

The September 11, 2007 meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor John Hammon, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Councilmembers:** Curt Cosby Mark Kobasuk  
Doug Evans Debbie McCarthy  
Tracy Hueber Ken Pulskamp

**Mayor:** John Hammon  
**Solicitor:** Doug Miller  
**Fiscal Officer:** Keri L. Everett  
**Chief of Police:** Tom Synan  
**Street Commissioner:** Charlie Siegel (absent)

**Catherine Fitzgerald, Hamilton County Development Corporation**

Our contract expires this month with the Village of Newtown. I have outlined some of the things we have completed for the village. The first issue is business-retention meetings. I've contacted most of the major employers and met with those that were willing to meet with me. We met with Meridian several times; they wanted to meet with state representatives and such. I know that is a company that is very important to Newtown. We have also coordinated meetings with the state of Ohio. I've outlined some concerns that were brought up in the business-retention meetings. We have updated the site atlas and we have a list of the developers that we provided the sites available in Newtown. We've done this a number of times for Newtown. We list the listing agent; we're not trying to take anyone's commission; it's just a public service that we provide to try and promote some vacancies in the village. Obviously, the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) has been setup. I have a comprehensive book of all of the relevant paperwork. The information that is passed by the state of Ohio, the maps I have done both residential and commercial applications for the CRA. General economic development assistance, hopefully you all are aware of the coordination I have done with the Greater Anderson Chamber of Commerce. They have come out and contacted pretty much all of the businesses in Newtown and invited them to meet; we meet the second Tuesday, like your council does. There was a meeting this morning. I used to work for the City of Cincinnati and am very accustomed to working with business districts. I feel it is a very pro-active group with very good ideas. They have developed sub-committees. Parking is one of the areas of great interest. The issue that there has been a plan that is roughly ten years old, there is a sub-committee that would like to look at the economic development aspects of the plan; in coordination with council. The businesses certainly don't want to do anything without coordinating first with council and they really want to focus on the economic development issues. There is a special-event sub-committee; they are looking at holding some special event with upcoming holidays, sleigh rides perhaps. They have even tossed around the idea of doing something at the time you have your tree-lighting ceremony. At least initially they would like to be updated with what is going on with the transportation network here. We'll get someone from the county engineer's office for the January meeting. I will say, since this business association has started meeting, I have received a lot more calls on the CRA on business expansion, on possible business loans. There has been a lot more activity as a result of this group meeting. We do have a loan office within HCDC. We do have a new business assistance guide; its kind of nice, just in terms of any businesses wanting to expand some of the programs that the county offers. As I stated, the contract with HCDC has expired. I'm happy to continue to do the work. The CRA has been set up; we've met with a lot of the agents that have properties here. I did help the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, with Keri's assistance, get the list together to try and make sure all of the businesses are included. A lot of work with those kinds of things has been completed. I think if you chose to renew a smaller contract, what would make sense would be to be involved with this business association group. The mayor and I talked about maybe doing something about one-quarter of your current contract; in the neighborhood of \$5,000 to \$6,000. That is totally up to you. Any questions?

**Ms. Hueber:** When is our committee formed?

**Mayor Hammon:** The CRA Board will meet the first Thursday in October.

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** Either way I am happy to come and talk to the group and let them know what their responsibilities are.

**Ms. Hueber:** How many people are on it and who?

**Mayor Hammon:** Once the board meets they have the right to appoint two. I two, council two and then the boards two; no council members are on it. We picked Barb Greve, and Daryl Foster, which I have not talked to.

**Ms. Hueber:** I think we need to put a letter together to tell them the board is formed and they need to meet on Thursdays.

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** It is actually two members appointed by the mayor, two appointed by council and two additional members chosen by the four.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** Who are the four members currently?

**Mayor Hammon:** It is Barb Greve, Daryl Foster, Brian Burns and another gentleman I had picked who is now unable to be on the board so I have to find someone else in the next few weeks. The board has to pick people too.

