

bank deposits batching and catch-balancing. Mail, we open, sort and process forms. Data entry, auditing of forms. We recently issued your 1099-G's; that is any credits or refunds issued throughout the year and that is a mandate for the IRS. You have to issue that form and those are all done for you; that is all part of this \$24,000.

Compliance: Billing of taxes and estimated payments, we bill for any outstanding balances and if there's quarterly estimates due, your residents will be receiving a reminder from us. Compliance, you're always going to have those who do not file and do not pay. You are participating in the subpoena and legal programs and there are additional costs for those and that is because not all communities want to participate in those. When we run the subpoena program, we send out auditors that come in on-site with laptops and they fill out forms and take payments right here in the village hall. Before that happens, part of what is in your \$24,000 charge, we do bill on a regular basis with adding in penalty and interest. We have a collection team that says until 8:00 p.m. one night a week and they dial phone numbers making a last ditch effort to get someone set up on a payment plan before we have to take them into court proceedings. We skip tracing through the credit bureau, again we will file the lawsuits if that is what you choose and we will attend court hearings for you. We also handle your bankruptcies, any proof of claims, all we have to do is get a copy sent from us, which Keri sends us a copy and we do all the filings and proof of claims. We take MasterCard and Visa payments over the phone and on the internet.

Legislation: The House Bill HB95 was probably until recently, the biggest piece of legislation that we worked on. The president signed the bill in December 2006 allowing R.I.T.A. to receive access to the IRS information. The compliance while we will still need to do the billing grunt work, we will still need to dial for dollars and file claims in court and the compliance will become much easier. Basically, now when we get someone that is non-responsive to a subpoena or non-responsive to our delinquent letters, we'll probably be established with everything with the IRS by 2008 and we'll be able to contact the IRS and ask for a copy of their tax return. That tax return will include all schedules and W-2's and we'll be able to bill off of that.

Technology: Our technology is set up such that Keri can have access to all of the tax information, all of the tax records that we flag as Newtown. The internal R.I.T.A. employees can see every account there, but she could see that so if somebody came in and needed to know what was going on with their account she could see that information. She dials in through the internet until it goes through a VPN line, which is similar to a tunnel. It's password secured and multiple locations and once you're in she has an option to go into the tax system and that houses the tax files, it houses notes that the employees are putting on those files, balances, and the like. She can also note if she is having a communication with the taxpayer so that we know what is going on. Another piece of this new technology is a tax administrator form viewer and she can see any of the returns that correspond with that account. All of the returns are now being imaged as well as the supporting documents, the schedules and the W-2's and these are available to her as well right at her desk top. We also released an I-File Pro, where the E-File can be done by the taxpayer themselves; the I-File Pro allows the tax administrator to file a return electronically and receive a confirmation back within a minute and print that off for the taxpayer that is sitting there in your office.

Mr. Kobasuk: Lori, what could we do better, in a way of collecting taxes ourselves? Do you have any suggestions?

Ms. Gischel: We've really tried to put everything into place most recently and you guys have been very receptive to that. I really encourage the subpoena and legal programs; by participating in these programs, you're sending a message to your residents that we do want everyone to abide by these codes and this is our way of enforcing this. Will everyone owe? No. It's my understanding that you're also looking at that; right now you have full credit, so those that are filing or living here, but maybe working in a city a higher percentage or the same rate as you, they're not going to owe anything, but they still do have a filing requirement with you. I don't know if your ordinance allows for a late filing fee? We also encourage that because that would cover those individuals that maybe are just refusing to file, they don't owe anything, but when they come into our subpoena program, they are more than covering our cost of running that program by paying a \$25.00 late fee and some cities have a \$50.00 late fee. At this time, I would say that Keri has been proactive with us and I think getting that information back to council, as to maybe what some changes that could be made in the ordinance. We also look at your minimum estimates due; that will help drive costs down. A lot of time villages will have no minimum in place there, and then each individual, even if they owe \$10.00 would receive a quarterly billing. It's not cost effective to send those out, unless you really need that cash flow. That's another thing, being part of R.I.T.A., we will and we have from time to time, we do distribute your money to you twice a month. You know your village better than anyone; you know if there is a special project going on. If we receive information on a particular project we like to have is the general contractor's information sent to us and historically, they are very good about working with us giving us a list of subs and from there we send out registration information and forms those contractors need.

Mr. Evans: The municipalities that you work with, how many of them give full credit?

Ms. Gischel: I don't know the exact percentage but I will get a percentage to you. I deal mostly with the central and southern Ohio cities and most of the suburbs of Columbus have a reduced credit; reduced of some sort, particularly the villages because there is no business base there to support the services. Sometimes if they want the police, fire department and sometimes sewer or whatever you need revenue from somewhere to generate that. Obviously, you can add it on as property tax, you can use the income tax and the reduced credit for the income tax a lot of times is favored I think because you're not tapping into your retirees, your fixed income residents. You're also getting the money from the businesses that are in town, as well as people that are coming in here providing services and maybe do not live here. You're collecting for those services, but that's a decision you as council needs to make, you're collecting for those services that are provided; are you going to try to charge everyone that has access to those services or do you only want to charge the residents?

Mr. Evans: Who doesn't have to pay R.I.T.A.'s tax?

Ms. Gischel: Retirees, that is part of Ohio Revised Code, does not allow us to tax pension income, military pay and some cities exempt underage eighteen.

Mr. Evans: What about people that work at a church or a school?

Ms. Gischel: Yes, they are taxed.

Mr. Evans: When you were saying that R.I.T.A. can go to the federal IRS information, can they also see the state IRS?

Ms. Gischel: The state information, we currently pay for that information and that was part of our position to the IRS and to Congress was that information, while valuable to us for registration purposes, the state return captures, it starts with the adjusted gross income from the federal return and by doing so when you start with that figure. That figure already has items in it that we're exempt from taxing or items not in there that we do tax. Your ordinance comes to back to and that's probably another important point for me to note is that while R.I.T.A. is one big organization, we are nonprofit formed, again as that council governments. We do administer the ordinance as it is written, so you as council and your administration ultimately have the authority here. We're just administering what the codes are that you are passing and writing. For instance lottery is one of the items, that is not uniform across the municipalities throughout the state. That is one the cities if they want to tax it they explicitly state that in their ordinance. But, our systems allow for us to administer for a municipality such as yours that has a full credit rate where another municipality would not have a full credit rate. We see a lot of fluctuation with penalty and interest rates; some people use an 10% penalty, 18% interest; others use the state rate.

Mr. Evans: How do you go about finding out who is renting somebody's property? We have a lot of apartments here now and many people might live here for six months and don't know we had income tax and move.

Ms. Gischel: That's another item we can address in the ordinance and I believe was already done. You have in place a landlord clause; they are required on a regular basis to submit a listing of tenants and those are then forwarded to us and we have an entire team that works strictly registration documents. We use Criss+Cross Haines directory and they send us regular updates on deeds and apartment listings.

Mr. Evans: What do you do about a business that has a lot of employees, are they required to file too?

Ms. Gischel: Yes. If the business is located here or if they are not located here but have employees doing business within your taxing jurisdiction, they are required.

Mr. Evans: So, it's not up to us to find them, it's up to them to pay it, if they don't know about it.

Ms. Gischel: Correct, that's why we try to educate as much as we can so from time to time we try to encourage an article in the newspaper reminding people it is filing season and time to file your Newtown and R.I.T.A. tax return. That's why with the businesses, if there is a project, we like to get in touch with the general contractors because that's always worked well for us in the education process and us getting out to those sub-contractors early on that they have an obligation here to file and pay. Once we get that information and a lot of time what we gather from the general contractors we do get the EIN numbers, so once we have that we automatically set up the account and then they are in the system and they'll go through the registration process and then we'll send out forms if they fail to comply and then they would go into the compliance side of things. Are we going to get 100% compliance? No.

