

The February 23, 2010 meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Curt Cosby, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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| Councilmember's: | Brian Burns | Mark Kobasuk |
| | Doug Evans (absent) | Curt Tiettmeyer |
| | Joe Harten | Daryl Zornes |

Mayor: Curt Cosby
Solicitor: Doug Miller
Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett
Police Chief: Tom Synan

Mayor Cosby welcomed everyone and made a few announcements.

Swearing-In Ceremony

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to hire Jake Goodwin as part-time police officer for the Village of Newtown. Mr. Burns seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

Mayor Curt Cosby swore in Jake Goodwin as part-time police officer for the Village of Newtown. Council and audience applauded and welcomed police officer Jake Goodwin.

Lenten Fish Fry: The Lenten Fish Fry is hosted by the Little Miami Fire and Rescue District, sponsored by the Newtown Civic League. The Fish Fry will run Fridays through March 26th, between 5:00pm and 7:30pm. at the fire house on Church Street across from Town Hall. Dinner ONLY will be served. Please join us for Fish and More!

Little Miami Scenic Trail Open House

The Hamilton County Park District will conduct an open house-style public meeting to discuss the preliminary alternative for extending the Little Miami Scenic Trail from the Little Miami Golf Center to Clough Pike. The open house will be Thursday, February 25, 2010 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Town Hall. All are welcome!

Edith, Jefferson and Pine Street Water Problem (letter and pictures submitted)

Mark McConnell, 6906 Edith Street. Mark and Cheryl McConnell have been residents of the Village of Newtown for 21 years. Mr. McConnell spoke to Council regarding the ongoing water flow problem with Edith, Jefferson and Pine streets. This issue has been ongoing for twenty (21) plus years with each year getting worse. Mr. McConnell said this issue is like the elephant in the room; the project is so huge that it goes off the radar screen because it is easier to just push it down the road. The pictures presented show how the water puddles after a rain and when the snow melts. Mr. McConnell obtained a copy of the Pavement Management Study Update, prepared by Brandstetter Carroll Inc. This study was revised August 2007 and said the width of Edith Street is 20 feet. The pavement is only 16 feet wide; the condition of the pavement is not a concern, said Mr. McConnell. When two cars pass on Edith Street they get off of the pavement and get into the muck and the muck just keeps growing. Mr. McConnell said he realizes the Village cannot spend one million dollars to fix streets, but perhaps it would be possible to widen the amount of asphalt so when two cars pass they are not riding in the muck and continue to erode the sides. He asked Council to look into some short-term interim solutions.

Mayor Cosby said he has had discussions with Bruce Brandstetter, Brandstetter Carroll Inc. and the permanent fix for Edith Street and Ragland Road is to lower the roads, curb and gutter and channel the storm water away. Unfortunately, there are no grants available; the Village would foot the bill entirely. Mayor Cosby said this is an issue that does need to be tackled and depending on how 2010 Appropriations shake out; this would be a good year to tuck away some money. He said it would probably take about three years to put enough money away to fund this project. Other than the Drake Street Bridge repair, there are no other roads scheduled to be resurfaced or repaired. The Village does anticipate being awarded a grant for the Drake Street Bridge project. The Finance Committee is meeting Monday, March 1st to discuss 2010 Appropriations. Mayor Cosby said it would be nice to set aside \$250,000 to \$300,000 for roads. Roads are an ongoing issue throughout the village. Most of the time the Village is fortunate in being awarded grants for road repair. Mayor Cosby said we have applied for grants for Edith, Jefferson and Pine streets and maybe Ragland, but have been unsuccessful so far. There may be some storm water runoff grants that could help supplement the cost of this project. Mayor Cosby asked Council to keep in the mind when doing the appropriations line by line, to conserve from the various lines that we may earmark monies for future road repair. Mayor Cosby said we really need to build funds for road repair; not only for Edith, Jefferson and Pine streets, Ivy Hills will also eventually need to be done. Ragland Road may or may not receive funding, along with Harriet Lane will need to be done. Mayor Cosby agrees this issue needs to be resolved. When he was mayor back in the 90's, this was an issue and they were starting to look at putting money away to lower the street, curb and gutter and sidewalk repair to channel the water away. Ragland Road needs the same, which is probably not as much as Edith, Jefferson and Pine and the estimate at that time was in the \$700,000 range. Mayor Cosby said we are probably looking at every bit of that estimate for Edith, Jefferson and Pine and could be as much as \$800,000 to \$900,000. He said it could take the Village three years to save enough money to take care of Edith, Jefferson and Pine. In 2008, the Village did a fix on some roads in Ivy Hills, which is recommended we get five to seven years out of that fix. Then after the three years saving for Edith, Jefferson and Pine, the next four years would go toward the funding of the roads in Ivy

Hills. Mayor Cosby said we really need to start planning and take managing the roads seriously. Mr. McConnell suggested as a long-term resident that the Village make it a ten-year plan. He said he has been here 20 years and will probably be here 30 years. Mr. McConnell said he remembers in the early 90's a resident named Vic coming to Council with pictures of the same thing and nothing has been done. He said it would be nice for the residents to know something is being done or some long-term plan is being considered. Mayor Cosby and Council thanked Mr. McConnell.

