

Ms. Hueber: At one time, it was like the Fire House, what do we really want to do with that building? Do we want to redo it or upgrade it? Haven't we done a roof and gutters at Moundview? I think there was a plan of what we wanted to do there.

Mr. Cosby: That is still in the process with Mike Cornette. He drew up some drawings that we showed everyone.

Ms. Everett: He's doing construction documents.

Mr. Cosby: We're working on that and the Civic League is going to participate in that.

Mayor Hammon: Doug, this is probably the right way to fix it and I'm not sure maybe we should have done some of the work before.

Mr. Evans: I just look at some of the other things around the village and think they might need a little bit more attention besides we put something off in the park. It's like getting a third car when you only drive two at one time. I go down Round Bottom Road and my teeth about fall out.

Mr. Cosby: That's a whole different deal Doug. That is other monies.

Ms. Hueber: Is that more important than bathrooms?

Mr. Cosby: The more you let that deteriorate up there the more expensive it is going to become.

Mr. Evans: We talk about it one night and then vote on it.

Mr. Cosby: We're not voting on it tonight; this just came to us.

Mr. Evans: The curbs are one thing we've discussed those I think.

Mr. Cosby: The longer you let that deteriorate up there the more expensive it is going to become. I think our parks are important; they are used. Tracy, at this point, I think it may be more important than the bathrooms because of the continued deterioration and it's just going to become more expensive.

Mayor Hammon: We may have a partnership for bathrooms at the park. I'm not free to discuss it at this point; it's another government entity.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Evans seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 12-2007 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FOR CURB AND GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Chief of Police Synan

1. Hamilton County Comprehensive Safety Plan & Sales Tax: The Sheriff, County Commissioners and I represented the Hamilton County Chief Association. I attended a press conference a couple of weeks ago. There has been one public hearing and one more tomorrow night in Sharonville at the Convention Center at 6:30 p.m. This packet explains the program; it's not just for a jail anymore. Apparently, they put some reform programs in, mental health issues, substance abuse issues. They are trying to lower the recidivism rate which is currently 70%. The key for the village is the county would pick up 70% of the communications cost. For the police department alone, their figures or estimates would save the village \$8,122 on communication fees. The fire district would save \$4,253 according to their figures. If council could take a look at this and decide if this is something you want to endorse or not endorse, not get involved with or whatever you want to do. It's a \$0.005 (1/2 cent) sales tax for eight years and then drops to a \$0.0025 (1/4 cent) seven years after that. That would cover thirty years and put in mental health programs, 1,800 bed jail facility, and drug assessment. They are trying to get to people before they get to jail so they don't keep coming back. Those that go to jail go an average of seven times.
2. Squad Room: The squad room has new furniture and it really opened things up back there. I want to thank Sergeant McBreen and Officer Vontz who volunteered their time to put the furniture together.

Mayor Hammon

1. Estate Tax: The Center for Local Government had a "Meet Your State Representative Day." Council needs to be aware that the state will continue to take away our funds. The un-fund mandates coming from the state – Springfield Township said they will be basically bankrupt if they take the estate tax away. We pay the Water District \$20,000 and that comes from the state. Those are the things they were talking about and they are taking away funding and they will increase your cost.
2. Mayor's Court: They are trying to get rid of Mayor's Court and some of the other funding issues.
3. Cable Franchise Fee: This fee is going away if they pass it; it has gone through the Senate but not the House.
4. HCDC: Catherine Fitzgerald has a list of over one-hundred businesses together; she has been working with the Anderson Chamber of Commerce. They are planning a meeting in June and will invite the local businesses.

5. Tim Hirschner, Clermont County: Tim is a planner for Clermont County and they have a World Planning Day in November; tentatively, it is scheduled for the first Thursday in November. He wants Newtown to be the focus for this area; they will bring in people for the planning day. We need a facility for 50-75 people for the event.

Mr. Kobasuk: John, what is the status of the CRA?

Mayor Hammon: I talked to Catherine and we need to get the people together so we can get the two additional people there.

Mr. Kobasuk: So we don't have that committee set up?

Mayor Hammon: It's not full; they have to meet and they put two on the board. We talked about having that meeting today also. We've had a lot of inquiries, but so far no one has applied that I am aware of.

Mr. Kobasuk: Why not? We spent so much time on that thinking it was going to be used.

Mayor Hammon: I just visited the dentist office for a second time and asked why he hadn't applied since his remodeling, but he has never come forward to apply.

6. Moundview Park Front Porch: Mike Cornette has worked up two proposals and has put the drawings together for Hamilton County building permit and for the actual construction. Council needs to let us know if you want to hire him.

Councilmember Ken Pulskamp

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE 08-2007 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AND AUTHORIZING WEED CUTTING, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mr. Pulskamp: Do we want to do the second reading on the personnel practices?

Mrs. McCarthy: Wait, I still have that question about those five days on there that we are taking away.

Mr. Pulskamp: We're not passing it; I'm just making a second reading.

Mr. Cosby: Do we have an answer on that? Is there a simple answer as to why that is not there?

Mrs. McCarthy: We had the five days on there in the past our employees to carry it over. They had opted five days to carry over the vacation time. Why was that taken off?

Mr. Miller: I don't know.

Mr. Cosby: Doug, last time this was discussed you said "I only did that just to move the process along because I forgot to bring it up last time."

Mr. Miller: No. That was why I had the first reading of the ordinance last time. I brought an ordinance last time because I meant to bring it the time before.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to have a second reading on an ordinance amending re-stating Village personnel policies and procedures. Mr. Evans seconded the motion.

Mr. Cosby: Just so we don't get to the next meeting and

Mr. Miller: Right. I need to know what you want to do.

Mr. Pulskamp: Stick it back in and let them carry over the five days.

Mrs. McCarthy: Yeah, I think so. Right.

Mr. Evans: It was just something somebody forgot.

Mr. Pulskamp: It was just a type-o.

Mr. Miller: It wasn't a type-o.

Mr. Pulskamp: It was an admission by error.

Mr. Miller: What page was that on?

Mrs. McCarthy: Page 26.

Salary Ordinance

Mr. Pulskamp: What about the salary ordinance?

Mr. Cosby: Are we going to pass that tonight?

Mr. Pulskamp: These people have been waiting a month now.

Mr. Cosby: I agree; let's get it done.

Mr. Kobasuk: What are we doing about the chief's compensation? Shouldn't he get at least what he made last year?

Mr. Cosby: It shows it at \$62,000 and it should be at \$64,000.

Mr. Kobasuk: We don't want to make him chief and then he goes down in pay.

Mr. Cosby: I think that should be corrected.

Mr. Kobasuk: You don't agree Ken?

Mr. Pulskamp: No. You have a brand new chief starting in a position compared to a chief that has been in that position for how many years. I think that is something that gets worked up to.

Nothing against Tom; I think he does a great job. I think we need to work that salary position. Was that a true figure from the Village of Newtown W-2 form?

Chief Synan: It was except for \$200 and when I talked to the committee they said go ahead and make it \$64,000.

Ms. Hueber: So none of it was overtime?

Chief Synan: Yes it was overtime, but my thing is.....I'm working the SWAT team for free. I saved \$27,000 in salaries last year, \$17,000 right off the bat this year and \$15,000 in cars. Why would I take on a position with more responsibility, which the first day I had three press conferences with an employee. Why would I want this job and get paid less?

Mr. Kobasuk: Yeah, he's doing a good job.

Chief Synan: I could stay Lieutenant.

Mr. Pulskamp: I agree, but here's my philosophy about it. What you were looking at of his \$64,000 of what he is talking about what he made for that year was a lot of overtime because Daryl was not here.

Chief Synan: No. Not because Daryl wasn't here.

Mr. Pulskamp: You were doing your job as Lieutenant plus taking on a lot of the chief stuff.

Chief Synan: No, I haven't got paid for Daryl's. Actually, I could stay Lieutenant and make more money.

Mr. Kobasuk: Doug, what do you think?

Mr. Evans: He shouldn't go back in pay.

Mr. Kobasuk: I don't think he should either. He is doing a good job; he got promoted and you shouldn't make less in your new job in a promotion as you made before.

Mr. Evans: What is he going to make the next year?

