

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

1600 Fernwood Ave.

March 18, 2024

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Monday, March 18, 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; 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 7:00 pm

VARIANCES, PERMITS AND VISITORS

Mr. Jon Heider of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) shared a presentation of the draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The plan covers the proposed strategies and projects needed to support the growth that is occurring in Central Ohio. Specific strategies include system preservation and management, technology and intelligent transportation systems, and safety and security. Projects include bike and pedestrian paths, improved interchanges and intersections, transit, railroad and airport related work.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting, February 20, 2024
- 2) Received – Fire Report, February 2024
- 3) Received -- Police Report, February 2024
- 4) Received – Permit Report, February 2024

Mayor Cincione introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if any items need pulled out for discussion. Mr. Voelker asked that the February minutes be corrected to state that Mr. Jesse Shamp was present in Mr. Yaz Ashrawi's place, and that the approved demolition permit be added to the permit report. No other items were pulled out for discussion.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cincione reviewed the information received from The Columbus Foundation regarding the Falco Scholarship. There was discussion about committing to a specific amount for the scholarships each year as opposed to splitting the available funds between the qualifying students. Ms. Troiano suggested capping the scholarship amount so that it is more balanced between years. Mr. Ashrawi stated that there is no specific legislation associated with the selection process and that the selection committee could propose such guidelines. Upon further discussion, it was agreed that the committee will cap the awards at \$2500. Ms. Troiano will share that information with the Columbus Foundation so that they can update the application for next year. Ms. Sarna is going to join the committee.

Mayor Cincione shared that the Marble Cliff Design Guidelines are complete and that further discussion will take place regarding their specific use.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Ford provided a written report in his absence and shared that the GIS system is nearing a point where it can be shared publicly.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ashrawi shared that flavored tobacco legislation at the state level continues to be in the news, and that because the Governor's veto on the legislation was overruled by the Ohio legislature, local governments may not regulate the sale of it. He reported that there is a growing group gathering to fight it, and that communities can join at no cost. He suggested that council members give it some thought, because even though the Village had already decided not to regulate flavored tobacco, the "home rule" principle is being tested. He suggested adding this topic to the April agenda for further discussion.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Evans shared the financial report for February 2024, including the monthly bank reconciliation, fund summary, and tax receipt report. She also stated that the Treasury Advisory Board met prior to this evening's meeting, and it was decided that \$1-1.5 million would be moved from the StarOhio savings account into 5th/3rd for investing into longer-term CDs in order to take advantage of the current higher interest rates before they start dropping.

Ms. Taylor moved to approve the February finance report; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Evans brought forth R-2668-24, A Resolution Accepting a \$6550 Grant for the Marble Cliff Water Bottle Refilling Station as awarded by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency from its Recycling and Litter Prevention Fund, for its first reading. Ms. Shanahan added a few details about the grant and answered questions from Council.

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

Ms. Troiano moved to approve R-2668-24 as an emergency; Mr. Voelker seconded. Roll Call: Mr.

Voelker-yes; Mr. Jolson-yes; Ms. Sarna-yes; Ms. Taylor-yes; Ms. Troiano-yes; Ms. Thomas-yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Shanahan shared that the fountain is being painted and then the party will be scheduled.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Taylor reported that the number of meals requested from the Tri-Village Packers went up, and that there will be 10 Grandview families receiving meals over Spring Break.

Mr. Voelker reported that the next ESID meeting is next week.

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 fifth reading.

The updated version reflects Mr. Voelker's proposed language from last month and the conversation that took place surrounding it. Community members were present and were appreciative that Council is addressing this topic. There was some discussion regarding signage in the natural lawns, specifically those that would identify plants and offer education to passers-by. Because this brings with it a larger discussion regarding yard signs, Council will revisit the sign Codes at the next meeting.

Mr. Voelker moved to amend O-2710-23, to include the word "turf" to Section B where it references grass; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Voelker moved to approve O-2710-23 as amended; Ms. Troiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Voelker and Mr. Ashrawi shared a memorandum regarding proposed language to address zoning in residential areas.

With regard to zoning, there was discussion about how to incorporate the Design Guidelines, and Mr. Ashrawi suggested two possible ways: Council can create an Architectural Review Board that is its own entity with specific rules, processes and guidelines; or Council can create a Zoning Overlay District, which would fall back on Council to serve as the Zoning Review Board, but create an additional layer and process for residents to go through to be sure their plans meet the requirements.

There was discussion regarding the possible makeup of an Architectural Review Board and the qualifications for serving on it, the value or lack of value, in having a Zoning Review Board that is the same makeup as Council, the triggers that would flag a project to require a Review, the benefits and downsides of each option, and whether to consider treating the Design Guidelines as a reference for now, before enforcing it as a requirement.

Mr. Ashrawi addressed Council's questions and suggested that the next steps include finding some good examples of a process that would be applicable to Marble Cliff, defining the triggers that would signify the need for architectural review, what the Board would specifically need to review, and how to make it objective not subjective.

Mr. Voelker suggested taking this month to digest the conversation and come back next month to talk more about how to proceed.

With regard to accessory dwellings, the conversation centered around the Village's current legislation which identifies Carriage Houses as accessory dwellings, which are restricted. Mr. Voelker suggested amending the Code to differentiate Carriage Houses from accessory dwellings and to permit Carriage Houses, which would better align with existing structures and allow the types of things that Council has already approved. Mr. Ashrawi will work on this and provide Council with suggested language.

Council has decided to not take any action with regard to short-term rentals.

Mr. Voelker reminded Council about the need for the Mayor and Council to select designees to serve on the Arlington #10 SID Board. Mr. Voelker recused himself from the conversation. The Mayor and Council members will give this more consideration and revisit it.

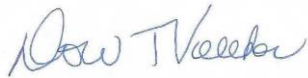
NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Ms. Troiano moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Jolson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 9 pm.

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans
Fiscal Officer