

**VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD JUNE 23, 2021**

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 Lynn App, Dean Dorko, Angie Kukay and John Starcher.

Also present were Fiscal Officer Rhonda Sowers, Police Chief Kenn Thellmann, Street Commissioner Bryan Lucas and Zoning Administrator Bob Hruska.

Visitors in attendance were Marblehead Merchants Nicole Dillon and Lee Walker and Hylant Administrative Services representatives Laurie Manning and Marissa Benschoter-Euler.

VOTE TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEN MYERS AND REDETT FROM CURRENT MEETING

Mrs. Kukay moved to excuse Duane Myers and Dave Redett from the June 23, 2021 regular council meeting. Second by Mr. App. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Council approved minutes of the June 9, 2021 regular meeting as submitted.

AMEND AGENDA

Mayor Bird amended the agenda to have discussion and action on the property/casualty insurance immediately preceding visitor comments.

REQUEST TO CLOSE PORTION OF MAIN STREET IN JULY 2022 FOR LIGHTHOUSE BICENTENNIAL EVENT

Nicole Dillon was present on behalf of the Marblehead Merchants to update council on events the group is planning in conjunction with the Lighthouse Bicentennial Committee for next summer. The group is proposing a partial closure of Main Street during some of the events to provide room for additional activities and is hopeful a way can be found to safely facilitate this. In addition, Mrs. Dillon reported that the Merchants have voted to work with the Chamber and village to move forward with the Heritage Ohio Main Street initiative. The Merchants are also gathering information for additional public restroom options to share with council.

Mrs. Kukay said she thinks it is too dangerous to shut down the state highway through the village during the summer. Mayor Bird added that she has spoken with the fire chief who opposed the idea simply because there are no side roads that would provide an alternate route around the closed section. Chief Thellmann and Street Commissioner Lucas agreed. Mr. Starcher said there are sidewalks leading all the way to the lighthouse and suggested those be used. Lee Walker said the whole idea of using the street came up because of the sheer number of people and bicycles on the sidewalks. Mr. Dorko said it might be possible to persuade ODOT to reduce the speed limit on Main Street during the events and the Mayor offered to contact ODOT with this request. Mr. Dorko went on to say, though, that the prime location to set up festivities is James Park.

PROPERTY/CASUALTY INSURANCE

Laurie Manning of Hylant Administrative Services, administrator of The Ohio Plan, reviewed the renewal quote for the village's property/casualty/liability coverage. Ms. Manning noted there is a 15% increase in this year's premium as a result of high claims during the past five years. She reviewed the claims, which included two lawsuits, and then went over the coverages. She added that the coverage is good and the pricing competitive even with the increase. Mrs. Sowers stated comparable quotes were received from both The Ohio Plan and the Public Entities Pool and the PEP quote was \$11,000 higher than that from The Ohio Plan.

Mr. Dorko moved to accept the \$30,806.00 quote from Hylant Administrative Services for renewal of insurance coverage through The Ohio Plan. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no additional visitor comments

LEGISLATION

There was no legislation.

REPORTS

Mayor

Mayor Bird extended thanks to the Lions Club members who performed a community service project on June 17 cleaning up the grounds at James Park. The Mayor reported she plans to present a proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of Biro Manufacturing at the July 14 council meeting.

Mayor Bird received a letter from a Cherry Street resident advising that the public access area at the lake end of the street has become overgrown and the seawall appears to have sustained damage from recent storms. The Mayor asked Mr. Lucas to have his department assess and maintain this area as well as the public access areas at the foot of Erie and Stone Streets.

Safety/Insurance Committee

Mrs. Kukay reported briefly on the activity of the Lighthouse Bicentennial committee and stated the next meeting will be June 29.

Beautification/Parks/Cemetery Committee

Mr. App reported Dan Boden, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Toledo advised him the final report on the Village Administrator feasibility study should be ready for the council's review in early July. Dr. Boden will plan to attend the July 28 council meeting to make a presentation and answer any questions.

Streets/Sidewalks/Sewer Committee

No report.

Street Commissioner

Mr. Lucas said the Chamber of Commerce has scheduled several events in James Park this summer and wonders if permits are needed for food trucks in addition to the event permit. Separate food truck permits are not required in conjunction with an event.

Police

Chief Thellmann submitted a written report of recent activity. The report included a request to consider replacing the 2020 Ford Fusion. Mr. Starcher stated the finance committee had established a policy to budget for a new cruiser every other year and pointed out the Fusion was the new car just last year. Chief Thellmann said the Fusion is not large enough to accommodate a cage or other police equipment. Mayor Bird asked Chief and Fiscal Officer to check State Purchasing for availability and prices of law enforcement vehicles.

