

The July 28, 2009 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.

Councilmember's:	Brian Burns	Mark Kobasuk
	Doug Evans	Ken Pulskamp
	Tracy Hueber (left 7:34pm)	Daryl Zornes

Mayor: Curt Cosby

Solicitor: Doug Miller

Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett (absent)

Police Chief: Tom Synan

Council business will be discussed first due to Ms. Hueber leaving early.

Employee Health Insurance

Mr. Zornes said Ms. Everett called him last week; it was brought to her attention the health insurance was misquoted to the village. Ms. Everett recommended the village stay with the same option. The difference is the deductible; however, Mr. Zornes said the policy is the less expensive option provided.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to suspend the rules. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT FOR THE EMPLOYEE INSURANCE BENEFITS, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion.

Discussion

Mr. Pulskamp asked the difference between non-embedded and embedded. Mr. Zornes said a portion of the deductible was not included in the quote by the agent. Mr. Kobasuk said council agreed on something different last Tuesday. Mr. Zornes recommended looking for a different broker for next year. In order to not feel rushed in making a decision, Ms. Hueber said we definitely need a new agent who can get the information to council prior to the deadline. Council agreed. Mr. Pulskamp did ask about the co-pay for prescriptions. Mr. Zornes said Ms. Everett could better answer that question more thoroughly since she met this last time with the representative; Mr. Zornes was not present at that meeting. As of Friday, July 31st, the employee's coverage will end. Mr. Pulskamp asked if we could add an additional month. Mr. Zornes said he asked and according to Keri, they won't do it month-to-month. Mayor Cosby said we cannot allow letting the coverage lapse on the employees. In order to make an informed decision, Mr. Zornes and Mr. Pulskamp will meet tomorrow with Fran Patterson to choose the best plan for the employees and the village. At the August 11th council meeting, Mr. Pulskamp suggested council take another look at the deductible to look at the village not paying out-of-network. Mr. Evans said Keri and Fran Patterson need to be present at the next meeting. Mr. Kobasuk said in the future council needs to be provided with more time to consider making an informed decision. Mayor Cosby said for the record, he asked why we weren't given more time and the insurance broker gave us these numbers right before the last council meeting. Mayor Cosby questioned why numbers cannot be provided to council sixty days in advance.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to amend the Resolution for the village to not pay out-of-network deductibles. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Burns-No, Mr. Evans-No,

Discussion

(Ms. Hueber said with two voting no, the employees will be without insurance.) Mr. Evans said he does not like doing things this way.

Chief Synan said the employees came last year and asked for this to go to Human Resources last year. Chief Synan said not to take this out on the employees that the broker made a mistake. Chief Synan said it is time we get a new insurance broker and this go to the HR Committee. Mr.

Burns said we need to have a special meeting and talk to the Fran tomorrow. He said he is certainly not going to make a decision and throw tax-payer money away when we can still vote on this before Friday, July 31st. Mr. Kobasuk said the employees cannot be kept hanging without health insurance. Mr. Kobasuk said we either have a special meeting or we pass the resolution tonight. Mr. Zornes will contact Fran Patterson; he and Mr. Pulskamp will meet with her tomorrow.

Council will have a special meeting Thursday, July 30, 2009 to discuss the health insurance.

Mayor Cosby stated for the record for Mr. Zornes to have this on the calendar next year for April 1, 2010. Mr. Zornes said he had asked Ms. Everett about this months ago and she said she did not have the information yet that Fran had not gotten back to her. Mayor Cosby suggested the first thing is to get a new broker and make sure by April 1st, at the latest, council has numbers to look at. Mr. Zornes asked for council's backing in filing a formal complaint with the Ohio Insurance Board against Mrs. Patterson. Mr. Pulskamp said definitely since we have written proposals.

Mr. Zornes rescinded the motion. Ms. Hueber rescinded the second motion.

Council Minutes

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve 7-14-2009 council minutes. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve 7-21-2009 special council minutes. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. Mr. Burns-Yes, Mr. Evans-Abstain, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Ms. Hueber-Abstain, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes. Motion Carried.

Human Resource Committee

Mr. Zornes called a HR Committee meeting for August 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss employee supplemental insurance options. A representative from Liberty National Insurance will be present.

Martin Marietta Issue

Mr. Kobasuk asked Solicitor Miller about the resolution for Martin Marietta he sent to everyone. Mr. Pulskamp said it was voted on and approved at the September 9, 2008 council meeting. He asked since this was done once why would we need to do it again. Solicitor Miller said it was a motion and everyone else had passed a resolution. Mr. Kobasuk said this is a resolution.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to suspend the rules to move to adopt this resolution against Martin Marietta. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. Mr. Burns-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-No, Mr. Evans-No, Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to have a First Reading of a RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE MARTIN MARIETTA MINING PROJECT IN ANDERSON TOWNSHIP.

Discussion

Mr. Kobasuk said this resolution is very important for the village and hopes the people support this, many of his neighbors do. He said we have to stand united and firm against the mining issue.

Mr. Zornes seconded the motion to the First Reading.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to have a Second Reading of a RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE MARTIN MARIETTA MINING PROJECT IN ANDERSON TOWNSHIP. Mr. Burns-No.

Discussion

Solicitor Miller said it is not critical to pass this. He said he had the minutes where Mr. Kobasuk had made a motion and someone seconded it, but said it never was voted on. Mr. Kobasuk said

he doesn't see the opposition to this; if we want to protect our residents, what is the hard of doing a clear resolution opposing this mining project. Mr. Kobasuk said he thought it was well put together and probably was better than the ad-lib motion done last year. Mr. Pulskamp said right now there is a five-yes with one-abstaining and if we go for the resolution there will not be a 100% clear council because he has done a lot more homework since then and he can see a lot of benefits. Mr. Kobasuk said then people should know where he stands; people are up for election. Mr. Kobasuk said let the people know where people are coming out on this; this is a very important issue for the Village of Newtown.

Roll Call: Mr. Burns-Yes, Mr. Evans-No, Mr. Pulskamp-No.

Solicitor Miller asked Mr. Evans if he was abstaining; he abstained on the last motion. Mr. Evans said he doesn't have an interest in it whatsoever.

Roll Call for Second Reading (Continued): Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Ms. Hueber-Absent. Motion Carried to have a Second Reading at the August 11th council meeting.

Valley Avenue/Intersection at Church and Main

Mr. Burns asked Mr. Pulskamp about the telephone line being moved at the traffic light at Valley. Mr. Pulskamp said we are at the mercy of Cincinnati Bell and they are aware of it. That is totally out of the contract, Mr. Pulskamp said. Mr. Burns also asked about the intersection at Church and Main. Mr. Pulskamp stated Mr. Brandstetter told them to go with it; he was unsure of the timeline of ordering the arm but believes it will be four-six weeks to get the arm in.

Ivy Hills Reserve Update

Gallenstein began work yesterday; Mr. Pulskamp drove through and very little work has been done. Mayor Cosby asked who was following up on the inspections. Mr. Pulskamp said, Brandstetter. Mayor Cosby said to make sure Mike Spry is in the loop also. Mr. Pulskamp said he will talk to Mike.

Finance Committee: Mr. Evans called a meeting for Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Signs along Little Dry Run

Mr. Evans spoke to not being able to read the signs along Little Dry Run and a few other areas that are overgrown due to the recent. Mr. Pulskamp will have maintenance address these areas.

LMFR Fire Board

Mr. Burns reported the Fire Board will meet tomorrow to pass a resolution tomorrow evening to send forward a 2.3 mil bond issue to the auditor to certify for two new fire houses. Once the numbers come back they will have a certified resolution on exactly how much the assessment will be on taxes. Mr. Burns said he did state to the Fire Board that he felt now is not the best time, but the board is moving forward. Mr. Burns said he is all for the fire department, but does not believe the right time is now. He said they are still applying for stimulus money to purchase and build a new fire house in Newtown. The board members did vote unanimously to move this forward. Mr. Burns will not be present at the board meeting tomorrow night. He said there was a problem with the language; they had put it as a levy instead of a bond levy. It was written wrong. Mr. Burns said this will certify the funds from the county auditor. Mr. Kobasuk asked what we pay now. Mr. Burns said it is currently 7.9 mills, plus a 2.3 mill, which would go over 10 mills.

Newtown Post Office

The regional Postmaster is looking into possibly closing the Newtown Post Office. Mr. Burns said there are flyers that can be filled out opposing the closing of the post office.

Mr. Burns made a motion for the village council to oppose the Postmaster closing the Newtown Post Office and for Solicitor Miller to prepare a resolution to present to the Postmaster. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Fire Department

Mr. Evans said when he left the last council meeting he noticed four guys in the back talking and lifting weights and working on whatever. He said he has seen other places like Amberly Village

where the policemen do firemen duties and everyone chips in. He said since the guys are there anyway it seems that they could help pick up some brush here and there. Mr. Evans said it is just an idea to keep cost down; it might be worth discussing.

Mr. Burns said it is a fair point; the only thing is to remember the service level would go down if that would happen. One can only wear so many hats. Mr. Burns said Oakwood does it where eight hours of the day they are firemen and eight hours of the day they are a paramedic and eight hours of the day they are a police officer. Mr. Burns said we have the guys there to be able to respond at your ready at a moments notice. They have to be there to spend some time. Lifting weights is actually an essential part of the job; you want them to be healthy to actually come to your home, Mr. Burns said. Mr. Evans said everyone in the whole town is tightening their belts. He said when he sees certain places getting sub-contract work with people coming in mowing their grass and then these guys get to go walk around the track so what is the better response time if they're there mowing grass or at the track running around. Mr. Evans said exercise is exercise. Mr. Evans said we spend a lot of money for our fire department and we need to look at different ways to have them help the village. Mr. Burns will take the concern to the next fire board meeting.

Executive Session

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss possible land acquisition; Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Mr. Burns-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Ms. Hueber-Absent. Motion Carried.

Council reconvened at 7:58 p.m.; no action to be taken as a result of Executive Session.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Burns.