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** One thing I did say I would report back to the business district on is if it is okay with council that they review the economic development recommendations in the plan that existed ten years ago. They just felt that was a good starting point. So far the committee consists of me, Randy Smith and Pauline, from Main Street Café. It is totally open to whoever wants to be a part of it.

**Mayor Hammon:** Tell me again the purpose of the committee?

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** It is my understanding that the goal of the committee is to look at the economic development issues in the plan and specifically the economic development recommendations and see if they still make sense today. In other words, to not have to start from zero, but to use the plan as a starting ground to come up with some goals and recommendations that the committee will work on. Is that your understanding Randy?

**Resident Randy Smith:** 7493 Pinehurst Drive

I think this just came out of a genuine interest by the business people that were there to re-energize and revitalize a downtown Newtown business plan. Mainly, the appearance of what the downtown area looks like. They wanted to make sure we didn't bite off more than we can chew because that is a comprehensive plan that goes well beyond Main Street in Newtown. I think it was a sincere and genuine interest of trying to be positive and do something good for the Village of Newtown, without stepping on the toes of the responsibilities of this group.

**Mayor Hammon:** Catherine, back to your contract, I assume you don't have a written proposal for us tonight?

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** I don't; it would be very similar to what I have had in the past. I will propose something one-fourth of what we had, which would be between \$5,000 and \$6,000 for the year. That is totally up to council. I'm happy to do the work. I have definitely enjoyed my work in Newtown, but I certainly understand if the budget is tight.

**Mr. Evans:** It's tight.

**Mayor Hammon:** I'd like to hear some input from council.

**Ms. Hueber:** I haven't attended of the meetings, it is just in the beginning and I think we should continue at least for another year to get our committee going and to see some more improvement. I'm afraid if it is just left here it could become stagnant. You do seem to keep the ball rolling.

**Mayor Hammon:** I will have to compliment Catherine; it's been a big boost to the village. She has done a lot of hard work for us and a lot of good information has come back. We do sit down monthly and share information. Mike is our CRA administrator and with him leaving we will have to train a new individual, so I'm a big supporter of it. I appreciate the fact she came to me and said she could reduce her time and reduce the cost.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** With this being the first year and trying to get everything done and the people from the bank was here at the last meeting saying low interest loans are available for the Newtown area. Everything combined could be a big bonus for us.

**Mr. Evans:** We need to keep the positive push going forward I think, but also do whatever we can to keep the fee down. It might have been a little bit too high to start with and maybe if you cut it a little bit for us this year might help everything.

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** I will tell you just to set up a CRA in a community we generally charge upwards of \$13,000 and that is just the few weeks it takes to set up a CRA, so we've obviously done considerably more work here than that. Again, we're spread pretty thin; we have three senior folks covering the whole county, so as much I would definitely like to do the work here, I have enjoyed my work in Newtown, we definitely are pretty spread thin.

**Mr. Evans:** Give us a proposal; do the best you can for us.

**Mrs. Fitzgerald:** Okay, sure. Thank you.

#### **Randy Smith, Forest Hills School Board President**

1. Business District Meetings: Those of you who did attend the meetings, it seems to be a positive thing, it doesn't seem to be political, just trying to do good things for the Village of Newtown.
2. School District: I did want to mention that it was announced last month that once again Forest Hills is an excellent rated school district. I believe there are 41 out of 614 school districts that excellent, as well as all nine of our buildings were rated excellent and that includes Mercer. Even our friends here to the north of us in Mariemont can't make that claim. We're in good shape and still remain one of the most cost-effective excellent rated school districts in the area. It is the parent volunteers and the teachers and those folks that are dedicated that really make it work.

#### **Dave Lorei, Bruce Brandstetter and Carroll**

##### 1. Ragland Road / GCWW

- Original quote obtained was \$14,000, which we thought was high. He obtained a second quote from Hartman & Smith for \$6,000 to do the work. GCWW is asking for cost sharing at 50/50% from the village, so you're looking at \$3,000.

**Mrs. McCarthy:** Why?

**Mayor Hammon:** First off, we don't know why they are doing it. But Bruce and I have talked about it and basically I said that wouldn't happen; and I said but we may share into it if you can show me the advantages to what they are proposing. They are proposing to put another catch basin in and to rebuild an existing catch basin, which would be a plus for us. When they redid it they did the whole road and not just the center part they dug up. They didn't patch it in they did the whole road, so we have received some benefit. Bruce and I batted things back and forth and we kind of believe maybe a 75/25% would be more of an appropriate amount of money. That would be \$4,500 for them and \$1,500 for us. That's just where we're at, with Bruce and I discussion with him. I said you have to tell me what the positive out of this proposal. I think there is also some curving in it that doesn't exist today, so we do get some benefits there as part of correcting the problem.

**Mr. Evans:** Would there be any help from the contractor that did it last time to maybe help us a little bit?

**Mayor Hammon:** I think he pretty much did what he was told so I'm sure he was negligent in anyway. This is a different contractor that they got bids from.

**Mr. Evans:** If we're getting a new catch basin and doing a couple of things, I wouldn't mind the 25%, but personally I wouldn't want to go 50/50.

**Mayor Hammon:** I know. I told Bruce no way, so he has expressed that back to Pat Arnett; 50/50 is not an acceptable amount that we're willing to share. We've got to get this fixed.

**Mr. Evans:** Can we do that and see what they say? We need to get this fixed before winter.

**Mr. Lorei:** Yeah, we can contact Pat Arnett.

2. 2007 Asphalt Improvements, Moundview Park

- Bid Tabulation was presented to council on 8/14/2007.
- Pre-construction meeting was held 8/29/2007.
- Construction is scheduled to start tomorrow, 9/12/2007, pending contract approval.

3. SR 32 Interconnect

- BCI attended pre-construction meeting on 8/21/2007.
- Site meeting was attended on 8/29/2007.
- Schedule dated 8/21/2007 is attached for your information.

4. Round Bottom Road Grant Application

- OPWC/SCIP Pre-application submitted 7/11/2007.
- MRF Application was submitted 8/31/2007, attached.
- Traffic counts were taken on Round Bottom Road, w/o 9/3/2007.
- OPWC/SCIP applications are due 9/21/2007, authorizing resolution approval 8/28/2007.

**Mayor Hammon:** That was passed a month or six weeks ago.

5. Miscellaneous

- Pavement Management Study update is attached, sorted by composite number.
- 2006 Newtown Bridge Inspections – see attached. The Drake Street bridge is in poor condition with severe deterioration and delaminating of the bottom of the bridge deck. The bridge is near the end of its useful life and will soon need to be replaced or rehabilitated. We have some ideas of submitting that for an OPWC/SCIP application this year to sort of get in the works. My thought is it is probably going to be somewhere \$100,000. We're bidding out one now in Troutwood; it's 24 feet wide with a 9 foot span. The Drake Street one is 15 feet. It's about \$125,000 installed; that is for everything, not just material cost. It's ripping out the existing bridge and replacing the new one, backfilling, asphalt restoration and so forth. Without giving an exact cost I would say around \$100,000.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** We're a little bit away from that. Do you have any ideas what we're going to do for traffic in that neighborhood?

**Mr. Lorei:** I think Dave Stenger talked with Charlie. There is a private drive; I have not gone to see the bridge and I know that is a concern with that being the only way in there. I believe there is a private drive in the area that has been used in the past.

**Mr. Evans:** Isn't that John Russell's driveway?

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Yes.

