution to have this position overseen by the Planning and Zoning Committee Chairman and the Staff Assistant. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Mr. Graves moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to adopt the Resolution as amended. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-9-18 was adopted.

“To Reappoint Chris White as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2018” had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-10-18 was adopted.

“Resolution Declaring the Necessity of Levying a Tax in Excess of the 10 Mill Limitation for Recreational Purposes and Requesting the County Auditor to Certify Matters in Connection Therewith” (MariElders) had a third reading. Ms. Palazzolo moved, seconded by Mrs. Graves to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No R-11-18 was adopted.

“Resolution Declaring the Necessity of Levying a Tax in Excess of the 10 Mill Limitation of the 10 Mill Limitation for Current Expenses and Requesting the County Auditor to Certify Matters in Connection Therewith” had a third reading. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said this levy is from 1941. It needs to be renewed every five years. It is for the General Fund. Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-12-18 was adopted.

“To Authorize Adoption of a Premium Only Insurance Plan” (For Section 125 Cafeteria Plans) had a second reading. Mr. Van Pelt said the Village needs to have a Resolution in place to allow for pre-tax dollars to be deducted from the employee’s paychecks who participate in the HSA insurance plan.

“To Reappoint Jason Brownknight as a Member of the South 80 Trails, Gardens, and Park Advisory Board for the Calendar Year of 2018” had a second reading.

Ordinances:

“To Create the Village of Mariemont Native American Cultural Center Advisory Board” had a third reading. Mrs. Graves moved, seconded by Ms. Palazzolo to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; four ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-13-18 was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony Borgerding, Fiscal Officer