Mr. Cosby: What everybody else gets as far as a raise?

Mr. Kobasuk: We have inflation; prices are going up for everybody.

Mr. Cosby: He's already demonstrated that he can save the department quite a bit of money and we're going to argue over \$2,000.

Mr. Evans: We don't want to argue about anything. It's just a matter that we have to watch out for taxpayer dollars any way we possibly can, whether it's curves at Moundview or whatever. I'm not saying he is not worth it; we just have to make sure that it is fair to everybody.

Mr. Kobasuk: John, where do you stand on the compensation for the chief?

Mayor Hammon: I don't have a vote on this, but I will tell you and Tom knows that I feel that \$62,000 is a fair pay. I have a hard time with it when we had a guy here thirty-one years and you kept him down. You reduced his pay for the last few years and now you do that. I understand the logic; I hear both sides.

Chief Synan: My concern is I am not the same guy. You want me to work the road, which I am doing. I'm going to all of the meetings. I've gotten more resources than any chief has ever done. I've saved you almost \$40,000 within six months.

Mr. Pulskamp: This salary ordinance is going to cost us about \$27,000 this year alone and we'll add on compound to that again next year and then compounded again that year. We need to watch our pennies. Our health insurance is going to go up another 17% minimum.

Mr. Evans: Can we compromise a little bit so everybody feels good?

Chief Synan: I did compromise. I'm working the SWAT team for free; I didn't get paid for the chief stuff. I spent six months and I was told I couldn't get that pay. I did this job for six months and then you have guys volunteering doing stuff for free. We bend over backwards; you can't do more. I saved \$17,000 the first day I walked in by cutting shifts. None of our guys; I'm the only one that said something about salary and I'm going to be honest, we went one year without an increase in salary at all. We came to you and said we want a fulltime person instead of salaries. We can't do this every year. It's not a matter of you guys not saving money. If I came to you and said our budget is the same as it was last year you wouldn't hear a word out of me. But, when I save almost \$40,000 in six months, I had a problem with \$2,000.

Mr. Kobasuk: The basic service we want is a good police force. We want our homes protected; we want these guys on the streets and they are doing a good job.

Mr. Pulskamp: I agree with you Mark; I won't argue with that at all.

Mr. Kobasuk: I just don't want to see him not motivated, like he is. He is on the SWAT team and I think that's a good thing.

Chief Synan: I'm not getting paid for that and we got free training out of that plus free equipment.

Mrs. McCarthy: When you take time off for the SWAT team, we don't pay you?

Chief Synan: No.

Mr. Pulskamp: He's a salaried employee.

Chief Synan: No, I'm not. I'm hourly right now. I've not been putting down for overtime. You guys haven't passed the salary ordinance so I'm still hourly.

Mr. Kobasuk: Let's get it done.

Mr. Cosby: Are there any other issues with the salary besides Tom?

Mayor Hammon: I don't have a copy of that; the original one I saw was a 5% raise. The cost of living increase last year was 3.4% and the majority of that was basically health insurance. Think about that when you are passing 5%.

Ms. Everett: They are not all 5%.

Ms. Hueber: Why aren't they all the same?

Ms. Everett: You had us participate in that salary study and when Fairfax sent it back to us that is what we compared. If positions here were comparable the figures reflect 4%. There are places that we are not comparable, as we've been trying for several years and one is the maintenance department. They are under paid according to other maintenance departments. I think both maintenance workers got 6%. There were a couple of police positions that were pretty low and

they got 6%. If they were right on target with everything they got 4%. If they were lower I believe it was 6%.

Ms. Hueber: That was with us being up to par with Newtown, Fairfax, Terrace Park and Mariemont. In the future, we would stick to everybody getting an equal amount. Correct?

Ms. Everett: If that is what you choose to do.

Mayor Hammon: You need to consider Terrace Park has the highest property values in eastern Hamilton County. Fairfax is putting in a big Wal-Mart and their tax base will go up tremendously in the next coming days. Mariemont has said they are 100% at their industrial base and they want no more businesses in Mariemont.

Ms. Everett: Not to mention Fairfax; when the levy passed, they did not take the income tax that was used for their fire contract. They did not take it away; they still now have it to use for other things. So, yes everything has been considered.

