

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
REGULAR MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
NOVEMBER 25, 2013**

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: Mr. Andrews, Mr. Miller Mr. Scheeser, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Stelzer and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to approve the minutes as written for November 11, 2013. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The following communications were read by Mayor Policastro:

From Clerk/Treasurer Borgerding: October 2013 Monthly Report/Trend Reports. Clerk Borgerding said the street fund shows a negative balance presently but it should post positive before the end of the year. If not, we will have to transfer money from the General Fund. He anticipates a \$20,000 deposit.

From Clerk/Treasurer Borgerding: Memo Dated November 21, 2013 re: Investment Plan. Clerk Borgerding said he met with representatives from PNC Bank. Based on that conversation PNC said it was fine if the Village went to other places if PNC cannot beat the rates. It will not cost us additional fees etc. because we have a big enough credit balance. Mr. Stelzer asked what the FDIC Insured limit is for governmental entities. Clerk Borgerding said he believes it is \$250,000. He will double check that wherever he puts money it will be fully insured by the FDIC. Mr. Stelzer said we have a CD maturing in February 2014 and asked what the value is. Clerk Borgerding said \$200,000. Mr. Stelzer said it appears that \$150,000 will be laddered every six months starting twelve months out. Clerk Borgerding said he did not think for the first year we would need anything for six months out. We have pretty good cash flow right now. Mr. Stelzer asked if that would all come out of the General Fund. Clerk Borgerding said there is only one bank account but it is split into several different accounts. He is going to ladder three quarters of a million dollars plus the \$250,000 CD that will mature in February 2014. That will leave approximately one million in the bank for cash flow. We have the next installment payment on the fire truck due in May/June 2014.

Mr. Andrews moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to pay the bills as approved by the Mayor, Clerk and Finance Chairman. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Scheeser moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee which met on November 11, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers to discuss a Resolution of adopting the Hamilton County natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. Present at the meeting were Safety Chairman Dennis Wolter, Committee Vice-Chairman Cortney Scheeser, Committee Member Joe Stelzer, Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines, Assistant fire Chief Tim Feichtner and Council Member Mary Ann Schwartz. After much discussion, the Committee recommends that the Council pass the Natural Hazard Mitigation Resolution as drafted by FEMA. Mr. Wolter said this is the last step in finalizing the Village's participation in the FEMA Emergency Plan. They want to know that we have a plan in place locally to mitigate the emergency as a first responder. We would then utilize FEMA if needed. Mr. Andrews asked if there were any modifications for the Village. Mr. Wolter said no and added that Chief Hines and Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner have reviewed the Ordinance and did not see a need for any changes. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wolter said the Safety Committee met to discuss changing the leash law so a dog is always on a leash unless it is in its yard or fenced in. Dogs could be allowed to run free in some parks. The Committee discussed the parks that would be used and how they could be open for dogs to run (such as the South 80 and Bell Tower). The Committee also decided that they would publicize the park plan for open leash for dogs and then have another Safety Committee Meeting. The vote was 2-1 with Mr. Scheeser dissenting feeling signs were more important than safety. Mr. Scheeser said there are three big reasons why he was concerned: (1) It is unenforceable and hard to manage (2) Signage has become a real problem in the Village and this will just contribute to that and (3) He has talked to a lot of residents who have voiced to leave it alone – it is fine. The responsibility is on the owner and we are just meddling in people's lives. For these reasons he is uncomfortable supporting any plans to slice up the Village into parks with various hours for dogs to run. Mr. Wolter said we are trying to give access for the animals and the residents to have some freedom for their dogs. Dogs may seem to be under control with voice control as our current ordinance provides but experience has shown that dogs can get out of control unexpectedly. Under the surface dogs can become wild animals when they get excited. Often it is playfulness that leads up to it. He believes we have a responsibility to put safety first. He does not like the signs either but he believes it can be done tastefully and we can manage the parks – it is not going to be that complicated and he believes it can be enforced. Mayor Policastro said we can have another meeting to discuss it but to him the safety of our citizens comes first. We need to make sure when someone is walking their dog that the dog is on a leash. Some parks it will be okay to let the dog run but not in parks where children play. Mr. Stelzer said he did some research on this and the Village law is very similar to the ORC. There are communities in Ohio that have put more restrictions saying the dogs must be leashed even in the parks. We are trying to find a happy medium saying the dogs need to be leashed while on public streets because we have had incidents where dogs have been attacked and required veterinary care. We are trying to put some rules into place to protect dogs

while they are walking down the street. Mr. Wolter said there is going to be another meeting to give residents time to comment.

The Mayor read the following miscellaneous announcements:

Village Offices will be closed Thursday November 28, 2013 and Friday November 29, 2013 in Observation of Thanksgiving

Tree Lighting/Luminaria will be held Saturday December 7, 2013 starting at 5:30 p.m.

Village Offices will be closed Tuesday December 24, 2013 and Wednesday December 25, 2013

Ordinances:

“An Ordinance to Adopt New Mutual Aid Agreement Regarding Hamilton County Local Government Mutual Aid for Law enforcement” had a third reading. Mr. Wolter moved, seconded by Mr. Scheeser to adopt the Ordinance. On roll call; six ayes, no nays. Ordinance No. O-26-13 was adopted.

Mr. Stelzer said there will be an upcoming meeting in Fairfax regarding the Oasis Light Rail Component on December 10, 2013. They will have some documents to present and are going to open the meeting up for comments.

Mr. Stelzer said there is a meeting next week on the Wasson Way project regarding connecting the trail from Newtown to the Mariemont boundary line. They are going to discuss the dangerous grade. Hamilton County Parks own the property to Kroger and they are willing participants in this process.

Clerk Borgerding reminded Council that we will have a Supplemental Ordinance to pass on December 16, 2013. Ms. Schwartz indicated that she may be out of town.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Clerk