**Mr. Lorei:** Has that been used? Would that be acceptable if that was the only access?

**Mayor Hammon:** I'm going to say, no. It has been used unofficially; there is a chain link fence that someone cut to allow cars to go through when there was a fire at Meridian years ago. Bruce and I talked about if we potentially do something like that we would probably have to repave his drive or something along that line. We have never talked about the duration of it. Bruce said if we have to do something like that we'd include that as part of the project in trying to get SCIP money. We also talked about a pedestrian bridge going up and try to get the church to allow people to park there and let the kids come out because to alleviate any problems with busses picking up the kids. What do you think Dave; two or three weeks, because they'll have to tear it out? I think there is a gas line somewhere in there.

**Mr. Lorei:** It would probably be at least that long. I think the issue now is if we want to go ahead and get this thing in the works and do an OPWC application for this year

**Mr. Evans:** It doesn't cost us anything to get the application in, right? It would be silly not to, right?

**Mr. Lorei:** Correct. If it does get funded this year you can take a look at the budget and you could always decline if you wanted to, but I think getting it into the works now is the correct thing to do.

**Mr. Evans:** If we do get the funding it will be like an 80/20?

**Mr. Lorei:** That's up to you. 0

**Mayor Hammon:** I think it's the minimum, isn't it 80/20?

**Mr. Lorei:** Some do 90/10.

**Mayor Hammon:** Generally, the more you go is the better chance you have.

**Ms. Hueber:** If we try today for 90/10 through this year and if we didn't get it then we'll try for 80/20 next year.

**Mayor Hammon:** The only comment I have is I wouldn't get too greedy. There is very much sensitivity to the bridges and what happened in Minnesota, there is a lot to the forefront now and that may go away as time goes by. If you don't get funded this year it might get harder.

**Mr. Evans:** I talked to Bruce this afternoon and he said we probably should at least try to get something going on it.

**Mr. Cosby:** Are you talking about like box culvert like we've done on some of these other bridges?

**Mr. Lorei:** Like I said, I have not visited the site, but you can certainly do that.

**Mr. Evans:** I think that would be the best; you can dig it out one day and put it in the next day.

**Mr. Cosby:** I can't see it costing \$100,000.

**Mr. Evans:** It will be over \$50,000.

**Mr. Lorei:** You're correct; you can do a box culvert in two or three days. I haven't had a chance to talk to the gentleman I work with on that; we'll go ahead and visit the site and I think he'll give us a good idea. They specialize in the box culverts.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** When we do that we need to look at widening it.

**Mayor Hammon:** My first impression is yes you do because there is really no pedestrian part of it. It's 15 feet for two cars and a lot of residents have asked about taking the hump out of it too. This is something I gave Bruce about one and a half weeks ago to start looking into. They are scrambling; I gave them some time to let them look at and get their costs together and let them put a proposal together. Dave, are the SCIP applications due in December?

**Mr. Lorei:** I think they are due soon.

**Mr. Cosby:** What ever we have to do to get it done let's get it done.

**Mr. Evans:** Yeah, let's get it moving.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** I think we ought to tell Bruce we need to widen it and take the hump out also, at least part of it. It has been a problem for years, but I think it definitely needs to be at least 5 feet wider.

**Ms. Hueber:** They had talked when the development was going on at the end of Drake about widening the road by covering up the gullies. It was going to go underneath the roads, remember?

**Mayor Hammon:** Yeah, that was all proposed to try and take the sidewalks around.

**Mr. Lorei:** We don't need a resolution for that?

**Mayor Hammon:** No. The consensus is we'll pursue it. We'll always pursue extra money for us.

**Mr. Lorei:** That's all I have unless you have any questions. Thank you. I appreciate your time.

#### **Moundview/Sea Brook Paving/Ivy Hills Blvd. Paving**

**Mayor Hammon:** We cancelled the last council meeting and we didn't the ordinances passed for the signing of the contract for the paving of Moundview, Sea Brook and Ivy Hills Blvd. I'd like to have a motion to get it adopted.

