

**VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OCTOBER 19, 2020**

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Bartlett. Mrs. Graves, Dr. Lewis, Ms. Palazzolo, Mrs. Rankin and Mr. Stelzer were present via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Brown said Council is meeting to discuss CARES Act funding and various projects brought forward. ICRC was not able to hook up interaction with residents for this meeting but it should be in place by the next Council meeting. Instructions for registration will be on the Village website.

Fiscal Officer Borgerding is the overseer on the project and has been working with Assistant Fiscal Officer Wendler. There is \$113,000 left from the \$126,000 received to date. He did more research and consulted with the State Auditors who completed our last Village audit about using the money towards police and fire payroll. He did confirm that it is covered even though it was budgeted, the CARES Act monies can be used for those essential type employee salaries. He talked with Chief Hines who said the police personnel spend an hour each day cleaning and sanitizing the cars and equipment. He estimates an additional \$78,000 in payroll by the end of the year. The same can be said for pool and maintenance personnel that have spent specific time and supplies on cleaning and sanitizing. The pool estimates \$11,000 and Service Department estimates salary and supplies at \$10,000. Combined it gets us close to \$100,000 and that is without the Fire Department submitting their information which would put us over the amount of funding received. There are other projects that have been discussed but he believes it would be most simple to use the money for payroll purposes and supplies rather than trying to get several projects done in a short amount of time before the end of the year.

Mr. Bartlett said he does not believe the work at the tennis courts would be able to be accomplished but he would like to still go forward with the codification of the Code of Ordinances. It has been since 2016 since it has been done. We can only use the money for what work has been done through the end of the year. It does meet the criteria. Ms. Palazzolo said it might be possible that they bill us for the whole project prior to December 31, 2020. Mr. Bartlett said it will only pay for work completed, not work that will still need to be done. Fiscal Officer Borgerding agreed saying the Village cannot prepay for work. Ms. Palazzolo said American Legal Publishing would probably not get very far – this is a terribly long process.

Fiscal Officer Borgerding said there will probably be more CARES Act money coming next year – the amount he does not know. Mr. Bartlett agreed that there probably will be more stimulus money in 2021. Mayor Brown suggested starting the codification in 2021 and use this money on payroll so the funds can be completely used. Ms. Palazzolo said American Publishing can begin the preparation work now. She wants to have more committee meetings and prepare more legislation to fix the code book. It would be a clean cut to make the cutoff December 31, 2020. If done every year we will have an updated code book. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said he is fine spending some money on the project. It was determined that the cleanest way to update would be to codify through the end of 2020 and then do yearly or every other year thereafter.

Mr. Stelzer would like to see the proposal for the recodification before it gets put in the budget. One stipulation of the CARES Act is not to have the money budgeted. In regards to the other projects, he would like Council to collect the information so we are ready to go if there is more CARES Act funding instead of scrambling at the last minute.

Mayor Brown said Mr. Rich did a really nice job putting together information on plans to rearrange the municipal offices. The estimated total cost, including furniture, lighting, carpet etc. is \$55,000. It allows for a

25% contingency plan with such a short time clock. If we move forward with the project the pricing will be nailed down. Mr. Bartlett reminded Council if the project is over \$50,000 it requires the project to go out for bid. Mayor Brown said a project like this could be broken down and the potential is great to lower the cost. He reminded Council that this is not the finished drawing but a first crack at it. There is no doubt that the administrative office project needs to be done. He would be happy to be the point person to see what furniture is needed and start pricing it out. Mr. Bartlett said the same could be done with the Tennis Court project.

Fiscal Officer Borgerding said City of Fairfield is buying police cars so each officer would have their own cars. Mayor Brown said Council did delay purchasing a police cruiser in 2020 and will have to purchase one in 2021. That could be a possibility but not budget for it.

Mr. Stelzer said it would be good to have excess expense in our back pocket should we be audited. Fiscal Officer Borgerding said he is not sure you can spend more than you receive. He will be submitting the necessary report tomorrow online. Mr. Bartlett said Fiscal Officer Borgerding covered that early when he checked with the auditor if payroll is a covered item. Mr. Stelzer said we are relying on that opinion and they are not the judge and jury. Mr. Bartlett said we have fall back with the pool and maintenance staff cleaning, sanitizing and supplies which is substantially different than their normal work load.

Mrs. Rankin moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis to spend the CARES Act money towards payroll from the various departments (Police, Fire, Pool, and Service) and supplies. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Other projects to be considered should there be more funding included Tennis Patio, Pool, Reconfiguration of the Administration, Building and Tax Offices.

Mr. Stelzer said he found out that Mariemont does not qualify for the Hamilton County Block Grant Program because the former Mayor failed to return any phone calls to Hamilton County to get the Village enrolled in the program. We have to wait until June 2021 to enroll to be eligible in the program in 2022. The fear was the thought the money would be used for low income housing. If you look at the communities that are involved it was found that low income housing was not what it was being used for. Columbia Township used the money to expand outdoor dining at the Promenade. He will continue to work on enrollment.

Mr. Stelzer reminded Council of the fundraising event at Fifty West Brewery this week and the check presentation from Columbia Township for the Murray Bike Trail.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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William A. Brown, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer