

VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 13, 2024

Mayor Starcher 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, Dennis Kennedy, Matt Kovach, Angie Kukay, Maryann Sauvey, and Lee Walker.

Also present were Fiscal Officer Rhonda Sowers, Solicitor Gabby Toscano, Administrator Jeff White, Chief Kenn Thellmann and Police Officer Shawn Craig.

Visitors in attendance were Dale Harwood, Karyn Harwood, Sue Joy, Maureen Kennedy, Al Mazzeo, Lou Cardinale, Jane Milholland, Joe Gouker and Jordan Miller.

MINUTES

Minutes of the February 28, 2024 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Lou Cardinale expressed concern about the density of the proposed storage units and convenience store planned for Bayshore Road across from Waterview at Bay Point. He feels this new development could cause traffic congestion and safety issues. Mayor Starcher stated the Planning Commission shares these concerns and is carefully studying the proposal. Application for a zoning permit has not yet been submitted.

Sue Joy asked that a missing sign be replaced at the intersection of Lakeview Dr. and Stone St. warning drivers of children playing in the neighborhood. Mayor Starcher referred the request to Mr. White for follow-up.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrator

Mr. White reported the following:

- Johnson's Island waterlines, new south water tower, and north water tower improvements were all re-nominated March 8 for funding under Ohio EPA's Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA).
- A notice of violation was received March 6 following the February 28 annual Ohio EPA inspection of the water plant. The notice contains two issues that are already being corrected and added a requirement to document testing of the plant's backflow devices. The backflow documentation will be submitted by March 31.
- Leary Construction began rehabilitation of clarifier #1 at the water plant on March 5. The job is estimated to take 2-3 weeks at a cost of \$67,202. Rehabilitation of Clarifier #2 is planned for next year.
- No news yet on the status of the village's application to the Ohio Department of Development for a \$3,672,350 grant for the Johnson's Island waterline extension.
- Bids will be accepted for the Radar Park renovation project from March 18 until the scheduled opening at 2:00 pm on April 16. Plans are to award a contract by April 24 with construction beginning May 8.
- Limited spring leaf collection begins April 1.
- Part-time meter reader vacancy is posted and will continue until filled.

- Attended, along with the Mayor and Police Chief, planning meetings to help prepare for the anticipated influx of visitors during the April 8 total solar eclipse.
- Last May Ottawa County communities collectively applied for a US Forest Service grant to hire a forestry consultant. The Forest Service has decided to award grants only to disadvantaged communities which disqualifies most of Ottawa County including Marblehead.
- Extension of Omni Fiber lines to the village is currently on hold awaiting approval from both First Energy and Frontier to attach broadband lines to approximately 700 utility poles.
- Along with Dean Dorko and Bryan Lucas, met with ODOT representatives March 11 to discuss the upcoming paving of SR 163 through the village. It was determined that any curb and gutter rehab planned by the village should be done after the paving is complete. It is hoped ODOT will include three or four catch basin replacements into its project.
- Prepared a list of 24 professional design firms which submitted statements of qualifications in response to the village's advertisement.
- Participated in a webinar sponsored by Senator Sherrod Brown's office to learn the application process to have local projects considered for funding in FY 2025 appropriations for congressionally directed spending. Deadline for FY 2025 applications is March 22 which does not leave sufficient time to apply this year but the information was valuable to consider for future years.
- Received information from the Ohio Department of Commerce regarding the Cable TV Consumer Hotline (877-207-2225) created to assist residents with cable TV related complaints.
- In response to a question from Joe Gouker, Mr. White said the valve at the water plant's bulk water fill station will be installed by village staff once the clarifier rehab is completed.

Fiscal Officer

Mrs. Sowers reported the following:

- February financial reports were distributed March 1. Interest earned during the month was \$11,485.75.
- First half real estate tax settlement was received March 4. Net deposit into the General Fund was \$451,896 and net deposit to the Street/Sidewalk Fund was \$177,185.
- Employee health insurance premiums from Anthem will raise 15.7% for medical and 6% dental when policies renew May 1. Village agent Tony Palandrani of Rankin and Rankin Insurance is exploring possible options to lower these rates.
- Energy Harbor mailed annual opt-out notices to all participants in the village's electric aggregation program. Marblehead's aggregation rate of \$0.0489 per kWh remains in effect through May 2025 for those who remain in the program.

Police Chief

Chief Thellmann submitted a written report of recent activity. He also said he received an updated price to equip the in-stock cruiser at Bob Chapman Ford which is \$2,738.65 more than the price previously authorized by Council. Mayor Starcher said he will add this item to New Business.

Mayor

Mayor Starcher stated the following:

- He and Mr. White will attend an Eclipse preparedness meeting at the Ottawa County Emergency Operations Center on March 14.

- Mayor Starcher will be featured guest at the next community coffee hour scheduled for 10 a.m. at the library on March 15.
- Noted that the village's aggregation rate offers a great cost saving and explained where to look on the electric bill to determine whether or not one is in the aggregation program.

Solicitor

Solicitor Toscano had nothing additional to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning

Mr. Kennedy gave a brief report of the March 6 Planning Commission meeting.

Finance

Mr. Kovach said the Finance Committee will meet at 5:00 pm on March 21 to continue work on appropriations.

Legislative

Mr. Walker stated the Legislative Committee will meet at 3:45 pm on March 20 to begin a review of the village's codified ordinances.

Personnel

Mrs. Kukay had no committee activity to report.

Parks, Cemetery

Mrs. Sauvey had no committee activity to report.

Infrastructure

Mr. Dorko had no committee activity to report.

LEGISLATION

President Pro Tempore read the following legislation by title only:

- A. **Resolution No. 1-2024** – A Resolution Declaring Intent to Sell Personal Property by Internet Auction, Including Motor Vehicles Acquired for the use of Municipal Officers and Departments, and Road Machinery, Equipment, Tools, or Supplies not needed for Public Use, or is Obsolete or Unfit for the Use for which it was Acquired. First reading; second reading will be at the March 27 regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Disposition of contributions to the K9 Fund** – Mrs. Sowers said the K9 Fund has a balance of \$700 that cannot be spent now because the village no longer has a K9 unit. Mr. Kennedy moved to refund the \$700 in the K9 Fund to the donors. Second by Mrs. Kukay. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.
- B. **Authorize additional cruiser cost** – Mrs. Kukay moved to authorize an additional \$2,738.65 to Bob Chapman Ford to equip the new police cruiser. Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Recommendation to appoint Jordan Miller as part-time police officer** – Mrs. Kukay moved to accept the recommendation of Chief Thellmann and Mayor Starcher to appoint Jordan Miller as a part-time police officer effective March 17, 2024. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

Administer Oath of Office

Mayor Starcher administered the oath of office to Officer Miller.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$130,657.43 including February payroll was made by Mr. Dorko and seconded by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Kukay-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

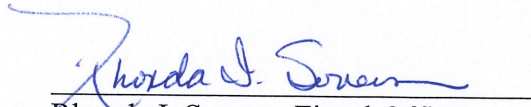
ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Kukay and seconded by Mr. Kovach. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:44 pm.

APPROVED:


John E. Starcher, Mayor

Attest:


Rhonda I. Sowers, Fiscal Officer