

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

1600 Fernwood Ave.

May 15, 2023

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023 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, Matthew R. Jolson, Bridget B. Sarna, Kendy A. Troiano, and Joanne C. Taylor; Yaz Ashrawi, Village Solicitor; Joshua Ford, Village Engineer (via Zoom); 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 7:00 pm and asked for a motion to excuse Ms. Troiano.

Mr. Voelker moved to excuse Ms. Troiano; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor moved Variances, Permits and Visitors to the top of the Agenda.

VARIANCES, PERMITS AND VISITORS

1373 Cambridge Blvd. – Mr. Michael Ball was present to make his request for a demolition permit in order to tear down an old garage and build a new one. Plans have already been submitted for the new garage and only a demolition permit is necessary at this point. Mr. Ball is also seeking a fence permit to build a 6-foot privacy fence. Mr. Voelker and Ms. Taylor asked about the location of the fence; Mr. Ball indicated that it is only along the back of the property. Mr. Voelker asked if the neighbors are aware, and Mr. Ball responded that yes, he had notified the neighbors.

Mr. Voelker moved to approve the demolition permit for the garage at 1373 Cambridge Blvd.; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jolson moved to approve the fence permit for the rear of the property at 1373 Cambridge Blvd.; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor opened the hearing regarding SOPEC, Its Bylaws, and Plan of Operation for Electric Aggregation. Mr. Luke Sulfridge of SOPEC was present to answer questions from Council.

The Mayor brought forth the ordinances regarding SOPEC:

O-2699-23, An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Marble Cliff to Enter into the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”), the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing SOPEC, and Approving the Bylaws of SOPEC; Third Reading

Mr. Voelker moved to approve O-2699-23; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

O-2700-23, An Ordinance Approving the Plan of Operation and Governance for the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”) Electric Aggregation Program, for the purpose of jointly establishing and implementing an Electric Aggregation program; Second Reading

Mr. Sulfridge confirmed that the Village can still tap into rates that will save residents approximately 35% over the expected rate increase coming in June. The aggregation plan will also be 100% green energy and the Village would be identified as an EPA Clean Power Partner Community.

Mr. Voelker moved to suspend the rules; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Taylor moved to approve O-2700-23; Ms. Hickcox seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Cincione thanked Mr. Sulfridge for his attentiveness to us and for his help in this process.

The next steps include finalizing the paperwork and getting information to residents. Ms. Evans will follow up with Mr. Sulfridge to ensure that the Village and SOPEC have everything they need to move forward, and that rates are locked in before June.

Mr. Jolson asked about the length of contracts and opportunities for representation on boards. The Mayor indicated that he will take guidance from SOPEC regarding the length of a contract, and Mr. Sulfridge stated that the Village will have one representative in the General Assembly of SOPEC. Mr. Sulfridge also added that the Village is the first in Franklin County to join SOPEC and that it is one of Ohio's "greenest" villages, along with Yellow Springs and Amesville.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting, April 17, 2023
- 2) Received – Fire Report, April 2023
- 3) Received -- Police Report, April 2023
- 4) Received – Permit Report, April 2023
- 5) Received – EV Charger data

Mayor Cincione introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if any items need to be pulled out for discussion. There was some conversation about the EV Chargers, and a reminder that residents can charge for free. No other items were pulled out for discussion.

Mr. Voelker moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Ms. Hickcox seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione shared that the fountain opening party was a success and that 25-30 people were in attendance. It was a nice celebration that we can build on next year.

The Mayor also shared a proposal from WSA and Realm Collaborative for a comprehensive review of Cambridge Blvd. The scope and vision of the project aims to re-imagine Cambridge Blvd. as a community space and community engagement will be included as part of an in-depth study. We will be delaying the repair of Cambridge Blvd. to allow for the study to be completed and a definitive plan to be developed.

Other items that came up include cleaning the stone sign at the north entrance to Cambridge Blvd., the possibility of adding "stop bars" at the Third Ave. and Cambridge Blvd. intersection, and trimming trees near stop signs on Cambridge Blvd. so that the stop signs are more visible.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Ford reported that he has been working with contractors at the AEP substation who need to do some roadwork in order to lay conduit.

He and Ms. Shanahan have scheduled a day to walk the Village sidewalks to assess them for repairs.

Mr. Ford left the meeting at this time.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

Mr. Jolson asked if there had been any discussion with the school district's attorney over the Board's decision to deny the Village's request for revenue-sharing of the AEP property taxes. Mr. Ashrawi said the attorney confirmed that the district denied the request but was not at liberty to discuss it any further. There was some discussion regarding a possible public records request from the school district regarding that decision.

STAFF REPORT: FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Evans shared the financial report for April 2023, including the monthly bank reconciliation, fund summary, and tax receipt report.

Mr. Voelker moved to approve the April finance report; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Evans presented O-2698-23, An Ordinance Adopting a Budget for the Year 2024 for the Village of Marble Cliff, for its second reading.

Ms. Evans presented O-2701-23, An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to execute an Agreement to Renew the Policy with Ohio Government Risk Management Plan for Property, Liability, Wrongful Acts, Automobile, Bond, Crime, Inland Marine and Electronic Data Processing Insurance; First Reading

Ms. Evans presented O-2702-23, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance O-2692-22, The 2023 Appropriations Ordinance, to include additional Appropriations for the Special Assessment Debt Service PACE Fund in the amount of \$25,002.45; First Reading

Ms. Evans shared that she and the Mayor met with Mr. Jamie Gentry regarding some possible proactive work regarding economic development, particularly along Dublin Rd. and for the 2200 W. 5th Ave. building currently owned by AEP. Ms. Evans will work with Mr. Ashrawi to create an RFQ for these services.

STAFF REPORT: ASSISTANT FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Shanahan reported that she and Ms. Katie Ellis of the Tri-Village Chamber visited the businesses along Dublin Road. She left her contact information with each business and encouraged them to reach out if they have any questions. Ms. Shanahan and Ms. Ellis plan to visit the businesses on W. Fifth Avenue in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Shanahan gave a quick recap of the fountain opening party and asked about the interest level in trying to do something surrounding the Memorial Day parade. It was agreed that she would look into options for providing doughnuts and coffee on Saturday morning, and maybe consider more activities next year.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Short term rentals and zoning code – no updates. Mr. Voelker is waiting for the community guidelines to be completed before taking any further steps.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Ms. Hickcox moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans
Fiscal Officer