

**VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD MAY 13, 2020**

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, Dave Redett and John Starcher. Councilman Duane Myers did not ask to be excused and was absent.

Also present were Fiscal Officer Rhonda Sowers and Solicitor Jim Barney.

There were no visitors.

**MINUTES**

Council approved minutes of the April 29, 2020 special meeting as submitted.

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

There were no visitor comments

**LEGISLATION**

There was no legislation.

**REPORTS**

**Mayor**

Mayor Bird announced the seasonal flowers and hanging baskets would be delivered May 21 and seasonal employee Mike Richmond would return to work the following week.

**Solicitor**

Mr. Barney gave a brief status update regarding the suit brought against the Village by Meagan Bower.

**Safety/Insurance Committee**

Mrs. Kukay had nothing to report.

**Beautification/Parks/Cemetery Committee**

Mr. App had nothing to report.

**Utilities/Ferries/Waterfront Committee**

Mr. Dorko did not attend the May 12 BPA meeting so Mrs. Sowers reported on his behalf. Mrs. Sowers stated Maryann Sauvey was sworn in to fill the open seat on the Board and attended both the May 4 special and May 12 regular meetings. Eric Helgesen was hired May 4 for the open water operator position. Main topic of discussion at the May 12 meeting was options to fix the clogged pipe that feeds caustic to the clear well.

**Finance and Records Committee**

Mr. Starcher had nothing to report.

**Annexation/Subdivision/Planning Commission Committee**

Mr. Redett reported the Planning Commission informally reviewed three proposed projects during its May 6 meeting.

### **Streets/Sidewalks/Sewer Committee**

No report.

### **Fiscal Officer**

Mrs. Sowers reported briefly on the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns to village revenue. She said there has been a substantial reduction in interest earned on investments and she also anticipates a reduction in lodging tax later this year. Council members initialed receipt of the March and April financial reports.

### **Street Commissioner**

No report.

### **Police Department**

No report.

### **Zoning Administrator**

No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Visit of Village Administrators** – Mayor Bird advised that the four village administrators who were to attend the cancelled April 8 meeting are willing to meet with council once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and it is safe to do so.
  
- B. **Clemons Break Wall Update/Repair Quotes** – Mrs. Sowers submitted a \$47,500.00 quote received March 25 from Bruce Brockert to rebuild with armor stone the storm-damaged portion of the breakwall at Clemons Park. This quote differs significantly from the \$5,500.00 estimate Mr. Brockert provided in November 2018 to pull the rock from the lake back onto the breakwall. Mr. Lucas contacted Mr. Brockert to request a revised quote. Discussion followed on the advisability of rebuilding rather than simply putting the rock back into place. Council will review the 2018 plan done by CT Consultants to rebuild the wall.
  
- C. **Police Employment Openings**
  - a. **Job Descriptions** - Mr. Dorko moved to approve updated job descriptions for both Police Officer and Reserve Police Officer. Second by Mr. Redett. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Redett-yes and Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
  - b. **Seasonal Officer** – Chief Joy advised Mayor Bird that under the current circumstances he does not feel there is a need for a seasonal officer at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Marblehead Merchants' Suggestions for Assistance to Meet COVID-19 Protocols and Facilitate Social Distancing**
  - a. **Create a DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area)** – Several merchants contacted Mayor Bird recently to ask that the village establish a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). Solicitor Jim Barney presented information on state statutes regulating creation of DORA. Mrs. Kukay added information she obtained from officials regarding creation of the DORA in Port Clinton. Both

explained it is a rather lengthy process. Discussion followed on pros and cons of this proposal. Council expressed willingness to consider a DORA in Marblehead but agreed the Marblehead Merchants will need to prepare the application and submit it to the Mayor to begin the process.

