

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MAY 28, 2019**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Graves, Ms. Palazzolo and Mrs. Rankin.

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

Ms. Kelly Hartman, Branch Manager, Mariemont Library said last year the voters of Hamilton County approved the library levy which will bring \$19 million to our library system each year for the next 10 years. Given that the average length of time since a branch has been renovated is 40+ years, the bulk of the funding will go to improving each of our 41 locations. The Library is serious about using this money wisely during this 10 year process and beyond. 2019 is all about planning. We are holding hundreds of public engagement sessions to listen and learn from each community about what their biggest needs and wants are for their Library. Mariemont's Community Listening Session is scheduled for Wednesday June 19, 2019 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Mariemont Branch Library, 3810 Pocahontas Avenue. The format will be a 30- minute open house and a formal presentation by Library Director Paula Brehm-Heeger, followed by small and large group discussions. She encouraged members of Council to attend. The facility Master plan information can be found on CincinnatiLibrary.org: <https://www.cincinnatiLibrary.org/info/facilitiesmasterplan.html>.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the minutes as written for May 13, 2019. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following communications:

From Mariemont Parks Advisory Board: Meeting Minutes May 7, 2019

From Mark Berry, AGE, email Dated May 20, 2019 re: Governmental Aggregation. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Public Works and Service Committee. He said Council in the past has reviewed the information and opted not to participate mainly because Council did not feel they had the right to tell residents who to use. To put it on the ballot would cost over \$2,000. Mr. Bartlett said he met with Mike Lemon who indicated that Columbia Township does this. The residents can opt out if they want. He indicated that the residents love it and he has also talked with the Village of Newtown. He will be willing to share all that information with the Committee.

From Frank Moone: email Dated May 18, 2019 re: Work at Patriot Park

From Robert C. Hedleston: Letter Dated May 15, 2019 re: Thank you Service Department

From Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler: Expense/Revenue Report

Mr. Bartlett moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to pay the bills as approved by the Fiscal Officer, Mayor, and Chairman of the Finance Committee. On roll call: five ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Graves moved, seconded by Mrs. Rankin to accept the recommendation of The Finance Committee which met on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 2:30 pm in Council Chambers to discuss a new process for collecting the annual waste fee from Mariemont residents. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Bill Brown and Kelly Rankin, and Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler. The Finance Committee recommends that Patty Busam and Eli Wendler proceed with the next steps in preparing to have Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) collect the annual waste fee starting in 2020. GCWW currently does this for fifteen other municipalities. This will help enable the Village to go down by one person in the Tax Office when Patty Busam retires at the end of 2019. GCWW charges a 5% fee on all money collected, which for Mariemont would equate to

roughly \$6,650. The savings from going down by one person in the Tax Office is about \$88,000, so the net savings should be roughly \$81,000 in 2020. The Finance Committee will continue to oversee this project, but Eli and Patty will be taking the lead and involving the Finance Committee as necessary. Mr. Bartlett said the target date for this matter is November 2019. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Mr. Bartlett to accept the recommendation of The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 2:00 pm in Council Chambers to discuss the IT infrastructure in the Municipal Building. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Bill Brown and Kelly Rankin, and Assistant Fiscal Officer Eli Wendler. Eli Wendler and Bill Brown have reviewed potential locations for consolidating all of the IT hardware in the Municipal Building. Having all of the equipment in one location will enable us to be able to provide a safer environment for the hardware, and will also facilitate putting in place the right firewall protection. Eli Wendler will be overseeing this project, working with the appropriate vendors. At this point in time, there is no further need for involvement by the Finance Committee. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed on Thursday July 4, 2019 and Friday July 5, 2019 in Observation of Independence Day. Council Packet Materials must be in the office by noon on Wednesday July 3, 2019.

Village Fireworks will be held on Thursday July 4, 2019 at dusk.

The Public Hearing on the 2020 Budget will be July 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Council discussed holding one Council meeting per month during the summer months. Mr. Bartlett said there is a lot on the agenda for Council to deal with and recommends having two meetings a month. Mrs. Rankin and Ms. Palazzolo agreed. Mr. Brown said there are quite a few things on the agenda but it seems to him that they could be cleared up with one meeting per month. If everyone thinks differently he is good. Mrs. Graves said she is supportive of the majority.

Mayor Policastro said he is going to call a Special Meeting of Council. He got 31 signatures on a petition for Homewood Road to allow for overnight parking. He is going to prepare a flyer for distribution on Homewood, Settle and Belmont. It was decided that Tuesday June 25, 2019 would be the date. Mrs. Van Pelt will check to see if ICRC is available to record the meeting due to the number of residents expected to attend. After input from the residents he plans to refer the matter to the Public Works and Service Committee. Mrs. Graves asked for a list of streets that presently have the restriction. Mayor Policastro said he will have Chief Hines get the information. Solicitor McTigue said he believes they are listed in the Code of Ordinances.

Solicitor McTigue said he and Mr. Bartlett met last week about what Mr. Bartlett brought up at the Council meeting on the 13th regarding referring some issues in our code to a Committee. He was hopeful to have something written up for this evenings meeting so it could be referred. There are some discrepancies in the code between some of the requirements between Planning Commission and ARB. It talks about a Buildings Appeal Board which he is not even sure we have. He wants to take a bit more time to get a written report to exactly what is being referred to the Rules and Law Committee.

Ms. Palazzolo said in talking with residents there has been request to do work at the ballfields due to the puddles in the dugouts. Residents are interested in the Village or some other entity doing improvements and they are also willing to fund raise if necessary. She is not sure what part the Recreation Association would play in this. Also, residents have expressed interest in doing improvements to the baby pool at the swim pool. At one point MPPG offered money towards the project. Mayor Policastro said he already has a plan for the ballfields. He plans to have the work done in house by pouring concrete slab in the dugout area.

Ms. Palazzolo said she has also had residents talk about the invasive plants by the pool and along Miami Bluff. The Service Department did cut it vertically so it would not be scrapping cars anymore. It needs to be removed so new trees can populate. She suggested having a clean-up vegetation day. It was agreed to hold one in the fall. Mayor Policastro referred the matter to the Health and Recreation Committee to set a date.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Mayor Dan Policastro

Fiscal Officer Anthony Borgerding