Ms. Hueber: Then why does the chief there make \$58,000? How long has he been on duty?

Chief Synan: He won't be; he'll be making in the \$70's. His new proposal is the \$70's.

Ms. Hueber: New though, that is with the taxes that are coming in.

Chief Synan: Terrace Park's first year police chief went in at \$65,000. I've been here for fourteen years and I've been acting police chief for a year. It's not that you have to be here twenty years to be a police chief.

Ms. Hueber: We're just talking Tom; just talking comparison. I'm not going to battle with dollars when this says one thing and this says another thing. You say one thing and somebody else says something else.

Chief Synan: I guess my concern is that I have talked to all of you and you guys told me before that this was fine. I discussed it with all of you.

Ms. Hueber: When you said the \$64,000, I was also looking at this and taking into consideration some other things like Daryl Zornes being here thirty-three years. You have to take into consideration how he is going to feel.

Chief Synan: He's not an employee here.

Ms. Hueber: No he is not; there are a lot of different things.

Chief Synan: You and I discussed this and you didn't have a problem with it.

Ms. Hueber: I took in facts after I spoke to you.

Chief Synan: No, I told you about overtime and everything else. I talked to every single one of you.

Ms. Hueber: I'm not going to argue with you just because I looked up some other things Tom.

Chief Synan: I'm not arguing with you.

Ms. Hueber: I'm just saying, Patterson has been on the force forever and he is making \$58,000. They're putting in a multi-million dollar project in down there; their tax-base is higher.

Chief Synan: Right. I'm just concerned that we talked about this before and you told me it was okay. I explained all of this to you.

Ms. Hueber: I told you I understood your \$64,000.

Mr. Evans: I think we need to just think about we need to be fair and consistent with all of the employees of the village and keep them within our budget.

Mr. Pulskamp: What was the chief's salary for 2006?

Mr. Kobasuk: The newsletter costs more then what Tom wants for this increase. Let's just vote on it and be done with it and move on.

Mr. Evans: The new job and the job description isn't a forty-hour work week, correct?

Mr. Pulskamp: It says the chief's position is a salaried position. Doug (Miller), you haven't seen the salary ordinance? You haven't made this up?

Mr. Miller: No.

Mr. Pulskamp: Who made it up?

Mr. Kobasuk: Keri?

Mr. Pulskamp: Then we may not want to bring it up until it has been okayed by the solicitor.

Mr. Kobasuk: I thought you make these ordinances up Doug.

Mr. Miller: I did not do this.

Mr. Kobasuk: Keri, who did the ordinance on compensation?

Ms. Everett: Debbie and I took in after we received the study from Fairfax. We took the last year's one and worked from there.

Mr. Kobasuk: I think Doug ought to look at it.

Ms. Hueber: I thought all ordinances were supposed to come straight from Doug Miller.

Mr. Kobasuk: As long as Doug looks at them and saves us money and let Keri do them; as long as Doug approves them.

Mr. Miller: It's not saving you money because doing ordinances is in the flat fee anyway.

Mayor Hammon: Doug has to sign the approval.

Mr. Miller: I had no intention of signing it until I read it.

Ms. Everett: I actually copied it straight from the one Doug did last year.

Councilmember Doug Evans

Mr. Evans made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye.

Mr. Evans made a motion to approve RESOLUTION 13-2007 A RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFERS AND RECONCILING THE BUDGET AND AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2007, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mr. Evans: Keri, I put the \$700 for the Enquirer in the checklist.

Mr. Pulskamp: That was for the bidding on River Hills and phase II of the curb project.

Ms. Everett: Yes, that was for an ad for bids.

Mr. Evans made a motion to accept Checklist dated 5/22/07. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Tracy Hueber

1. **Drug Offenders Fund:** : I need to rescind the motion made 4/24/07 to approve \$524.94 for tactical lights for the rifles and drug offender's fund I did last time. The prices came back different and Tom is going to re-work some things.