2-23-2010 Checklist

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the Checklist dated 2-23-2010 in the amount of \$42,910.88. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

2010 Appropriations, First Reading

The Finance Committee reviewed the appropriations and made some changes at their recent meeting on February 8th. There will be a second Finance Committee meeting March 1st. There will be three readings of the 2010 Appropriations rather than approving by an Emergency reading.

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the First Reading of the 2010 Appropriations. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to have the Second Reading at the 3-09-2010 Council meeting. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee will meet Monday, March 1st at 7:00pm to finalize the 2010 Appropriations.

Computer Purchase Update

The computer purchase is on hold until more research is done. Mr. Tiettmeyer said we need to make sure the money is set aside in the 2010 Appropriations for this purchase.

Business Recovery Plan

Mr. Tiettmeyer said to purchase an emergency generator for the Village it would cost about \$25,000 plus \$10,000 to modify the electric and transfer switch. A service contract would also need to be purchased for someone to maintain it. Mr. Tiettmeyer and Police Chief Synan have looked at Agility, a spin-off company from General Electric. Agility provides emergency disaster recovery services. This is an alternative to purchasing a generator out right. Mr. Tiettmeyer suggested rather than just buying a generator we should look at a disaster recovery plan. Agility provides integral pieces of that plan. Mr. Tiettmeyer and Chief Synan will be taking the lead on researching the Business Recovery Plan. Mr. Burns said he has looked at the plan and will be in touch with Mr. Tiettmeyer. He said it is a great plan with a lot of pieces to it. Mr. Burns said Chief Synan passed out some literature and he has more questions and will be in touch with Mr. Tiettmeyer. Mr. Tiettmeyer said without a doubt, this is very preliminary. This is a company that specializes in private companies as well as public sectors.

Surplus Computer Equipment

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to declare the Maintenance Department's old computer, monitor and printer as surplus. The value is zero dollars. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion.

Discussion

Solicitor Miller said equipment under \$1,000 in value can be declared as surplus. A resolution is required if the value is over \$1,000.

All Aye. Motion Carried.

2-09-2010 Council Minutes

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve 2-09-2010 Council minutes. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

Website Committee

The Website Committee will meet Wednesday, 2/24/2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Human Resource Committee

The HR Committee will meet Friday, 3/05/2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

LMFD Fire Board Meeting Update

Mr. Kobasuk attended the 2-17-2010 Fire Board meeting and gave the following report to Council. The Fire Board agreed to obtain the Village's consent as to where they would place the fire station. They are amenable to revising the contract with Newtown to specify that, so they are moving in a cooperative direction. The Fire Board shows MSA to design the new fire stations. They put it out to bid and that is the entity they selected. The Fire Board will hire the project manager in mid-March. There was some discussion about the E-Check site and the bike trail, not a park-n-ride, but a bike trail. Allen Freeman is going to meet with John Russell to start talking

about that before they take it to the Planning Commission for exploration. There is possible grant of \$500,000 or more from TID funding for the bike trail that would connect at the E-Check site along with a proposed fire station. Mayor Cosby said he has seen the Hamilton County plans for the bike trail and they don't show any plan for a hub in Newtown. Chief Driggers said Mr. Freeman could better answer that question. Mr. Freeman will talk with Mr. Russell first to look at Newtown's comprehensive plan to see if a fire station fits that area. The Planning Commission determined that the E-Check site does fit zoning for a fire station, said Mayor Cosby. The Zoning Code clearly states a public building is allowed.

The LMFD provided copies to Council of their 2009 Annual Report.

Moundview Park Update

Mr. Burns said the project is near completion. A carpenter completed some work over the weekend. Painters are currently completing the painting on the first floor. Mr. Burns said there are odds and ends to be completed, as well as electrical work. The project should be completed by mid-to-late March.

Park Committee Update

Mr. Burns said the Moundview playground equipment and contractor was discussed at the last Park Committee meeting. He said the playground equipment will be installed with the grant money. Mr. Burns said the company is on the U. S. Communities Federal Bid; therefore, the job does not have to go out for bid. Mr. Burns will make a motion to approve the purchasing of the playground set that was approved through the committee in 2009 at \$30,675.64.

Mr. Burns made a motion to approve purchasing playground equipment for Moundview Park with David Williams and Associates for \$30,675.64. This equipment was previously approved through the Park Committee in 2009. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Mr. Evans-Absent. Motion Carried.

Fee Structure and Park Rules

The Park Committee reviewed the proposed fee structure at their last meeting. Mr. Burns will get with Solicitor Miller and bring a Resolution to adopt the fees at the 3-9-2010 Council meeting. Park Rules are currently being revised and will be brought before Council at a later date. Mayor Cosby said the police department would like for the signs to be changed stating the park closes at dark or at dusk, rather than a time. He asked that the Park Committee consider changing the time as a rule change.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.