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

**Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 24-2007 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FOR THE 2007 PAVING IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.**

#### **Audience Participation**

##### **Residents Danny Pletz, Stephen Page and Alex Boyd**

We're here about the skate park that we came here and talked about a long time ago. Do you guys have any plans for that?

**Ms. Hueber:** We don't have the money right now. We need to get bathrooms at Short Park before we put in a skate park. It's a great idea, but we have other things we are putting ahead of a skateboard park.

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** As we skate in Newtown, like everyday the police have pretty much driven us out of Newtown. We've went to Mariemont.

**Ms. Hueber:** Have you gone to the skate park in Anderson?

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** It's on Beechmont and we're in Newtown. We're 15 years old and don't drive.

**Mr. Cosby:** I've looked into it.

**Ms. Hueber:** Why don't you guys get a fundraiser together?

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** We've done that. The police officers say we can skate in Short Park so we made our own ramps and kept things in the woods hidden away and it was vandalized. It goes on and on; everywhere we go people just call the police and they tell us to find somewhere else to skate.

**Ms. Hueber:** That's because there are skateboards that skate upon the rails and break all of our boards and they break the chairs. We've had a lot of bad experience with skateboarders ramping up on stuff and breaking things in the park.

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** We're just asking the bare minimum for a skate park; a concrete square and two ramps, an equivalent of a bathroom, for us.

**Ms. Hueber:** You guys put a business plan together and see exactly what you need; do a study of it. If you can do something for \$5,000, then maybe you do this and we could put something together and dedicate it to you guys.

**Mayor Hammon:** I do know Tony Hawk has a foundation and he gives grants away for this type of stuff. That's another opportunity the village needs to explore when we start talking about the dollars.

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** I've heard Mr. Cosby has a plan?

Mr. Cosby: I don't have a plan to speak of; I've talked to some companies about what they could install for us. These companies were talking \$200,000 to \$300,000 for an elaborate skate park.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** The City of Loveland just opened up a skate park about two or three months ago; they spent a little over \$60,000 on it and it was a basic thing and half of the stuff is falling apart already.

**Ms. Everett:** I was going to say that and you might want to talk to Charlie; the first thing that is going to happen is it is going to be vandalized because everything down at Short Park is vandalized.

**Mr. Cosby:** If you have something like Anderson and I did talk to Bruce Brandstetter, our Engineer and I think he was involved with the one at Anderson. That is a concrete deal there which is kind of hard to vandalize that, but it is pretty expensive.

**Ms. Hueber:** It is also out in the open at Anderson.

**Mr. Evans:** What about liability?

**Mr. Cosby:** There is no extra liability as far as the parks.

**Mayor Hammon:** As long as you maintain safe conditions.

**Mrs. McCarthy:** Is there anyway you guys can check out Tony Hawk as far as getting a grant?

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** How does this happen? I've never heard of this Tony Hawk thing?

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Do a Google research on the internet and look for a Tony Hawk grant.

**Mayor Hammon:** I think it is the Tony Hawk foundation.

**Mrs. McCarthy:** Once you find out you can print it off and bring it to council.

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** All right.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** I would love to see something; we've talked for years about doing something small like a basketball court going up River Hills Drive on the right hand side, right above Meridian in the green space we own there.

**Residents Pletz, Page and Boyd:** Thank you.

**Resident Kenny Patterson:** 6835 East Plum Street. I'd like to know if anything is being done about Frank Baker. I was here about six weeks ago with a petition and I don't see anything happening.

**Mayor Hammon:** I can't speak for council, but I talk to Dick Weber frequently and I know it is in the works.

**Chief Synan:** He has been cited to court.

**Solicitor Miller:** He has been cited to court; one of the charges carries jail time so he is entitled to a jury on that charge, which he demanded. It is downtown and I'll be honest with you; one of my associates is handling it and I it hasn't been that long since he has been down there. He has four cases I think that were sent downtown to municipal court. If you want to call me tomorrow I can tell you the status. The last I heard it was just going for arraignment, but it may be scheduled for trial.

