

# The Regular, Scheduled Meeting of the Council of The Village of Marble Cliff

1600 Fernwood Ave.

August 15, 2022

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. in Village Hall, 1600 Fernwood Ave., in the Village of Marble Cliff. Those in attendance were Mayor, Matthew Cincione; Council President, Dow T. Voelker; Council Members: Charlotte B. Hickcox (remotely via Zoom), Matthew R. Jolson, Bridget B. Sarna, Joanne C. Taylor, and Kendy A. Troiano; Yaz Ashrawi, Village Solicitor; Stephanie Evans, Fiscal Officer; and Peggy Shanahan, Assistant Fiscal Officer. No representatives of the press were present. Visitors were present.

Mayor Cincione called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Ashrawi reminded Council that while Ms. Hickcox is present for discussion via camera, she is unable to vote this evening.

## VARIANCES, PERMITS AND VISITORS

Mayor Cincione introduced the Grandview Fire Chief, Mr. Greg Eisenacher. Chief Eisenacher shared his background and encouraged the Council and staff to reach out to him if anything is ever needed. Mr. Voelker asked if there is anything of concern in Marble Cliff. Chief Eisenacher stated that there are no real concerns. He went on to share that the inspections at 2015 W. Fifth Ave. are going well and that he is staying on top of the progress. He reminded Council that Marble Cliff has older hydrants and that they sometimes break when they are being tested. The repairs are good, though. One of the police dispatchers recently discovered that there is a duplicate address for Marble Cliff and Columbus which caused a little confusion at dispatch but it was worked out. Mr. Jolson asked about year-over-year comparison for calls. Chief Eisenacher stated that there are increasing calls for both fire and police. Ms. Troiano asked about partnering with Columbus; the Chief said that yes, partnerships are important and appreciated, and some of the additional runs do include going into the City of Columbus and Upper Arlington. Before leaving, the Chief thanked everyone and encouraged them to come for a visit and tour the firehouse.

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Evans introduced themselves and shared that they are starting to explore the options available for a potential lot split for their property at 2041 W. Third Ave. Mr. Evans said that the property is a lot to maintain, and that they would also like to make some improvements to the house. Ms. Evans added that they love living in Marble Cliff but with the maintenance involved, they are finding the property to be a lot of work. They would like to know the process for a lot split. Mr. Ashrawi outlined the process, including filing an application. He also stated that approval is at the discretion of Council upon their review of the application. Franklin County has to approve it as well, but it has to pass through Marble Cliff's Council first. Mr. Evans asked that if the split meets the requirements of setbacks, etc., are there other obstacles? Mr. Ashrawi said yes, because the decision is at the discretion of Council. He suggested that anything they can submit to help give Council an idea of the plan would be helpful. Mayor Cincione added that once the application is submitted, they will be on the Agenda; at that point more questions may arise and more information may be requested. Other considerations include the necessity for variances on the existing/new lot. Mr. Evans asked Mr. Ford if there are engineering aspects to consider. Mr. Ford said the engineering considerations would include sewer lines, utilities, curb cuts, driveway, etc. Ms. Evans said they would rather not invest the time and money into a plan if Council would never approve it. Mayor Cincione stated that a hearing for a lot split is a semi-judicial process and the project would be judged; it would be given due consideration by Council, with public comment as part of it. Ms. Troiano suggested talking with the neighbors because neighbor's comments are taken into consideration.

Mayor Cincione introduced Ms. Paige Schmeling of WSA Studio, sharing that WSA responded to the Village RFQ for design services and we are seeking to engage them for these services. The Mayor briefly summarized the need and then turned it over to Ms. Schmeling. Ms. Schmeling shared a little history of the company and ensured Council that they would be available to help define aesthetic and organizational goals. The beginning stage would be conducting research in the community, listening to community members, assessing needs and creating goals. Mr. Jolson asked about other experience with similar entities; Ms. Schmeling shared that she sits on the design review board for Italian Village and it would be very similar work in Marble Cliff. Mr. Voelker suggested that after the monument sign, perhaps the other building next to it would be something to review. Mayor Cincione shared that he would like to be able to plan ahead, and have a cohesive look to projects in the Village. Mr. Voelker agreed that thinking ahead and having a vision would

be a benefit of having professional guidance. Mr. Jolson asked Ms. Schmeling to share her vision; she responded that she can't really answer that without research and a better understanding of the various corridors. Mr. Voelker suggested this legislation as a first reading, and that perhaps we add more detail as plans are developed. Mr. Jolson showed concern that there was only one response. Ms. Troiano suggested it could be due to staffing shortages.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting of July 18, 2022
- 2) Received – Fire Report, July 2022
- 3) Received – Police Report, July 2022
- 4) Received – Permit Report, January-July, 2022
- 5) Received – 2023 Local Government Fund Allocation

Mayor Cincione introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if any items need to be pulled out for discussion. No items for discussion but Mr. Voelker thanked Ms. Shanahan for creating the permit report.

**Ms. Troiano moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously, with the five members present voting.**

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione reported that school started today, and that the high school band played a concert at Falco Park last evening.

Mayor Cincione also shared that Grandview has a new "311" system for the community. It changes the way we share community news and the former eblast system is now outdated. It's important to create an account to continue to receive community news and updates.

The Mayor also noted that the AEP project is moving along. He expects some screening to go up soon, as well as a sign showing the project and an informational website link.

Ms. Troiano asked about the Tri-Village Chamber event for community updates. Mayor Cincione stated that is an annual event and the Economic Development Download takes place twice a year.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Ford reported that he had a site meeting with AEP to ensure that they are staying away from Village infrastructure. He also talked about the mowing at Dublin Road and Fifth Avenue, and the patching on Dublin Road. These things are or will be underway soon. The Packard plans have been approved for engineering with the caveat that two easements must be secured by the developer before construction permits will be issued. Mr. Ford also shared that there is renewed interest in pedestrian signage at Cambridge and W. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Finally, Mr. Ford talked about the curb repair on Dublin Road, and noted that while Decker's quote was a little higher than hoped, they are the only contractor out of four that were interested in the job.

**Ms. Troiano moved to approve the expenditure to Decker Construction for \$18,500 for the curb repair on Dublin Road; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Ford left the meeting at this time.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Protocol for Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions: Mr. Ashrawi reviewed the guidelines and stated that as a statutory entity, there is not a lot of difference between Ordinances and Resolutions. Certain rules apply to ordinances, all others can be passed by resolution or motion. Mr. Ashrawi and Ms. Evans would like to come up with practices that would provide consistency. Mr. Ashrawi will prepare something for Council's review and we will put it into practice. Mr. Voelker asked for clarification between charter and statutory entities: Mr.

Ashrawi shared that there are a number of things that chartered entities can do, but statutory entities default to the state law.

#### FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Evans shared the financial reports for July 2022, including the monthly bank reconciliation, fund summary, and tax receipt report.

**Mr. Voelker moved to approve the July finance reports; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Audit: Ms. Evans shared that the audit is starting later than anticipated and will now begin at the end of August. Also, she has requested a full audit even though the Village qualifies for an abbreviated version. In discussions with Ms. Shanahan and Mr. Ashrawi, it was agreed that having a full audit is a good idea given the transition in fiscal officers that occurred in 2021. The audit firm is requesting an extension and will expect to have the audit completed by September 30.

Investment Policy: Ms. Evans reviewed the investment policy and suggested a meeting to discuss the movement of additional funds into CDs while the interest rates are high. Steps will be taken to meet and make the decision soon.

Other updates included: new office furniture and a new printer for Ms. Shanahan have arrived, staff is reviewing quotes for a new copier, two companies came to look at the basement and made recommendations to address the moisture, bushes across the street on Fernwood were trimmed, and we are seeking a quote for additional batteries for the radar sign and trying to determine the best way to maintain it.

#### COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Taylor reported that there is an upcoming Parks and Rec Board meeting on Thursday this week.

Mr. Jolson pointed out the break-in at 1400 Food Lab.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Cincione reviewed an ordinance for its third reading:

**O-2690-22:** An Ordinance to indefinitely suspend the operation of the Village of Marble Cliff's Mayor's Court; third reading

**Mr. Voelker moved to approve Ordinance O-2690-22; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Falco Park Band Concert/Contribution to the band:

**Ms. Troiano moved to approve a contribution to the GHHS band in the amount of \$350; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

Seasonal leaf collection: There was discussion about this contract and some questions about the cost. Council will consider it again at the next meeting.

Mayor Cincione introduced R-2660-22 and Mr. Ashrawi explained that the ballot language in the original ordinance regarding electric aggregation was not approved by the Franklin County Board of Elections and revised language is necessary:

**R-2660-22,** A Resolution to Submit Amended Ballot Language Regarding Potential Electric Aggregation to the Franklin County Board of Elections for submittal to the Electors of Marble Cliff at the November 2022 General Election; first reading

**Mr. Jolson moved to suspend the rules; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Troiano moved to approve R-2660-22 as an emergency; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Cincione introduced an ordinance for its first reading:

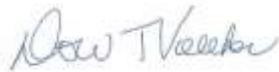
**O-2691-22**, An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with WSA Studio for Professional Design Services for the Village of Marble Cliff; first reading

In closing, Ms. Hickcox thanked everyone for accommodating her via Zoom. Ms. Troiano asked Ms. Shanahan to re-send instructions for setting up Council email accounts.

ADJOURN

**Ms. Troiano moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 8:33pm.**

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker  
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans  
Fiscal Officer