

**VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD MAY 10, 2023**

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

**VOTE TO EXCUSE ANGIE KUKAY FROM THE CURRENT MEETING**

Mr. Starcher moved to excuse council member Angie Kukay from the May 10, 2023 regular meeting. Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

**ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE**

Answering roll call were Dean Dorko, Matt Kovach, Duane Myers, Maryann Sauvey, and John Starcher.

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

Visitors in attendance were Dale Harwood, Karyn Harwood, Sally Moennich, Tom Breslin, Dave Reed, Al Mazzeo, Katy Mazzeo, Joe Gouker, Patty Gouker and Michael Wegrzyn.

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the April 26, 2023 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

Joe Gouker expressed thanks that village officials will schedule a public meeting on the island to present information on the status of the waterline extension to Johnson's Island. Mr. Gouker said he has tentatively reserved the island clubhouse for June 17 and June 24.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Solicitor**

Mr. Barney had nothing to report.

**Administrator**

Mr. White reported the following:

- Installation of the safety surfacing at James Park has been pushed back until early June due to delays caused by rainy spring weather.
- The outdoor musical instruments to be installed at James Park are expected soon.
- Maintenance crews made some minor grading improvements along Elliott Street to better direct rain water to a newly installed catch basin.
- Final plans for Church Street improvements are expected from CT Consultants by May 12 and will be forwarded to the Infrastructure Committee members for review.
- Seasonal employee Mike Richmond has returned to work.
- Banners of the Danbury High School seniors have been installed along Main Street.

**Fiscal Officer**

Mrs. Sowers reported the following:

- Reminder that the 2.2 mill levy expires this year and will need to go on the ballot this November.

- April financial reports were emailed to village officials May 4.
- She and fiscal assistant Olga Trumpower attended annual CATO (Corporate Account Take Over) training presented by Deb Stephens of the Marblehead Bank. The training focused on cyber security of online financial transactions.

### **Police Chief**

Chief Thellmann reported the following:

- A written report summary of recent departmental activity.
- The ceiling in the garage at the rear of the Town Hall is now leaking orange liquid which is staining police cruisers during rainstorms.
- Officer Ignatowski completed annual training requirements and may resume police duties.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Personnel**

No report.

### **Zoning**

Mr. Kovach reported briefly on the meeting with representatives of RCAP regarding the water department capital improvement plan and funding for the plan.

### **Legislative**

Mr. Myers had nothing to report.

### **Infrastructure**

Mr. Dorko had nothing to report.

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

Mrs. Sauvey reported that the Parks Committee selected a location on the north side of the restroom building for the new Sensory Garden in James Park. In addition, the restroom will be painted white and a musical themed mural painted on the north wall of the building. The committee is also obtaining costs for a sign to acknowledge donations for the new playground equipment and planning a dedication ceremony for the new facilities in early summer. The new picnic tables for Clemons park will be arriving in a few days.

### **Finance**

Mr. Starcher had nothing to report.

## **LEGISLATION**

President Pro Tem Starcher read the following legislation by title only:

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 8-2023** – In the Matter of Application by Johnson’s Island Road Commission for Sideslope Revetment on the Johnson’s Island Causeway and Declaring an Emergency