**Mr. Evans:** Kenny, most of us have looked at it; I have looked at it. I know it has been there for too long.

**Mr. Patterson:** You know how long it has been going on, so I'm going to be up here until something happens; until he takes something out of his front yard.

**Solicitor Miller:** I had him in court 15 years ago.

**Ms. Everett:** Have you checked with the Health Department because they gave him a deadline too?

**Mr. Patterson:** The Health Department was getting back with us and then they told us they started working with the village, which scared me.

**Mayor Hammon:** Now wait a minute; you've asked for our help?

**Mr. Patterson:** I've been asking for your help

**Mayor Hammon:** I know Dick has worked with him.

**Mr. Patterson:** John, you know how long this has been going on.

**Mayor Hammon:** I know Dick has been in contact with the Board of Health, Health Department, etc.

**Mr. Patterson:** The only thing I can do is keep coming up here and keep asking. Thanks

#### **Mayor Hammon**

1. **Hamilton County Storm Water District:** Every year we have kind of received this at the last minute and agreed to pay for it out of our general funds. This year we have it and council needs to decide whether we want to continue to pay for it out of general funds or put it on the residents' property taxes. We need a decision tonight.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** We talked about it and we are one of the very few communities that pay 100%. It is like a \$6.80 per year on their property taxes. This is \$16,000 out of our budget and as tight as it is every year and it is getting worse. I think we should pass \$6.00 to \$7.00 per year on them.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** I just have a problem raising taxes after these people have had the fire levy, the school levy. Maybe reach out to them and get some community discussion about it.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** We have to make a decision by September 17<sup>th</sup>. If \$16,000 helps us prolong going after income tax on everybody for a little longer.

**Mayor Hammon:** You have six days.

**Mr. Evans:** Kenny, I agree with Mark. They are kind of paying for it anyhow.

**Mayor Hammon:** Kind of; it is an unfunded mandate from the State of Ohio, so they basically put it on us and the taxpayers.

**Mrs. McCarthy:** Are they Keri?

**Ms. Everett:** Are people's property taxes paying for all of the services that they give them in the village? Absolutely not!

**Mayor Hammon:** We took in from the budget about \$190,000 between the property taxes.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** I know Anderson Township passes this on to their property tax bills; Mariemont is under property tax bill.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** We're a better place to live; we don't tax it.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** We're eventually going to keep giving and giving....

**Mr. Kobasuk:** Maybe you look into it next year.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Well we said that a few years ago.

**Mayor Hammon:** This is the first time we have had notice; we talked about it the last year.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** We seem never to get the notice in advance.

**Ms. Hueber:** Let's just take a vote instead of arguing about it.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** They always give us a very late notice and we have seventeen days from the time we receive it.

**Mr. Evans:** John, I think it is just nickel and dime stuff. I'm already paying once; I don't want to see something else.

**Mayor Hammon:** Doug, I'm going to get on my political ban-wagon; as the state mandates more and more of this to you, how much can you absorb? When I've heard Tom Brinkman stand up and say, "I'm not going to pass anything that increases people's taxes," their thought is if they can hand them off to the municipalities, villages, cities, then it is our problem to collect the money to raise the taxes. Our state legislator is pushing it all onto you, the funding, somewhat.

**Ms. Everett:** You don't have a choice.

**Mayor Hammon:** Make a motion; take a vote.

**Ms. Hueber:** No matter what the taxpayers are going to pay. Whether we pay it and cut back on something else because we're not collecting the money or we pay it and we don't cut back.

