

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

1600 Fernwood Ave.

February 20, 2024

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 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, Joanne C. Taylor, Kendy A. Troiano, and Marcia A. Thomas; Jesse Shamp on behalf of 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

Mr. Shamp swore in Mr. Thomas Eggers for his testimony. Mr. Eggers introduced himself and presented a demolition permit application for his existing garage at 1399 Cambridge Blvd. so that he may tear it down to build a new one. Mr. Eggers does not need a variance for the new garage because it meets all of the Village's setback requirements, however, he did share renderings of the plan with Council. Mr. Eggers answered questions from Council as they arose. Mr. Shamp and Mr. Voelker reviewed the guidelines for considering demolition permits and confirmed that all requirements have been met through Mr. Eggers' testimony.

Mr. Voelker moved to approve the demolition permit for the garage at 1399 Cambridge Blvd; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting, January 16, 2024
- 2) Received – Fire Report, January 2024
- 3) Received -- Police Report, January 2024
- 4) Received – Permit Report, January 2024

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; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione reported that he participated in a meeting with the construction team at AEP, and that construction will be starting soon, with an anticipated completion date of April 2025. Some landscaping may be delayed until the fall of 2025, depending on the best time for planting specific items. Ms. Troiano asked about the gateway sign; the Mayor stated that the Village will design the sign but AEP will build it.

The Mayor also shared that the carriage houses at 2015 W. Fifth Avenue have been framed and the project is moving along. The mud in the streets is being better controlled as well.

The Mayor attended a recent meeting regarding the Heritage Trail extension, and shared that state representatives were in attendance to learn more about the project as the member communities vie for a \$15 million allocation from the state budget to help with the purchase of the railroad.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Ford reported that he sat in on the meeting with AEP and that he had one pothole filled on Dublin Road. He also shared that the Dublin Road water pump booster station recently needed some repairs and although it is currently working, he is in communication with the City of Columbus and the City of Grandview Heights to determine if the repairs are sufficient or if the pump needs to be replaced.

Mr. Ford left at this time.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Evans shared the financial report for January 2024, including the monthly bank reconciliation, fund summary, and tax receipt report. She also shared that the 2023 fiscal year has been closed and reports are being filed with the state and county auditor's office.

Ms. Troiano moved to approve the January finance report; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Evans brought forth R-2667-24, a Resolution to adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan for the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio, for its second reading.

Mr. Voelker moved to suspend the rules; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed.

Ms. Troiano moved to approve R-2667-24; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed by five voting members; Mr. Jolson abstained.

Ms. Shanahan reported that EMI offered a discount on services for the offseason, so they did some work in Falco Park to clean out the brush and plant some arbor vitae trees to hide the dumpster in the church parking lot.

Ms. Troiano asked about Narcan, and whether it is required to be kept in Village Hall in case of emergency. Ms. Shanahan will check on it and follow up with Council.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Taylor reported that the Tri-Village Packers will be meeting on March 14th to pack meals for Spring Break. She will send more details when the times are announced.

Mr. Voelker shared that he received a memo from Mr. Ashrawi that summarizes the short-term rental and zoning suggestions that he had proposed and has additional language surrounding the definition of carriage houses. Mr. Voelker is reviewing the memo and will share more with Council next month, when Mr. Ashrawi is present.

Mr. Voelker reminded everyone that the #10 Arlington SID needs two board appointees from the Village. One selected by the Mayor and one by Council. He suggested this be on next month's agenda.

Mr. Jolson reported that SOPEC received a grant that could be used for EV charger expansion, possibly solar or other options. They are also hiring an EV person and grant management person. Mr. Voelker asked about the possibility of putting EV chargers on private property as a way to spread them through the community a little more. The SOPEC meeting is coming up, so Mr. Jolson will have more to report on next month.

Mr. Jolson also shared that there is currently discussion in the community surrounding a possible \$65 million school levy for the elementary school and athletic facility.

Mr. Voelker reported that the ESID did not meet last month but that a meeting is coming up.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Cincione brought forth Ordinance O-2710-23, An Ordinance amending Section 134.12 (Permitting Noxious Weeds Grass in Excess of Eight Inches in Height to Grow) of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Marble Cliff, Ohio, for its fourth reading.

Mr. Voelker shared his concerns over a perceived shift away from traditional manicured lawns and suggested staying more in line with our current legislation but making allowances for managed natural landscapes. Mr. Voelker shared revisions that he proposes for this ordinance, including maintaining our existing legislation and treating a managed natural landscape more like a pool or permanent sign application, requiring certain specifications to be met, and receiving approval from council when applicable.

Ms. Taylor suggested adding a small Village sign to all approved natural landscapes, identifying them as such for residents, and enabling the Village to maintain a registration of these gardens.

Ms. Thomas added that Mr. Voelker's suggestions would address her previous concerns and that she is in favor of moving in this direction.

Mayor Cincione talked about the importance of acting proactively instead of reactively, and that the purpose of this legislation was to address the interests of residents who have already asked about natural landscapes. There was discussion about keeping it simple and easy to understand without over-regulating and making it hard to enforce.

Mr. Shamp and Mr. Ashrawi will take it from here to revise the ordinance and exhibit to align with the outcomes of this discussion.

In other discussion, Ms. Troiano asked about reporting garages in disrepair. Concerns should be reported to the Village and will be addressed by the building department.

Ms. Taylor asked about the process for residents who may be concerned with a neighbor's behavior; the best option is to call the police.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Ms. Troiano moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans
Fiscal Officer