

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL  
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO  
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER  
JUNE 25, 2012**

Mayor Policastro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following Council members answered present to roll call: Mr. Andrews, Ms. McCarthy, Mr. Miller, Mr. Scheeser and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to excuse the absence of Mr. Black. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Ms. Mary Sanker, Manager of the Mariemont Branch Library thanked Council for the opportunity to address them to share some information about the branch and library system. Last year the branch was very busy and they were up almost 10% in use and the rest of the system also saw outstanding usage. The branch continues to offer a variety of programs for all ages and they have experienced an increase in people looking for instruction on downloading e-books to their kindles, nooks and i-pads as the e-book phenomenon continues to grow. More and more of our users don't come to the library in person as you can download free music, borrow audio books and e-books and place holds from home just by connecting to the library website. One of the highlights of the past year was the display of the Cincinnati Panorama of 1848. Out of public sight for over 60 years, it has been restored and is on display at the library with a touch screen so viewers can zoom in for details of the waterfront of Cincinnati from that year. This is one of the most important daguerreotypes from that era and is a fantastic resource for our city. In addition, we have expanded our homework centers to more branches and we received funding from PNC for a financial literacy program for pre-school children. And of course, state funding continues to be reduced. That and the reductions from the county property taxes have put a financial squeeze on the library as any other public institution. We continue to do the most we can with the reduced funding but uncertain times are ahead. Also the Mariemont branch celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Pocahontas location this year. She encouraged those who have not been in for a while to stop by and reconnect with the library.

Mr. Andrews asked to amend the minutes for the Emergency Council meeting to change the wording to reflect "less than 10% cross at this point". Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Andrews to accept the minutes as written for June 11, 2012 and amended for June 6, 2012. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Mariemont Parks Advisory Board: Meeting Minutes June 5, 2012

From Treasurer Kulesza: May 2012 Monthly Report

From Village Engineer Ertel: Copy of Letter to Tim Adleta re: 2012 Street Rehabilitation Project

Mayor Policastro said Public Works and Service needs to meet to discuss the quotes for the sidewalk work on Albert Place and make a recommendation to Council. Mr. Scheeser said he did not feel the Committee needed to meet again on the issue but will submit a report to recommend the best and lowest bidder.

Ms. McCarthy moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Clerk. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to accept the recommendation of the Economic Development and Zoning Committee which met Tuesday June 19, 2012 to discuss the Village of Mariemont entering into an agreement with Barr and Prevost Engineering to complete a study of the need for a traffic signal on Wooster Pike at Belmont Avenue. A copy of the scope of the study and an agreement is attached. After discussion, the Committee recommends the Village of Mariemont enter into the agreement with Barr and Prevost Engineering to complete the study. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to accept the recommendation of the Public Works and Service Committee which met Monday June 25, 2012 to discuss the Village of Mariemont entering into an agreement with the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County to receive Municipal Road Funds for the improvement of Miami Road between Wooster Pike and Rembold Avenue. A copy of the agreement is attached. After discussion, the Committee recommends the Village of Mariemont enter into the agreement with the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County and pass the required Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Mr. Scheeser updated Council on the telephone savings. He has the paperwork from Cincinnati Bell which is a 60 month contract averaging a savings of \$200-\$300 per month. Mayor Policastro said to get the paperwork into the office and he will refer the matter to the Finance Committee for review.

Mr. Scheeser said he had a resident ask him about utility aggregation. Several surrounding communities have utilized this savings including Indian Hill and Columbia Township. His research shows significant savings along with a smooth process. He estimates a net 10% savings for the municipal building per month. He would

love for us to chase it and wanted to gauge the interest of Council. It appears to be a no mess process and the scale for buying for all the residents and allowing them to opt out feels like a really great thing we can do. Mayor Policastro said we are currently in a contract with Duke Energy Retail through 2012 or 2013. We looked at this a couple years ago and Council opted not to participate. Mr. Andrews asked if the aggregation requires the resident component. Mr. Scheeser said it expects it but it does not require it. Mr. Kulesza said personally he has already entered into a contract with a provider and does not believe the Village would be able to terminate his contract. Mr. Scheeser said this would be a good discussion for the Finance Committee. Mr. Andrews said he is open to having the discussion but for the same principal reason he had a couple of years ago he is against it. He does not think it is a government's decision to be picking a preferred provider. Mayor Policastro said to get him the information and he will put it in the Council packet and refer to the Finance Committee after he checks out our contract with Duke Energy Retail.

Mr. Wolter said he read the proposal regarding the fire engine. He is waiting on getting some questions answered and he will then call a Safety meeting to discuss it.

Mayor Policastro read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed Wednesday July 4, 2012 in observation of Independence Day.

Village fireworks will be held Tuesday July 3, 2012 at dusk

Resolutions:

“Renewal 3.5 Mill Tax Levy in Excess of 10 Mill Limitation for Permanent Improvements for the Tax Years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016” had a third reading. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to adopt the Resolution. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Resolution No. R-14-12 was adopted.

“Adopting the Budget for 2013” had a second reading.

Ordinances:

“To Temporarily Suspend Section 95.06 Liquor, of the Mariemont Code of Ordinances for the Time Period 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. August 18, 2012 and August 25, 2012” had a third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance O-13-12 was adopted.

“To Accept Bid of Barr & Prevost for the Belmont Avenue Signal Project and to Authorize Contract; and To Declare Emergency” had a first reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to suspend the rules to allow for the second and third readings. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. The Ordinance had a second and third reading. Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to invoke the emergency clause. On roll call; five ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-14-12 was adopted.

Clerk Borgerding asked how the donations are coming for the fireworks. Mayor Policastro said we are over the amount needed.

Mr. Andrews said the mowing contractor is edging but they are not cutting the weeds that are growing out from the curb in the square area. Mr. Miller said attention needs to be paid to the clover in the grassy area between Rembold and Hiawatha. He was stopped by a resident to report that her children had been stung by bees. He said the square and the grassy area along Center need treatment as well. Mr. Wolter said he noticed the new sidewalk area by the Municipal Building and East Street has not been cut regularly. Treasurer Kulesza reported that there are bee nests under the seating area on the fountain at the square. Mayor Policastro said he will make Superintendent Scherpenberg aware of these matters.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Dan Policastro, Mayor

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Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk