

## **VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**

Mayor Bird called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE**

Answering roll call were Dean Dorko, Angie Kukay, Duane Myers, Maryann Sauvey, and John Starcher.

Also present were Fiscal Officer Rhonda Sowers, Solicitor Jim Barney, Administrator Jeff White, and Police Chief Kenn Thellmann.

Visitors in attendance were Jane Milholland, Dale Harwood, Karyn Harwood, Joe Gouker, Al Mazzeo, and Katy Mazzeo.

### **EXCUSE MATT KOVACH FROM CURRENT MEETING**

Mrs. Kukay moved to excuse council member Matt Kovach from the September 13 regular meeting. Second by Mr. Starcher. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the August 23, 2023 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

### **VISITOR COMMENTS**

Joe Gouker asked Mrs. Sowers the status of the assessment process for the Johnson's Island waterline project and expressed his desire to speak with the attorney involved with that process. Mr. Gouker also asked if the village has been able to obtain a listing of the number of failed wells on Johnson's Island. Mrs. Sowers stated Mr. White is following up with legal counsel regarding assessments. Mr. White said the county health department has no data on failing wells on Johnson's Island. Mr. Gouker challenged this statement. Mr. Starcher said if there is no documentation it is difficult to prove there are tainted wells on the island.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### **Mayor**

- Mayor Bird will participate in the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Holy Assumption Church on September 23.
- Reminder that Perry Street from Main to Elliott will be closed September 23 for the all 80's Danbury High School reunion being held at Jamestown Tavern.

#### **Solicitor**

Mr. Barney had nothing to report.

#### **Administrator**

Mr. White reported the following:

- Johnson's Island waterline plans were submitted to the Ohio EPA last week for engineering review. The next JI Task Group meeting will be September 20 at 6:00 pm.
- There will be an open house style meeting to receive public input on the Radar Park building improvement on Thursday, September 28 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in the meeting room of the Municipal Services Building.
- The heavy rains of August 23 and 24 caused some of the stone base under the playground turf to wash out. Forever Lawn estimates it will cost \$2,400 to repair the damage.

- Quotes were obtained from Dan's Tree Service to remove two additional park trees - \$1,700 to remove a large ash in Clemons Park which has succumbed to the emerald ash borer and \$1,650 to remove a silver maple at 214 E. Main which was partially uprooted during recent storms. The Parks Committee recommends these be removed for public safety reasons.
- Swain Masonry will be adjusting the sidewalk at the northeast corner of Stone and Elliott Streets to correct a drainage issue at that location. Cost of this work is \$2,750.
- 7L Construction submitted a quote of \$2,500 to repair the sunken catch basin on James Street behind Bruno's Pizza. The work can be done in conjunction with the paving of Church Street.
- A number of photos documenting some of the village wide damage caused by strong wind and significant rainfall during the storm that stretched from August 23 into August 24.

### **Fiscal Officer**

Mrs. Sowers reported the following:

- August financial reports were distributed to village officials September 5.
- Ottawa County Park District kicked off its 2023 Outdoor Hiking Challenge September 1. Included in the guided walks will be a hike to "the flats" located in ODNR's Lakeside Daisy State Nature Preserve on Saturday, September 16. Parking will be permitted along Alexander Pike for this event.
- Letters were recently sent to a number of village properties advising they will be automatically enrolled in the Ottawa County natural gas aggregation program unless they opt out by September 27. The village is not included in the county's program and these notices were mailed in error. Mrs. Sowers has informed officials of the error and will post a notice on social media to make village residents aware.

### **Police Chief**

Chief Thellmann submitted a written summary of recent departmental activity.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Personnel**

Mrs. Kukay reported her committee's work will be discussed under new business.

### **Zoning**

No report.

### **Legislative**

Mr. Myers had nothing to report.

### **Infrastructure**

Mr. Dorko said he is hearing criticism about the Waterview at Bay Point development along with accusations that the village could have prevented the congestion there but didn't. He said he explains the development was done in compliance with zoning. Mayor Bird suggested he refer any future comments/questions to Zoning Administrator Bob Hruska.

### **Parks, Cemetery, Trees**

Mrs. Sauvey reported that her committee met September 12. Mr. White included much of the committee's business in his report and the rest will be addressed under old business.

## **Finance**

Mr. Starcher had nothing to report.

## **LEGISLATION**

There was no legislation.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Sloane Swanton Research Run** – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sloane Swanton Research run will be held at 9:00 am Saturday, September 17. Alexander Pike will be closed to vehicular traffic during this event.
- B. **James Park electric service** – Mr. White submitted several proposals reviewed by the Parks Committee for resolving the issue of the broken utility pole near the playground in James Park. The least expensive is to simply replace the pole at a cost of \$2,560 with an additional \$500 to replace deteriorated wiring on the auxiliary pole next to the basketball court. The committee also considered a more expensive quote to remove both poles and install the power lines underground. Cost for trenching and underground service is \$11,293. Cost to remove the auxiliary pole is \$1,560 and because that pole is metered it will save the village approximately \$80 per month if it is removed. The Park Committee recommendation is to remove both poles and install underground electric service at a total cost of \$12,853.00. Mr. Myers moved to accept the Park Committee recommendation. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- C. **Quotes for playground retaining wall** – Mr. White presented three proposals reviewed by the Parks Committee for creating a retaining wall between the playground and basketball court. The quotes of \$7,200 from Swain Masonry and \$13,500 from Smith Paving are for pouring a concrete retaining wall. The third proposal of \$10,680 from Kuzma Concrete is to construct a wall from decorative landscape blocks which Mr. Kuzma feels is better suited to the location and can more easily be removed if the playground or basketball court configurations are changed in the future. The Parks Committee recommendation is to construct the retaining wall from decorative landscape blocks for \$10,680. Mr. Dorko moved to accept the Park Committee recommendation. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- D. **Clemons Park historical marker** – Mrs. Sowers reported the restrictions on Clemons Park allow both interpretive and identification signs on the property.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Personnel policy changes regarding full-time status** – Mrs. Sowers stated changes in employment trends and employee expectations over the past few years led to the creation this year of a council committee to review personnel policies and procedures. The review is still in progress but the committee has recommended two areas – paid leave and full-time status for change this year. Council amended the leave policy earlier this year and the committee is now recommending that full-time status be changed from 40 hours per week to a range of 32-40 regularly scheduled hours per week. The proposed amendment changes Sections 1.15 Definitions (G) and (K), Section 3.1 Payment of Wages, Section 6.1 Standard Work Week, Section 7.3 Vacation Leave, and Section 7.6 Sick Leave. Mr. Starcher moved to accept the Personnel Committee recommendation regarding employee full-time status.

Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

- B. **Recommendation to promote Olga Trumpower to full-time status as of 10/09/23** – On the recommendation of the Fiscal Officer and Mayor, Mrs. Kukay moved to promote part-time billing/records clerk Olga Trumpower to full-time status effective October 9, 2023. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- C. **Sidewalk replacements** – Mr. White obtained the following quotes to replace concrete sidewalks on Church Street east of Perry, Perry Street from Prairie to Church, and Main Street at Boytim's curve: \$22,952 from Kuzma Concrete, \$23,440 from Smith Paving and \$25,600 from Swain Masonry. Mr. Starcher moved to accept the quote from Kuzma Concrete for \$22,952. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- D. **EPA plan review for the JI waterline project** – Mr. White reported the EPA fee to review the Johnson's Island waterline design plans is \$20,000. The fee is based on a percentage of the estimated cost of the project with a cap of \$20,000. Mr. Myers moved to authorize payment of the \$20,000 EPA plan review fee for Johnson's Island waterlines. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- E. **Authorize streetlighting bills for mayfly turn off 2021 and 2022** – Mr. Starcher moved to authorize payment to Ohio Edison of the bills which were recently received for turning off streetlights during mayfly seasons in 2021 and 2022. Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

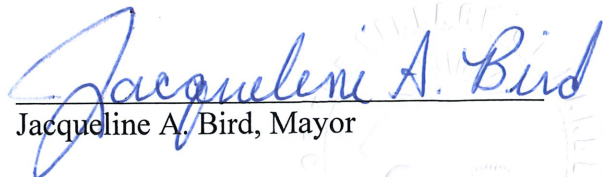
#### **AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$117,615.44 including August payroll was made by Mr. Starcher and seconded by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.


#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Kukay and seconded by Mr. Starcher. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:59 pm.

APPROVED:

  
Jacqueline A. Bird, Mayor

Attest:

  
Rhonda I. Sowers, Fiscal Officer