Zoning Administrator

Mr. Hruska had nothing to report.

Utilities/Ferries/Waterfront Committee

Mr. Dorko had nothing to report.

Annexation/Subdivision/Planning Commission Committee

No report.

Finance Committee

Mr. Starcher had nothing to report.

Fiscal Officer

Mrs. Sowers will participate in another webinar on June 24 sponsored by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management with updates on federal guidance for use of the American Rescue Plan funds. There has not yet been accounting guidance from the state regarding these funds.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Portable toilet enclosures** – Mr. Lucas stated Jon Oglesbee will not be able to construct the enclosures for the portable toilets. Mr. Lucas also expressed concern about being able to purchase the materials for the enclosures. He then showed examples of small gazebo kits which he could assemble. Mr. Starcher moved to order two wooden 11' x 13' gazebo kits with metal roofs at a cost of \$1,881.00 each. Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
- B. **Clemons Park storm damage repair** – Mr. App reported that he contacted village engineer Julie Thomas regarding suggestions for breakwall repairs but has not heard back from her yet. He also spoke with Sarah Kitson of Western Reserve Land Conservancy who provided some potential funding sources. Mr. App added that sadly, the break wall repair does not qualify for most of those grants and loan. Following discussion, council decided to accept the suggestion of Mr. Lucas to proceed with obtaining a Corps of Engineers permit and proceed with the work in phases if necessary as funds allow.
- C. **Continued discussion on possible special levy for streets/sidewalks** – Discussion continued on the possibility of levying a tax for streets and sidewalks in the village. Mr. Barney advised that the Ohio Revised Code allows municipalities to seek a single levy that can be used for both streets and sidewalks. Mrs. Sowers stated that in order to proceed, council first needs to pass a resolution of necessity asking either that the County Auditor advise how much revenue will be collected based on a certain millage amount or how many mills would be required to annually collect a certain amount. As an example,

Mrs. Sowers stated that the village currently receives 2.5 mills of inside millage that collects approximately \$329,400 per year. Mrs. Sowers added that annual appropriations for streets are around \$200,000. Council would like to seek a 2.0 mill, continuing levy. A Resolution of Necessity will be prepared for the July 14 meeting

- D. **Sign Branding Update/Village Flag** – Mr. Starcher had nothing new to report yet on this project.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Authorize police fundraiser for K9 Fund** – Chief Thellmann advised the fundraiser will be done privately with proceeds to be donated to the fund so council approval is not necessary.
- B. **Discussion on Juneteenth as village holiday** – Mayor Bird stated Juneteenth was recently declared a federal and state holiday to be observed annually on June 19. It is not yet included in village policies as a paid holiday. Noting that adding an 11th holiday will also require changes to the way leave is pro-rated for part-time employees, Mayor Bird asked Mrs. Kukay to work with Mrs. Sowers to review current policies and make recommendations for any necessary changes.
- C. **Discussion on renaming former fire station** – Because it has not been used as a fire station since 2013, Mayor Bird suggested Council consider a new title for the old fire station at 517 W. Main Street. Two suggestions were the Municipal Services Building or the Village Complex.
- D. **Bullet Proof Vests** – Chief Thellmann would like to obtain new bullet proof vests for his officers and noted grants are available to offset the cost. Mrs. Sowers said department policy previously stated vests will be provided for full-time officers. Chief Thellmann will check to see what the policy currently provides.

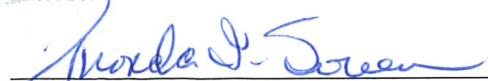
AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$8,779.91 by Mr. Dorko and seconded by Mr. App. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes. Motion carried. Mr. Starcher abstained.

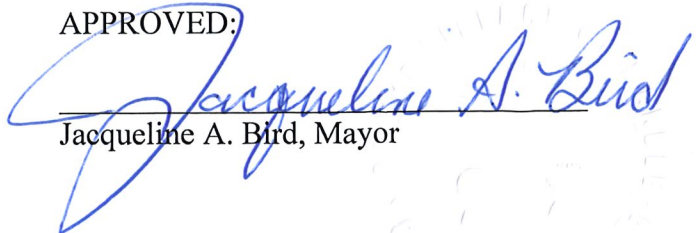
ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Kukay and seconded by Mr. Starcher. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:32 p.m.

Attest:


Rhonda I. Sowers, Fiscal Officer

APPROVED:


Jacqueline A. Bird, Mayor