**Mr. Pulskamp made a motion for the Village of Newtown to put the Storm Water Service Fee on the property tax bill. (No second) – Motion failed due to lack of second.**

**Mr. Kobasuk made a motion for the Village of Newtown to pay for the Storm Water Service Fee from the General Fund. Mr. Cosby seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-No, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.**

**Ms. Hueber:** When we're out of money; we're out of money.

**Mr. Evans:** Tracy, I agree with you too, but it is just one of those things where.....

**Ms. Hueber:** There will come a time when we don't have the money in the budget; we obviously don't get a skate park.

**Mayor Hammon:** As I said, you collect \$190,000 in property taxes; there goes \$17,000 to \$18,000 of it right there. There is 10% of your property taxes gone.

**Ms. Hueber:** There is always the thought later down the road if we have to have money then we're going to have to explain to people why they are going to now start paying for their water.

#### **Mayor Hammon** (continued)

2. **Executive Session:** I would like an executive session for employee compensation and discipline.
3. **Building Commissioner:** Interviews will be Thursday night at 6:00 p.m. I have invited the Planning Commission to sit in and Mike Cornette will also be there.

#### **Fiscal Officer Keri Everett**

1. **Resolutions:** You have a resolution for fire hydrant repairs. You have a resolution for transferring some funds. You have a resolution to update the code again; I think she said there was 101 updates and gave a dollar amount of \$4,000 and wanted me to let council know that this is a discounted rate of \$500 to \$1,000.
2. **Moundview Porches:** I tried to get three estimates and received two. We did it in two separate projects because the Civic League is picking up the existing porch repairs. We're only paying for the new porch and as long as it was under \$25,000 you do not

have to bid. That is why I tried to get three estimates and tried to stick with people in the village.

**Councilmember Tracy Hueber** (Fire Hydrants)

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

**Ms. Hueber made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 25-2007 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH QUALITY HYDRANT REPAIR, INC. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THREE (3) FIRE HYDRANTS, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (AMOUNT WILL NOT EXCEED \$12,000.) Mr. Evans seconded the motion.**

**Discussion**

**Ms. Everett:** I did talk to Chief Driggers and it is going to be less than that; the district is going to share the cost of replacing those three fire hydrants. He said those bills will be split accordingly. The \$12,000 was an estimate for all of it; I thought we were responsible for all of it.

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

**Mr. Evans:** John, make sure Newtown gets the scrap for the scrap value out of the old ones.

**Mayor Hammon:** All right.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Or at least the old hydrants and then we can take them down to Round Bottom Road and scrap them.

**Councilmember Ken Pulskamp** (Moundview Trees)

We had talked about thinning some of the trees behind the ball field and on the side in the curve at Moundview Park. I had two estimates; Wessling came back with the best bids and proposing an estimate of \$1,750 to \$2,600. It is going to be a time and labor thing and once he gets in there thinning them out until Charlie thinks it is good enough to allow some more light in there to dry things up. It is still actually wet in there. It will prolong the new pavement that is going in there.

**Mr. Evans:** Who was the other bid?

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Shawnee Trees on Round Bottom. It is not cutting any trees down; it's just thinning.

**Mr. Evans:** Curt, you've been up there a bunch; it needs it right?

**Mayor Hammon:** This is a recommendation from Bruce and Dave Stenger.

**Mr. Cosby:** I'm not quite sure why this isn't coming through Parks. It hasn't been brought to my attention in any way, shape or form.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** It was brought up at this meeting Curt, by Bruce.

**Mr. Cosby:** As far as getting bids, or walking it or anything like that, nothing!

**Ms. Hueber:** Does this have to do with the Street Commission or is it in the Parks?

**Mr. Cosby:** The whole thing is in the Park, even the street is in the Park. It is all Park. It is not street. Regardless, it needs to be done.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Here, do you want it?

**Mr. Cosby:** I'm not arguing the fact that it needs to be done. I'm just saying it should be coming through Parks and it is not.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** I am a Park board member and I'm also Street Committee Chairman. I'm sorry Curt; I thought it was more a street thing with Charlie dealing with it.