Ms. Hueber made a motion to rescind the motion made 4/24/07 that approved \$524.94 to Streamlight for tactical lights for the rifles. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Ms. Hueber made a motion to rescind the motion made 4/24/07 that approved \$2,668.00 to Shooter Supply Shop for equipment for rifles. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mayor Hammon: Basically, they couldn't fulfill the supplies so we have to rescind it so we can order from another vendor.

Crull Subdivision "No Parking"

Mr. Kobasuk: Have any citations been issued on the "Crull No Parking" issue?

Chief Synan: No, yesterday was the first day we went down and spoke to two people and they moved their cars before anything was issued.

Mr. Kobasuk: So, your policy is to tell them before?

Chief Synan: I'm not going to make a policy, but I asked that they go talk to them first.

Councilmember Curt Cosby: I have nothing to report.

Councilmember Debbie McCarthy:

1. **Council Minutes:** I have two sets of minutes to be passed.

Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to approve 2/27/2007 and 4/24/2007 Council Minutes. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

2. **Center Island:** Doug, any word on the center island?

Mr. Evans: We're just waiting to get the money.

Mayor Hammon: We're through the state and Rhonda is trying to get the board together. There is some paperwork and they have to set a budget.

Mr. Miller: We've got to have a five-year budget for the corporation, plus they need to adopt code of regulations so we can file with the IRS.

Mr. Kobasuk: Who is on the board John?

Mayor Hammon: Robert Rigsby, Rhonda, Mike (James) Arnold, John Russell and Will Sparks.

Mrs. McCarthy:

3. **Police Clerk:** The six-month probation period is coming up for Lorna. She plans on taking Monday off with pay.

Mr. Cosby: I think we need to go ahead and approve her as a full-time employee unless there is any objection to that.

Mayor Hammon: Personnel Practices says at least six months and her six months is not up until the end of the week. It's my suggestion if you approve it at the next council meeting to make it retro back to the six-month anniversary and give her the day of pay. I think we should make a motion saying we'll support to make it retro-active once the six months is up.

Mr. Miller: As far as I'm concerned she does an excellent job. I don't know what she does the rest of the day here but the stuff she does for me I love.

Mr. Evans: What does Tom think?

Chief Synan: She is doing a great job on our end; she is doing our warrants and we haven't had any problems.

Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to allow Lorna Rose to have Monday, May 28th off and make it retroactive. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Solicitor Miller

1. **Mayor's Court Work Program**: Charlie called inquiring about people that are unable to pay or won't pay their Mayor's Court fines; he was wondering if they could work it off through the village by pulling weeds. We got away from that program because some of the people had some disabilities and we felt it wouldn't be safe for them to be working for the village. We'll start doing it again.

Mr. Evans: What is the Village's liability?

Mr. Miller: I don't know that there is any Doug; they are pulling weeds in the park. How can you hurt yourself doing that?

Ms. Hueber: I was told that we quit doing it due to liability.

Mayor Hammon: I suggest we have Doug look into it and come back with a recommendation.

Mr. Miller: My recommendation is do it. I talked to the Magistrate and he doesn't have a problem with it. We won't let them operate machinery.

Mrs. McCarthy: Do we need to do a motion?

Mr. Miller: No. If it's a direction then it is okay to do it.

Ms. Hueber: To direct you to direct the Magistrate to allow it.

Mr. Miller: (Continued)

2. The ordinance here, other than the dates on it need to change. Section XII reads: The Mayor is hereby authorized to hire temporary, part-time police officers to work for scheduled vacancies.

Mr. Pulskamp: Who came up with the .45 per mile?

Ms. Everett: We had it in the personnel practices to follow the IRS.

Mr. Pulskamp: We would never follow what the IRS has because they have always been higher than what we've done.

Mr. Cosby: Should be just leave it at .45?

Mr. Miller: I was thinking .48 or .48 ½.

Mrs. McCarthy: Tracy is getting ready to leave; what are we going to do with the salaries?

Mayor Hammon: Somebody has to make a motion.

Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE 09-2007 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR THE VILLAGE PERSONNEL, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, WITH A CHANGE TO POLICE CHIEF TOM SYNAN'S SALARY, FROM \$62,000 PER YEAR TO \$64,000 PER YEAR. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Mr. Evans: March 29th is a full-week pay period, correct?

Mayor Hammon: Yes.

Roll Call: Ms. Hueber-Abstain, Mr. Pulskamp-Abstain, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Hueber left meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Citizen Input / Audience Participation:

Resident Shirley Torrence: 3508 West Street. I'm here regarding the Crull Street No Parking issue. I'm not here to argue; I just want to know where should our company park? You have made suggestions before, but ended those suggestions.

Mayor Hammon: Mark Moore said he would be open to having people park on his property; you would have to clear it with him.

Mrs. Torrence: But, if you have someone that just stops by and there would not be time to clear it. There is no where for them to just stop by and park and you can't always clear it with someone.

Mr. Pulskamp: It's not an answer or a solution but I've driven through that area five times in the last three days; specifically, to see what people are doing. With our solution of parking outside the white lines you would have no problem at all.

Mrs. Torrence: That is not a solution; the solution right now is there is no parking.

Mr. Pulskamp: That is a solution to your problem just so you know.

Mrs. Torrence: But, the ordinance as it stands.

Mr. Kobasuk: She would have had a solution with the other proposal too; no parking thirty feet from the intersections. I don't want to be pilloried for voting on that. There were other solutions proposed.

Mrs. Torrence: Can it go back to another way? The sub-committee had other solutions, which no one wanted.

Mr. Kobasuk: That were proposed in the ordinance that some of us sponsored.

Mr. Pulskamp: The only difference of what was proposed by the committee and what was happening down there was no parking within the fire hydrants of the corners. Other than that it was a free-for-all parking.

Mrs. Torrence: No, there was no parking within thirty feet of the stop signs

Mr. Pulskamp: Or the fire hydrants.

Mrs. Torrence: Which is state law anyway and no parking within thirty feet of the fire hydrants. It's a small subdivision and no parking within the thirty feet would eliminate a lot of no parking.

Mr. Pulskamp: That still would allow them to park anywhere they want besides those areas. I would have no problem of going with that ordinance as long as they park outside the white lines. We need to define the driving lanes of the roads.

Mrs. Torrence: Okay, but still give me two good reasons why this is in the first place.

Mr. Pulskamp: Number one is the safety.

Mrs. Torrence: It's legality; but why is it legality, because it's too narrow.

Mr. Pulskamp: Yes, according to Hamilton County those roads are not designed.

Mrs. Torrence: And we're the only subdivision that it is too narrow?

Mr. Pulskamp: No.

Mrs. Torrence: But we're the only subdivision with its own ordinance?

Mr. Cosby: Yeah,

Mr. Kobasuk: That's right and that doesn't seem right to me.

Mrs. Torrence: Exactly!

Mr. Pulskamp: Because there were problems.

Mrs. Torrence: But, what's the problem?

Mr. Pulskamp: I sat here when there was numerous of your neighbors came here saying there was a problem.

Mrs. Torrence: The people they were complaining about should have been addressed, not the whole neighborhood. Now the whole neighborhood has to suffer. Delmar is one of them; she is a sweet lady and now she has to park in the back of her house in a dark alley. Now we can't have visitors because there is no where to park. There are people that have a one-car driveway and they can't park anywhere else. They don't have a front yard to park in.

Mr. Kobasuk: You do have a solution. Take the issue to the voters. You can put it on the ballot; let the entire village vote on it. We are not the be-all and end-all of making law. The law resides in the people who elect us.

Mrs. Torrence: How long does that take? How big of an issue is that?

Mr. Kobasuk: It's a job; some people will help you with it. Some people on council will help you with it. You ought to get your own lawyer.

Mrs. Torrence: We have to pay money for this. We've been singled out; we're the only subdivision in the whole village that has its own ordinance. So now we have to pay money out of our pockets.

Mayor Hammon: There is no parking on Church and Main Street.

Mr. Kobasuk: Those are major arteries John.

Mrs. Torrence: Are you going to look into Jefferson and Edith?

Mayor Hammon: Jefferson is wide enough; Edith is not.

Mr. Kobasuk: Some people on council will help you on the petition. You've got to do the work on it and get 93 signatures.

Mrs. Torrence: I work a full-time job and I have two kids. Just like everybody else.

