

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

**1600 Fernwood Ave.**

**January 20, 2026**

The Council of the Village of Marble Cliff held its regular, scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm. in Village Hall, 1600 Fernwood Ave., in the Village of Marble Cliff. Those in attendance were Mayor, Matthew P. Cincione; Council Members: President Pro Tem, Dow T. Voelker; Bridget B. Sarna, Joanne C. Taylor, Marcia A. Thomas, Matthew E. Turner, and Laura J. Youssef; Anthony Severyn on behalf of Yazan 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.

Mayor Cincione swore in new Council Member, Laura Youssef. Mr. Turner was sworn in at an earlier date.

Ms. Sarna nominated Mr. Voelker to serve as President of Council; Ms. Taylor seconded. Hearing no other nominations, Mayor Cincione asked for a motion to close nominations. Ms. Taylor moved to close nominations; Ms. Thomas seconded. Mayor Cincione called a for a vote and Council voted unanimously in favor of Mr. Voelker as President of Council for 2026.

## **VARIANCES, PERMITS AND VISITORS**

Mr. Zach Rossfeld introduced himself as a visitor from Clintonville who is running for the Ohio Senate.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1) Approval – Minutes of the regular, scheduled meeting, December 15, 2025
- 2) Received – Fire Report, December 2025
- 3) Received -- Police Report, December 2025
- 4) Received – Permit Report, December 2025

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

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

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Cincione began a discussion regarding the Cambridge Boulevard improvement project and presented three pieces of legislation for Council's consideration:

R-2674-25, A Resolution declaring the official intent and reasonable expectation of the Village of Marble Cliff on behalf of the State of Ohio (the borrower) to reimburse its Cambridge Boulevard Improvements Fund for the Cambridge Boulevard Improvements Project (OPWC ID Number 40-V-02) with the proceeds of tax- exempt debt of the State of Ohio; Fifth Reading

O-2740-26, An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into an agreement with Burgess & Niple, Inc. for professional engineering services for the Cambridge Boulevard Improvements Project for the Village of Marble Cliff, First Reading

O-2741-26, An ordinance accepting a bid for the Cambridge Boulevard Improvements Project, waiving any bid irregularities, and Declaring it an Emergency, First Reading

The mayor reviewed the steps taken thus far, including the notice for bids and bids submitted, and stated that Strawser has the lowest and best bid. Mr. Zmih summarized the OPWC process and shared that while contracts with OPWC do not get signed until July, no approved funding has been denied at this point in the past. Mr. Zmih added that while it is not unusual for contractors to wait until summer to start, the Village timeline would benefit by acting sooner. The earlier the contracting bid is accepted, the more likely the bulk of the project will be finished by December. There was discussion surrounding the urgency of acting on the bid versus waiting for OPWC confirmation and funding, and further discussion about worst case scenario and the possibility of scaling back the

project. The worst case if the funding were to fall through, is that the Village funds the entire project at \$7.45M, including the Burgess & Niple contract, as opposed to the \$2M it has committed. Ms. Evans shared the Village's cash flow summary to give Council members a sense of cash availability over the next couple of years. Mr. Severyn stated that with regard to scaling back, there may be some wiggle room with minutia but changes cannot be made to the overall scope of the project. In conclusion, Council decided to call a special meeting on February 9, 2026, to hear this legislation again, following the receipt of additional feedback from OPWC.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Zmith reported that there are problems with the booster station on Dublin Rd. and that the Village is being asked by the City of Columbus to make improvements to the station. The station is operational but requires this work. Upgrades were included in this year's budget, and Mr. Zmith will seek bids.

Sidewalk repair and replacements will take place in Spring.

Mr. Zmith left the meeting at this time.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Evans presented the financial reports for December 2025, including the bank reconciliations and income tax receipts.

**Mr. Voelker moved to approve the financial reports for December, 2025; Ms. Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Evans presented the Public Defender Contract for council's consideration and stated that the fee will be \$26 per case in 2026. There was one case in 2025.

**Mr. Voelker moved to approve the Franklin County Public Defender contract for 2026; Ms. Thomas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Evans stated that Mr. Jolson stopped in the office and shared that by his assessment, the "going rate" for EV chargers is \$.40 per kWh, whereas the Village's rate is \$.15 per kWh. Ms. Evans asked if Council would like to hear legislation about raising the Village rate; Council agreed that this is an administrative decision and that no legislation is necessary. Administration has the authority to determine the rates.

Ms. Evans shared a report from SOPEC that provided the savings achieved for Village residents since beginning electric aggregation; Village residents have saved \$108,260 since beginning in August 2023. She also reminded Council members that a new representative to the SOPEC council is needed to attend their quarterly meetings. Mr. Turner volunteered; Ms. Evans will follow up.

Ms. Shanahan shared that a street light on Cambridge Blvd. was hit by a car. The Grandview service department cleaned it up and Tip-Dan has been notified that it needs replaced. Once all of the invoices have been received, Ms. Shanahan will make an insurance claim.

#### COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Taylor stated that it is difficult to see the stop sign on First Ave. at Cambridge Blvd. when heading west onto Arlington Ave. and suggested looking into it.

Mr. Voelker shared that there was no ESID meeting this month.

#### OLD BUSINESS

O-2737-25, An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a Sanitary Sewer Service Agreement with the City of Columbus, for its fourth reading.

**Mr. Voelker moved to approve O-2737-25; Ms. Sarna seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Cincione presented O-2738-25, An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a Contract for Professional Legal Services with FBT Gibbons, LLP, for a One-Year Period from February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027, for its third reading.

**Ms. Thomas moved to approve O-2738-25; Mr. Voelker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

**Ms. Youssef moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Sarna seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Cincione adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm.**

Approved by:



Dow T. Voelker  
Council President

Submitted by:



Stephanie A. Evans  
Fiscal Officer