**Mr. Cosby:** I'm not here to argue about it.

**Mayor Hammon:** I don't necessarily think it is Parks, as much as it is Maintenance in part of the project. I can respect both opinions.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** Charlie is going to be there the entire time supervising; it's the maintenance of the parking lot, maintenance of the entrance driveways of the park.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** Maybe just involve Curt next time.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** That's fine.

**Mr. Kobasuk:** Both, two heads are better than one, I guess.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** It wasn't like this hadn't been discussed opening at this table.

**Mr. Cosby:** That's fine; let's just move with it.

**Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$2,600 for Wessling Tree Service for thinning trees around the ball diamond at Moundview, as necessary, directed by Charlie. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**American Legal Publishing**

**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 RESOLUTION 26-2007 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD**

**READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.**

**Mayor Hammon:** Charlie talked to me a while back about a tree on Plum Street that is in the right-of-way, if not the roadway and the branches are falling. He would like to see it removed.

**Mr. Pulskamp:** We actually got prices to do that and went back down there with four different people. The tree is very healthy; it is probably one of the largest sycamore trees around the Cincinnati area. We all agreed that the tree does not need to be taken down. It loses branches and that is the nature of the tree shedding. It is a tree that I don't think we want to lose in this village; it's a very large sycamore tree. I talked to Charlie about it.

**Councilmember Doug Evans**

**Mr. Evans made a motion to approve Checklists for 8/28/2007.**

**Discussion**

**Mr. Evans:** Keri, this \$9,000 for Mike Cornette, is that for the plans for Moundview Park construction?

**Ms. Everett:** Construction drawings and his regular fee, yes.

**Mr. Cosby:** Do you know the price of the construction drawings?

**Ms. Everett:** What you already approved through council. I don't remember off the top of my head.

**Mr. Evans made a motion to approve Checklist for 8/28/2007, in the amount of \$42,328.98. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Mr. Evans made a motion to approve Checklist for 9/11/2007, in the amount of \$29,624.51. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Mr. Evans:** Bruce and I went down to the Church Street creek a few Saturdays ago and I don't think anything was ever done. Ken, I think we should take Charlie down there and show him what it entails to see if he would want to tackle cleaning underneath there. We have a few months to get it done before the weather gets too bad.

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

**Mr. Evans made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 27-2007 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND A TRANSFER AND RECONCILING THE BUDGET AND AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2007, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.**

**Councilmember Tracy Hueber**

Doug, I have a question. Daryl Zornes may have some input. When we are using the court funds for Lorna's things, like the computers and I remember Daryl touching on this a little bit. When the person is doing the court stuff so the computer can be paid for out of that fund and anything else. Do you know exactly what can be purchased out of the funds for the courts?

**Solicitor Miller:** Not off the top of my head.

**Ms. Everett:** I think it is computerizing only, not her salary, not supplies.

**Ms. Hueber:** What about a table for the computer? Do you remember any of that Daryl?

**Mr. Zornes:** Table, no. Computers, computer peripherals, software. No ink cartridges or supplies.

**Mayor Hammon:** There is a letter that Megan Donnellon wrote very explicitly and gave us an opinion, so let's don't work it here.

**Councilmember Mark Kobasuk**

We have to have a meeting of the Planning Committee to go over the next version of Dick's ordinances we are reviewing.

**Councilmember Curt Cosby:** (I have nothing to report.)

**Councilmember Debbie McCarthy**

I have two sets of minutes to be approved.

**Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to approve council minutes for 6/12/2007. Mr. Cosby seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to approve council minutes for 7/24/2007. Mr. Cosby seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Ms. Hueber made a motion to enter into Executive Session, at 8:38 p.m., to discuss employee compensation and discipline. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Mr. Cosby left meeting at 8:38 p.m.**

**Council meeting reconvened at 8:55 p.m; no action to be taken as a result of Executive Session.**

**Ms. Hueber made a motion to adjourn council meeting at 8:56 p.m. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

Transcribed by Becky Fairley