Mr. Kobasuk: I work a full-time job too, but I'm willing to help you is what I'm saying.

Mrs. Torrence: It's unfair and it's unjust. I know who agrees with me and I know who doesn't agree with me.

Mayor Hammon: When Brian Thornberry had eleven vehicles on the street where did people park at that point and time?

Mr. Kobasuk: Why not let the people of Newtown vote on this and let them decide?

Mayor Hammon: There are a lot of alternatives.

Mr. Kobasuk: Council can't decide; let the people decide.

Mr. Cosby: Absolutely.

Mrs. Torrence: I would like to know if they are going to investigate the other streets that are narrow. We are not the only ones with narrow roads. Those roads up there are just as narrow as ours are. They park on both sides of the roads: Jefferson and Edith. They are just as narrow.

Mr. Pulskamp: If the complaints come to this council from those residents they will be investigated.

Mrs. Torrence: Let Chief Driggers take his trucks up there and see if they have any problems getting around, just as they did in our neighborhood.

Mayor Hammon: I will tell you, I do believe this village across needs no parking thirty feet from the intersection. Everywhere, everywhere!

Mrs. Torrence: It's legality, safety factor that you cannot illegally park on both sides of the street; therefore, those streets are too narrow to be parking on both sides of the street. They should be doing the same thing.

Mayor Hammon: I was told that there is no parking allowed on Jefferson. That's a whole different issue.

Mrs. Torrence: Edith, and the others as well.

Mayor Hammon: Edith is wide enough to do it potentially. I did measure Edith and it's fourteen feet across; the same as it is in your subdivision. When I was on council, what I was told is there is no parking allowed up there at all. I have not gone back and spent the time to look at twenty-five years of ordinances to find out if that is true. Twenty years ago I was told that.

Mrs. Torrence: I don't see any no parking signs up there like we've got. I think they should have a no parking sign every fifty feet like we have.

Mayor Hammon: I have to find the ordinance; it's twenty-five years so it's a long hunt.

Mrs. Torrence: For these individuals who have to park in the alleys are they going to snow plow those as well and not plow the people into their driveways?

Mayor Hammon: They plow me in when they come to my subdivision.

Mrs. Torrence: They are very narrow back there; it's hard enough for those people to back in and out. It's going to be even harder when it snows.

Mayor Hammon: We'll take that into consideration. I'll ask Ken to talk to Charlie about having a plan for them.

Mrs. Torrence: I guess we'll have to take his consideration and get a lawyer. I feel bad for these other people.

Mr. Kobasuk: Do you have a spokesperson for your group? Are you it Shirley?

Mrs. Torrence: I guess I'm going to have to be.

Resident David Lockaby: I've lived in Newtown all of my life and issues like this Crull Street thing, it's almost like these people were ambushed. There is no communication in this village between what goes on here and the people out there. I'm trying to do something to improve that; I've started a website. I'm calling it the "Newtown Voice." I've emailed everybody here about it. Curt registered; I've talked to Debbie about it. It has a huge forum area for those who have an opinion about anything they can state it. There are free classified ads. I just launched it last week so it is not done yet. I've got Wal-Mart, Macy's and other retailers; anything somebody clicks on their link and buys something a percent of the money will come back to the website. With that money I could give to the Lord's Pantry, sponsor a ball team and any other charities in the village. I've been trying to get the word out about this and I haven't heard any response from anybody in the village I've emailed about this. I've sent multiple emails to several people.

Mr. Kobasuk: I never got your email; I think it's a good idea.

Mr. Lockaby: One problem with some of the village emails is there is so much security on stuff now it is hard to get things to go through because they are spam-filtered out. There are so many filters on email that a lot of stuff gets thrown into the spam folders so you need to check that too.

Mr. Kobasuk: Are you going to cover things like the parking issue on your website?

Mr. Lockaby: There is a poll on the front page right now and you have to be a registered user to see it and vote on. There have been thirteen votes so far.

Mr. Kobasuk: What is the question they are voting on?

Mr. Lockaby: The Crull Street subdivision parking ordinance. It's 13-0 un-needed. Of course it is not scientific.

Mr. Pulskamp: It's not scientific and all of the actual facts stated also. What question are you asking?

