

VILLAGE OF MARBLEHEAD REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 10, 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, Maryann Sauvey, and Lee Walker.

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

Visitors in attendance were Holly Gast, Jackie Bird, Dale Harwood, Karyn Harwood, Lou Cardinale, Al Mazzeo, Joe Gouker, Alex Stayancho, Maureen Kennedy, Gretchen Bueter, Ryan Stamp, Angie Kukay, Andy Kukay and Jane Milholland.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. Kovach nominated Dean Dorko to serve as President Pro Tem of Council in 2024. There were no additional nominations. Mayor Starcher called for the vote which resulted as follows: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 13, 2023 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrator

Mr. White reported the following:

- A water main break on New Year's Eve resulted in an estimated loss of 150,000 to 200,000 gallons per day before the leak was located on Water Street and repaired on January 4. Cost for the repair work is not yet known.
- RCAP will be update some costs for the water rate analysis. Further discussion can then proceed with the finance committee.
- Interagency coordination, primarily between the Army Corps of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Office, and National Parks Service, regarding permits for the Johnson's Island waterline extension project is progressing. A task group meeting will be scheduled later in January.
- Grant application was submitted to the Ohio Department of Development seeking slightly over \$3.6 million for the Johnson's Island waterline project.
- Installation of all the required water meters at Bay Point has been completed per the terms of the August 2022 agreement. "As built" drawings are being requested.
- JDI Group, the village's consultant on the Radar Park project is finishing final plans and contractor packets in preparation for accepting bids.
- Final reports and reimbursement requests were submitted to OSS Solid Waste District for the two grants awarded last year. The grants were used to purchase both picnic tables and trash containers constructed from recycled plastic.

- A representative from Omni Fiber, LLC is scheduled to attend the next regular council meeting to provide an update on their plans for extending broadband service to the village.
- Currently researching service providers to offer text notifications to village residents.

Fiscal Officer

Mrs. Sowers reported the following:

- December financial reports were distributed to officials January 3.
- Presented a summary of revenues and expenditures for the four major village funds: General, Street Revenue, Street/Sidewalk Levy, and Water Revenue.
- Interest earned from savings provided an unexpected boost in revenue. Total interest earned for the year was \$127,132.80 of which \$105,773.63 went into the General Fund. In 2022 the entire amount earned for interest was \$37,920.52.
- Once completed, the 2023 annual report, including notes to the financial statement, will be available on the village website.

Solicitor

Mr. Barney had nothing to report.

Police Chief

Chief Thellmann submitted a written report of recent activity and also advised that he hopes to make a recommendation for hiring a part-time officer by the next regular council meeting.

Mayor

Mayor Starcher presented the annual state of the village address.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

LEGISLATION

There was no legislation.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Water rate analysis** – Mayor Starcher announced Mr. Kovach will serve as chair of the Finance Committee this year. The mayor asked the committee to make the rate study a priority.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Council action regarding Planning Commission representative** – Mayor Starcher stated Dennis Kennedy is the new chair of the Zoning Committee and recommended that Mr. Kennedy be appointed council representative to the Planning Commission to replace Mr. Kovach. Mr. Dorko moved to accept the mayor’s recommendation and appoint Dennis Kennedy as council representative to the Planning Commission. Second by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

B. **Review Rules of Council** – Mayor Starcher asked that all members review the Rules of Council and make any suggestions for change prior to adoption at the January 24 meeting. The mayor noted one change will make the fiscal officer responsible for preparing council meeting agendas. During discussion it was also unanimously agreed to not schedule regular meetings for the fourth Wednesday in November and December.

C. **Discussion/Action to fill open council seat** – Prior to accepting nominations, Mayor Starcher extended sincere thanks to the five village residents who submitted letters indicating their interest in filling the final two years of an open council seat. Angie Kukay, Karyn Harwood, Ryan Stamp, Jim Miller, and Alex Stayancho each indicated their willingness to serve the village and were commended by the mayor.

Upon calling for nominations, Dean Dorko nominated Angie Kukay. Lee Walker nominated Alex Stayancho. There were no additional nominations from council.

Executive Session

Mr. Kovach moved for an executive session at 6:37 p.m. to discuss the appointment of a public official. Second by Mr. Kennedy. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Starcher reconvened the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

The mayor asked for a roll call vote on the nominations advising each council member to state the candidate of their choice when called. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Dorko-Kukay, Mr. Kennedy-Stayancho, Mr. Kovach-Kukay, Mrs. Sauvey-Kukay, Mr. Walker-Stayancho. By a vote of 3-2, Angie Kukay was appointed to fill the council term which expires December 31, 2025.

D. **2024 Personnel List and committee assignments** - Mayor Starcher made the following committee assignments for 2024 noting the open slots will be filled by the person appointed to fill the open seat:

Zoning – Dennis Kennedy (chair), Dean Dorko, Maryann Sauvey

Parks, Cemetery, Trees – Maryann Sauvey (chair), Lee Walker, open

Infrastructure – Dean Dorko (chair), Lee Walker, Matt Kovach

Finance, Appropriations – Matt Kovach (chair), Dean Dorko, Dennis Kennedy

Personnel – Open (chair), Maryann Sauvey, Dennis Kennedy

Legislative – Lee Walker (chair), Matt Kovach, open

E. **Request for 2024 donation to Ottawa County Drug Task Force** – Mrs. Sauvey moved to donate \$1,000, the same as previous years, to the Ottawa County Drug Task Force. Second by Mr. Kennedy. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

F. **Wreaths Across America matching event** – Mrs. Sowers stated Wreaths Across America is hosting a matching event for all donations received by January 16. She asked if council would like to make its annual donation early this year. She also learned that the Ottawa County committee which provides wreaths at Clemons, St. Mary's, St. Joseph's and Holy Assumption cemeteries is separate from the committee which collects funds for the

Johnson's Island Cemetery and asked if council would like to split its donation between the two committees. Mr. Dorko moved to donate \$400 to the Ottawa County committee and \$400 to the Johnson's Island committee for Wreaths Across America. Second by Mr. Kovach. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to authorize payment of bills totaling \$156,738.09 including December payroll was made by Mr. Dorko and seconded by Mrs. Sauvey. Vote: Mr. Dorko-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Kovach-yes, Mrs. Sauvey-yes, Mr. Walker-yes. Motion carried.


ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO ANGIE KUKAY

Mayor Starcher administered the oath of office to Angie Kukay.

ADJOURNMENT

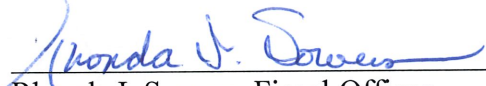
Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Kukay and seconded by Mr. Kovach. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:06 pm.

APPROVED:



John E. Starcher, Mayor

Attest:



Rhonda I. Sowers, Fiscal Officer