- b. **Provide Hand Sanitizers** – Merchants asked that the village provide hand sanitizer dispensers to place outside businesses. Mr. Starcher said he feels there should be hand sanitizers at businesses as well as public properties for the health and safety of everyone in the village. He believes the village should maintain any sanitizers on public property while business will own and maintain any located on business properties. If there are any available for purchase, sanitizers would be made available to those businesses requesting one. Mr. Starcher moved to authorize up to \$7,000.00 for purchase of hand sanitizers for use on village properties and at businesses requesting one. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. App-yes; Mr. Dorko-yes; Mrs. Kukay-yes; Mr. Redett-yes. Motion carried. Mr. Starcher abstained.
  - c. **Provide Additional Portable Toilet** – Mayor Bird said there has been a request to place a portable toilet at the back of the village parking lot adjacent to Holy Assumption Church. Mrs. Sowers said the cost would be \$120.00 per month. Mr. App said he is opposed to the village providing portable toilets in the village. Mayor Bird agreed that a public restroom building is preferable but there is a need now that can only be met with a portable toilet. Mr. Starcher moved to locate a portable toilet for use by the public at the rear of the Village parking lot adjacent to Holy Assumption Church. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. App-no, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Redett-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.
  - d. **Add Picnic Tables and Allow Alcohol at Clemons Park** – The Merchants asked that additional picnic tables be placed in Clemons Park so visitors can properly social distance. In addition, Kim Redfern asked that the village allow people to consume alcohol in Clemons Park. Council agreed to the request for more picnic tables but objected to consumption of alcohol in the park. The Mayor will have some of the picnic tables at James Park moved to Clemons until additional tables can be purchased.
  - e. **Identify Public Parking with Larger Sign** – The Merchants asked that the village erect a larger sign at the public parking area west of the conveyor so visitors know they can park there. Council felt the problem is not the size of the sign but rather the fact that the space does not look like a parking area. Mayor Bird will ask Mr. Lucas to add stone to designate the area.
- B. **Consider 90 day waiver of rent for business tenants at Village owned properties** – On April 1, Governor DeWine made a request that landlords consider a 90 day waiver of lease payments for tenants affected by the COVID-19 shut downs. Mr. Starcher moved to waive the April, May and June lease payments for tenants of the village owned rental properties at 414 and 414 ½ W. Main Street. Second by Mr. Redett. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Redett-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes, Motion carried.
- C. **Renewal of Medical and Ancillary Health Benefits with Anthem** – Mrs. Sowers said after learning in February that the village would see a 38% increase in health premiums, agent Adam Holmes obtained alternative quotes from multiple providers, all of which were the same as or greater than the Anthem increase. Mrs. Sowers explained the large

increase was caused by the fact that village employees incurred claims last year greater than the amount of premiums paid. Mr. App moved to renew medical, life, dental and vision insurance benefits with Anthem from May 2020 to May 2021. Second by Mr. Redett. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Redett-yes. Mr. Starcher-yes, Motion carried.

**D. Street Committee**

- a. **2020 Paving Projects** – Mayor Bird asked that the Street Committee make a final determination on what paving projects to pursue this year. Mr. Starcher said he thinks the engineering for this year’s projects is finished. Mayor Bird will contact Committee Chairman Duane Myers for an update.
- b. **Storm Sewer Inspection and Repairs** – The Mayor said there have been concerns expressed recently about the condition of storm drains throughout the village. Mrs. Sowers will check with CT Consultants to see if they can inspect the drains and make recommendations for repairs.

E. **Cemetery Committee Review of Regulations** – Mr. App said the committee has not yet met to review proposed changes to permit the village to undertake repair and maintenance of headstones and to allow above ground interment of ashes in headstones. Mayor Bird also asked the committee to consider limiting the size of headstones.

F. **James Park Playground** – Ryan Allen who owns a pressure washing business has volunteered to sanitize the James Park playground once it opens. There would be no cost for this service.

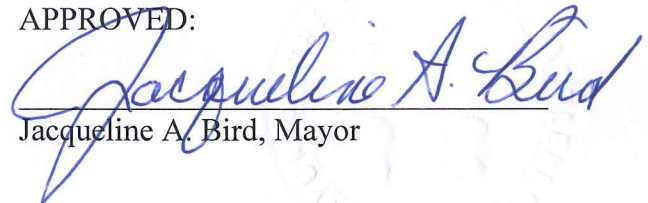
**AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$43,944.81 including April payroll made by Mr. Starcher and seconded by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. App-yes, Mr. Dorko-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mr. Redett-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Kukay and seconded by Mr. Starcher. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:26 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
Jacqueline A. Bird, Mayor

Attest:

  
Rhonda Botti Sowers, Fiscal Officer