

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

1600 Fernwood Ave.

September 18, 2023

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Monday, September 18, 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 Members: President, Dow T. Voelker; Matthew R. Jolson, Bridget B. Sarna, Kendy A. Troiano, Joanne C. Taylor, and Marcia A. Thomas; Yaz Ashrawi, Village Solicitor; Joshua Ford, Village Engineer; 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

VARIANCES, PERMITS AND VISITORS

2015 W. Fifth Ave. Update - Mr. Scott Morgan returned to Council with an updated rendering to reflect the changes he has requested to the previously approved final development plan for The Packard project at 2015 W. Fifth Ave. The revised plan shows an attached three-car garage on the front of the mansion and a slight shift in the carriage house at the rear of the mansion, addressing the concerns raised by Council members at last month's meeting. Council members asked for clarification on a few items; Mr. Morgan answered questions and addressed any additional concerns.

Mr. Voelker moved approval of the amendment to the previously approved Final Development Plan; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor reminded Mr. Morgan that Council's approval of the concept is the first step, and that he must have civil plans approved by the building department, fire department, and engineer before any further steps may be taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting, August 21, 2023
- 2) Received – Fire Report, August 2023
- 3) Received -- Police Report, August 2023
- 4) Received – Permit Report, August 2023
- 5) Received – MORPC update

Mayor Cincione introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if any items need pulled out for discussion. No items were pulled out for discussion.

Ms. Troiano moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione shared that the new aggregation rates have kicked in and residents included in the aggregation plan should be seeing the effects. He praised Council for its quick action in order to take advantage of the great rates available for Marble Cliff's residents.

The Mayor also gave a brief update on the status of the Heritage Trail Extension plan and shared that the project continues to move forward. Funding options are being considered and the group is working with partners to help facilitate the transaction.

Mayor Cincione also gave a brief review of the Cambridge Boulevard Community meeting, and shared that the committee has met since then to determine next steps. The team felt they were able to walk away with good feedback and are working to revise the plans. Ms. Taylor shared that the community meeting seems to have created confusion and angst in some residents, and asked whether updated plans would be shared and the process clarified. Mayor Cincione said that he expects so, and that he will consider options when the revisions are complete and go from there. He reminded Council that the primary reason for undertaking this project is to address safety measures and speeding in the widest parts of the street, which is Fifth Ave. south to First Ave., and formerly part of a trolley line. Mr. Voelker added that this stretch is currently in need of repaving so it's a unique opportunity to create a park-like community asset while addressing drainage and safety issues at the same time.

The Mayor also shared that he attended Grandview's ground-breaking ceremony for its new municipal building, and that it was a nice event and a good accomplishment for the community. He also reported that our economic development consultant, Mr. Gentry, has upcoming meetings set with AEP and Mr. Bob Meyers.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione presented O-2705-23, An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with Burgess & Niple for Professional Geospatial Information System (GIS) Development and Implementation Services for the Village of Marble Cliff, for its third reading.

Mr. Voelker moved approval of O-2705-23; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ford reported that the lift-and-grind sidewalk work is completed and he is now awaiting quotes for the necessary panel replacements. He reminded Council that there is no work taking place on the parts of Cambridge Blvd. that are under consideration for street improvements.

Mr. Ford shared that Grandview has cones on some catch basin storm inlets so he will follow up to see what needs to be done and will seek any necessary quotes.

Ms. Thomas asked about poles and trees that have numbers on them; Ms. Shanahan will follow up on these.

Ms. Troiano asked about drainage issues on Cambridge Blvd. and whether street improvements will address the issues that some residents experience. Mr. Ford said that some of those drains would require an extreme amount of work, however improvements on Cambridge Blvd. will address some of the problems. He will review these concerns and report back to Council.

Mr. Ford left the meeting at this time.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ashrawi shared that he had a training meeting with Ms. Thomas.

Mr. Jolson asked about the letters that residents received from the Auditor's office; Mr. Ashrawi stated that the increases we are seeing are unprecedented, and that he has no knowledge of anything that municipalities are doing with regard to them.

STAFF REPORT: FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Evans asked for volunteers to serve on two different Boards. Mr. Voelker offered to serve as a representative on the Columbus Regional Energy Special Improvement District (ESID) Board, and Mr. Jolson offered to serve as a representative in the General Assembly of the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC).

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

Mr. Voelker moved to approve the August finance report; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Evans introduced R-2664-23, A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor; First Reading

Ms. Troiano moved to suspend the rules; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Troiano moved to approve r-2664-23; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORT: ASSISTANT FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Shanahan reported that the holiday party is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2023, and that space at Our Lady of Victory is reserved, and Santa and the carriage rides are booked as well. She also shared that the resident roster is still being compiled and that letters will be sent to each resident before the next meeting.

Ms. Shanahan shared that she received notice that her grant application to the USDA and the Division of Urban Forestry was accepted, and that the Village will receive a \$100,000 matching grant to support Village efforts to re-plant trees and build our tree canopy.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Jolson asked to revisit the conversation surrounding the Village's request to the school district about profit-sharing some of the tax proceeds they expect to receive from AEP once the new sub-station is completed, and considering his suggestion for making a public records request about it. Following discussion on the topic, there was not enough support for Council to make a records request. It was agreed that the Village has a good relationship with its community partners and that it might appear adversarial if a records request were to come from Council. Mr. Voelker suggested we change our approach and do more to promote ourselves and our contribution to the school district. He also added that we should pay attention to what they do with the money, and ensure that they are making decisions to benefit the community and avoiding raising taxes.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Cincione presented O-2706-23, An Ordinance amending Section 90.01 (Animals Running At Large) of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Marble Cliff, Ohio, for its third reading.

Ms. Troiano moved to approve O-2706-23; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Voelker stated that he and Ms. Sarna now have the information they need to review the Village's zoning code and plan to meet soon and will report back.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Sarna suggested that Council consider hosting a free Haunted Forest Walk in Tarp Woods next year, and suggested that members visit the "Bear Scare" in Upper Arlington this year to consider a similar idea.

ADJOURN

Ms. Troiano moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans
Fiscal Officer