Motion to waive three readings on three separate occasions made by Mr. Myers with second by Mr. Starcher. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to retain the emergency clause made by Mr. Dorko with second by Mr. Starcher. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 8-2023 made by Mrs. Sauvey with second by Mr. Kovach. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Bay Point waterline status** – Mr. White reported significant progress has been made on the installation of the 8” waterline and meters in the Bay Point Resort. The contractor hopes to have the project completed within a few weeks.
- B. **Rate analysis status** – RCAP has been assisting with an update of the water department’s capital improvement plan. This update will include financial information to be incorporated into the rate analysis. The plan should be in final form within the next several weeks, after which the Finance Committee may resume rate discussions.
- C. **Project change request from JDI Group to redesign Radar Park floor plan** – Due to concerns expressed by the National Parks Service over the village’s proposal to convert the Radar Park building to a welcome center staffed by an organization other than the village, the Parks Committee decided to scale back the project and revert to the original 1971 plan of turning the building into a community meeting space. JDI Group submitted a quote to revise the plans for the building. Mr. Starcher moved to accept the quote from JDI Group in the amount of \$8,930. Second by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried. Mrs. Sauvey added that the National Parks Service also requires the village to hold a public meeting to get community input on this proposed improvement.
- D. **Batting cage status** – Mrs. Sauvey stated the batting cage project for James Park is on hold for the time being while details are worked out with the Peninsula Youth Athletic League.
- E. **Discussion regarding alcohol at Radar and Clemons Parks** – Mr. Barney stated Ohio law prohibits open containers on public land with a limited exceptions if it is consumed in an enclosed structure. This law effectively prohibits alcohol consumption at Clemons Park but might permit it at Radar Park where there is a building. Mr. Barney agreed to look into this exception further.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Ottawa County Family Advocacy summer lunch program** – Mayor Bird reported the Ottawa County Family Advocacy organization will use the parking area at the east side of the Town Hall this summer to distribute free meals once a week for families in need.
- B. **Matt Kovach to replace John Starcher on Johnson’s Island task group** – Mayor Bird appointed Matt Kovach to replace John Starcher on the Johnson’s Island waterline task group.

- C. **Set date and time for public hearing on zoning amendment** – Council will hold a public hearing on a zoning amendment to rezone 1.2 acres of land at the rear of 614 E. Main Street from R-1 to B at 5:45 p.m. on June 28. The finance committee will change its regular meeting from 5:30 to 5:00 p.m. on that date.
- D. **Recommendation to retain outside legal counsel for assessment process** – After researching past practice on waterline assessment projects, Mayor Bird said the village will be seeking outside legal counsel to assist with the assessment process.
- E. **Memorial Day Service** – Lakeside will host this year’s Memorial Day service on May 29. Ceremonies begin at 10:15 with a walking parade leading from Wesley Lodge to Bettinger Park where the service will be held.
- F. **Excuse Zoning Administrator from attendance at council meetings** – Based on the fact that both the Zoning Committee chair and the Village Administrator report on zoning matters, Mayor Bird has excused Zoning Administrator Bob Hruska from regular attendance at future council meetings.
- G. **Danbury Schools Groundbreaking** – Mr. Starcher asked if village officials were invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony held earlier that day for the Norton Center athletic facility at Danbury Schools. Mayor Bird stated she received an invitation but was unable to attend due to work commitments.
- H. **Dave Reed visitor comment** – Dave Reed said at a previous meeting the question of whether or not there is still a need for a new water tower was posed and the Administrator stated this was a question for the village’s engineer. Mr. White said he has been researching the various feasibility studies prepared by the engineers to find an answer to this question. Mr. White added there is no current problem providing service to all customers including the new users in the Waterview at Bay Point development.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Starcher moved to go into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to consider compensation of a public employee. Second by Mr. Kovach. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Bird reconvened the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

#### **AMEND VACATION AND PERSONAL LEAVE POLICIES**

Mr. Kovach moved to amend the personnel policies to allow immediately upon hire vacation accrual and use per the existing schedule; to allow newly hired full-time employees to receive two personal days after completion of their probationary period; and to make these changes retroactive for any current employee who has not yet completed their first year of service with the village. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

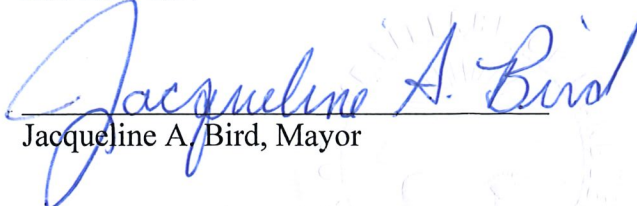
**AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$136,035.16 including April payroll was made by Mr. Starcher and seconded by Mr. Dorko. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mr. Myers-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Starcher-yes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Kovach and seconded by Mr. Starcher. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:56 pm.

APPROVED:

  
Jacqueline A. Bird, Mayor

Attest:

  
Rhonda I. Sowers, Fiscal Officer