Mr. Lockaby: Well, is the ordinance needed?

Councilmember Curt Cosby left meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Mr. Lockaby: If you're saying nobody knows what the ordinance is, well that's the problem with communication in the town. Like on Valley when we got that sidewalk shoved down our throats on the side where the houses are – we didn't want that sidewalk but we got it anyway. We weren't listened to and I had neighbors belittled down here. We were literally run out of here. Who is next; Drake Street?

Mr. Pulskamp: One thing I will say is when I make a vote or a decision sitting at this table; it is not just for one specific area of town. It is looking at every resident in this community. When I got elected to this council I was elected to serve every resident, not just your neighborhood, just not the Crull Street. When I voted to have that sidewalk put there I looked at every resident in this village to be able to walk down that sidewalk knowing that the bike trail was coming into Newtown.

Mr. Lockaby: What about the sidewalks on the other side of the street?

Mr. Pulskamp: That's right; but they have to cross somewhere. It makes our village what we are. We want to be a walking village eventually.

Mr. Lockaby: From what I see about this village you basically want to make it where people want to move here, but you're not concerned about the people who live here.

Mr. Pulskamp: That's not true; I'm concerned about all the people down there.

Mr. Lockaby: There are people tearing fences down to park in their yards.

Mr. Pulskamp: The people that are spending thousands and thousands of dollars fixing up their property trying to improve their property value, when you have somebody that has eleven cars parked in front of their house.

Mr. Lockaby: Okay, you have one person. Why wasn't he dealt with?

Mayor Hammon: There was no law to deal with him. That is the reason why we have the Junk Ordinance law and that is why we have the Trailer and RV ordinance and that is why we have the property maintenance code and that's why we have the no parking ordinance. It took four ordinances to deal with the problems. I had talked to the previous police chief several times about it and he said until there was a law and the signs were posted that he would not enforce it.

Mr. Lockaby: Tom, how long have you been with the police department? I was wanted to know how many people you know have been hit by a car down there.

Chief Synan: I've been here fourteen years and no one has been hit by a car in the Crull subdivision.

Mr. Lockaby: How many in the village total?

Chief Synan: I don't have that number; there have been some. There was one on Valley a couple of years ago.

Mr. Lockaby: So there is maybe some places little more of a hot spot for public safety than that.

Chief Synan: I don't know; an accident can happen anywhere.

Mr. Lockaby: Anyway, this website is for everyone to use. Nobody will have a two-minute time limit on what they can say. You can put what you want on it. I'm trying to find someone to write some stories about the town. We have new squad cars and I'd like to put pictures of them on there.

Mr. Kobasuk: Is this going to be used for any political purposes; when the election comes you're not going to sponsor candidates?

Mr. Lockaby: No. Absolutely not! People can put their opinions on there about the candidates all they want.

Mr. Kobasuk: A public forum where people can host their thoughts.

Mr. Lockaby: There's a section where you'll find kids sports, church news, school news, recipes, fire and police department, village council, eastern corridor project, etc.

Mayor Hammon: If you hear something on the eastern corridor let me know because it is tight-lipped right now.

Mr. Lockaby: I work for Ted Hubbard, County Engineer and I can't get anything out of them. I'd like to see everyone register; it's all free and confidential. I've got 1,000 free email accounts to give out for this.

Resident Delmar Baxter: I would like to know why white lines weren't put on West Plum?

Mayor Hammon: We did it late in the year and ran out of time and once the ordinance failed to use the white lines we did not continue to paint them.

Mrs. Baxter: I would rather have white lines than park in the alley.

Mayor Hammon: I understand; I encourage you to address council because I don't vote unfortunately.

Mr. Pulskamp: I agree with you ma'am. I drove through there today, Sunday and Saturday and everybody was parked outside the white lines and there was not a problem one.

Mrs. Baxter: So I am stuck in the alley forever?

Mr. Pulskamp: I hope not forever.

Mayor Hammon: No, but unfortunately it will probably not be before the first of year before we change it.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:55 p.m. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Council reconvened at 9:04 p.m.; no action to be taken as a result of executive session.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion.

Transcribed by Becky Fairley