

The April 26, 2005 Regular Meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mayor John Hammon, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Tracy Hueber Ken Pulskamp Doug Evans
 Solicitor Doug Miller Greg Thomas Debbie McCarthy
 Police Lt. Tom Synan Fiscal Officer Keri Everett
 Police Chief Daryl Zornes Street Superintendent Charlie Siegel

Ms. Hueber made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy to hire Spencer Bischoff as a full-time police officer for the Village of Newtown effective May 12, 2005. All aye, motion carried.

Mayor Hammon swore in Officer Bischoff as a full-time police officer.

Mayor Hammon interviewed the applicants for the open Council seat.

Mr. Curt Cosby, Ragland Road

Mayor Hammon: Mr. Cosby, why are you interested in the open Council seat.

Mr. Cosby: I am interested in the Council seat because as most of you know, I've been in government before. I'm interested in the direction the village goes and I'm interested in helping to get in that direction.

Mayor Hammon: Give us a general overview in what you would bring to Council and name your best strength and describe how that would bring value to Council.

Mr. Cosby: I think what I would bring to Council is experience in the government, having served on the Planning Commission, having served on the Board of Zoning Appeals, having been a Councilmember, Vice-Mayor and Mayor. I think all of that experience would be the strength I would bring to the table.

Mayor Hammon: Okay. What do you see as the future of Newtown and what would you like to change and why?

Mr. Cosby: I would like to see the future of Newtown as continued growth. I think the Village center, the historical part of the Village, I would like to see more detail given to that. I'd like to see some detail given to recruiting some new businesses and trying to further expand the businesses we have currently in the Village. I'm sorry, what was the second part of that question, your honor?

Mayor Hammon: What would you like to change and why?

Mr. Cosby: I don't know if there's anything I'd really want to change other than continue to grow and continue to increase our business base in the Village of Newtown.

Mayor Hammon: Okay. Have you worked in a group setting? If yes, please describe your role.

Mr. Cosby: Well, I've put about ten years into the Village government so I'd say that's a group setting.

Mayor Hammon: All right. The council seat will require approximately 15-20 hours per month, generally in the evenings. Is this a problem for you to give this amount of time?

Mr. Cosby: No.

Mayor Hammon: Do you have any restrictions on your availability?

Mr. Cosby: No.

Mayor Hammon: At this time, do you have any conflicts that would impact your role as a

Councilperson?

Mr. Cosby: No.

Mayor Hammon: Since a convicted felon cannot hold office, are you willing to sign a release for a background check?

Mr. Cosby: Certainly.

Mayor Hammon: Okay. This is a question that was important to a lot of Councilpeople. At this time are you planning to run for Council in the November election?

Mr. Cosby: Yes.

Mayor Hammon: Okay. Anyone else have any questions at this time?

Council: No response.

Mayor Hammon: Thank you for your time.

Mr. Evans: One other question, Curt. You're currently working now as a realtor?

Mr. Cosby: Yes.

Mr. Evans: For who?

Mr. Cosby: Huff Realty.

Mr. Evans: Thanks.

Don Kraus, Seabrook

Mr. Kraus: I'm a resident of Newtown for about 2 ½ years now. We immigrated here with my two children from Mt. Lookout simply because we felt the quality of life here is better than in Mt. Lookout and the school system is better. We like the fact that Newtown seemed to be more family-oriented than Mt. Lookout did. There a lot more opprotunities for families.

Mayor Hammon: Okay, why are you interested in the open Council seat.

Mr. Kraus: I've kind of dabbled in local poliictics for about five years now. I think it's kind of important to find a place you like and take the time to give back to it so you can maintain the quality of life. Too often we hear people complain about things but never willing to put the time or effort forward to do anything about it. I think it's important that if you have an opinion that you need to stand behind it with your actions, as opposed to just your words.

Mayor Hammon: Give us a general overview in what you would bring to Council and name your best strength and describe how that would bring value to Council.

Mr. Kraus: I suppose my best strength would simply be my vitality and my willingness to do whatever is asked of me. Being on the younger side, I bring youthful exuberance. I'm willing to listen to anybody's opinion. I don't come in with a pre-based bias about how things should be. Basically, I'm willing to weigh all sides of the issue before making a decision. A lot of times people make up their minds before an issue is discussed. I don't think that gives fair balance to things that need to happen in the community where everybody needs to be represented.

Mayor Hammon: Okay. What do you see as the future of Newtown and what would you like to change and why?

Mr. Kraus: The future of Newtown, I'd like to continue it along the line it is. Obviously, growth is inevitable, change is inevitable. But, I think the most important thing is to do that change so that you maintain the quality of life and the things that brought people to Newtown in the first place. One of the things that I've noticed is that the general perception outside of Newtown is that it's a sleepy little 'burg that doesn't have much to

offer, kind of a backwater forgotten place on the map of Cincinnati. Having lived here for 2 ½ years, you realize that's not true and it kind of gets aggravating that the only time you see Newtown in the media is when there's a murder on the river or Mayor Hammon: Okay. Have you worked in a group setting? If yes, please describe your role.

Mr. Kraus:

Mayor Hammon: The council seat will require approximately 15-20 hours per month, generally in the evenings. Is this a problem for you to give this amount of time?

Mr. Kraus: No.

Mayor Hammon: Do you have any restrictions on your availability?

Mr. Kraus: No.

Mayor Hammon: At this time, do you have any conflicts that would impact your role as a Councilperson?

Mr. Kraus: No.

Mayor Hammon: Since a convicted felon cannot hold office, are you willing to sign a release for a background check?

Mr. Kraus: Yes.

Mayor Hammon: At this time are you planning to run for Council in the November election?

Mr. Kraus:

Mayor Hammon: Anyone else have any questions at this time?

Council:

Mayor Hammon: Thank you for your time.

Mr. Evans: One other question, Curt. You're currently working now as a realtor?

Mr. Kraus: Yes.

Mr. Evans: For who?

Mr. Kraus: Huff Realty.

Mr. Evans: Thanks.

Citizen Input

Police Chief Daryl Zornes

Street Superintendent Charlie Siegel

Police Lieutenant Thomas Synan

Fiscal Officer Keri Everett

Councilmember Tracy Hueber

Councilmember Ken Pulskamp

Councilmember Doug Evans

Councilmember Debbie McCarthy

Solicitor Doug Miller

Mayor Hammon

Mr. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy to adjourn the meeting.