Mr. Evans: How far back can you go?

Ms. Gischel: If they fail to file, it is considered fraud and you can go back unlimited, right now generally the statute is three years. Same thing for filing, once you know the liability it's three years from the date the liability was established that it would need to go into court proceedings and that's why we're anxious to get that started for you so we can get those outstanding balances. The ones that we already know owe or have said they owe, we'll get those into court and get them filed. Once we receive a judgment in court, we do have a third party collector that we work with and they have given us what we call the "R.I.T.A. rate," which is 18%.

Mr. Evans: Of what they collect?

Ms. Gischel: Yes. That's on any post-judgment work. Has Joe talked to you about entering into that?

Ms. Everett: Yes.

Ms. Gischel: That reads very low for legal services and they are referring to it as the "R.I.T.A. rate," but they're doing that because of the volume with 130 cities that we contract with them for.

Mr. Evans: Keri's been awful busy a lot of times and sometimes we just don't have enough hours of the day really to do everything, would there ever be a way when you could maybe send somebody down to help us?

Ms. Gischel: If you like, we can do a tax preparation day. We actually do that in Lockland; we will be there in February. We can send somebody down where they could come in and we have a representative to fill out their tax returns and do the preparation at no charge. The residents are not charged for that either. If the residents want to call we will walk them through. We just sent out sample notices to other cities to include in their utility billings or anywhere they can get it out there about the E-File. The more we encourage everyone to use that it is going to help to get everything processed quicker, drive down the costs of those documents. We also have an auto-calculator on the website, they can go in and plug in their tax information and it will calculate the tax for them, they print off the form and mail it in.

Mr. Kobasuk: You mentioned that landlords submit a list of tenants, how do you get them to do that?

Ms. Gischel: The same as what we've done with you. It's an ordinance, it's in your ordinance and there are penalties that are attached to that for failing to.....We have a team of people in our registration department and they are working those.

Mr. Kobasuk: How do we get the list from the landlords? We have tenants moving in and out and don't tell us.

Ms. Gischel: That's what the lists are for and that's what the landlords are required to do; if the landlords are failing to do that, which that's what we're hopefully helping to police. Once we get the list we know of your landlords that are sending the information and which ones aren't. That goes back to communication between R.I.T.A. and the village, who are those landlords and what are their addresses. Once we identify that, the list is then monitored; are the landlords complying with the ordinance? If the landlords are not complying that would be then when we would assess those penalties for failing to comply.

Mr. Brooks: To monitor businesses and apartment buildings, if the village knows those addresses, is it the responsibility of the village to send that form to them that the landlord is responsible?

Ms. Gischel: That would be something R.I.T.A. could do on your behalf.

Ms. Everett: Yes, I send the list to her.

Ms. Hueber: I know in Fairfax and Norwood something comes from their town hall on all of their rental properties. We do have in place where the landlord can be fined.

Ms. Gischel: Those letters should all typically be coming from us; the registration letters once we receive the list from Keri on those residents or tenants would then receive a registration letter from R.I.T.A. that they have a filing obligation and that they need to complete this form and submit it back to us. Along with that, same as when they receive a non-filing notice or subpoena, it always gives them the option if they feel they don't need to file then tell us why or provide documentation they might be exempt.

Mr. Brooks: We submitted the form or we called it in and we did not get verification from R.I.T.A. that they had received that form.

Ms. Gischel: Right, the landlord would not receive verification back that we received that information. You would only receive something if we feel that for some reason that form was not filed timely.

Mr. Brooks: If a landlord rented property to a business that would a two-edge sword that they would follow-up with that business.

Ms. Gischel: Correct.

Mr. Frank Baker: What can you do if you find out that the tenants are illegal immigrants and it appears that they are working?

Ms. Gischel: I don't know that we've had that happen before. We would probably need to somehow refer back to the village.

Mr. Baker: Who is responsible for enforcing the situation?

Ms. Gischel: It would not be R.I.T.A.; we are only here to collect the taxes.

Mr. Baker: If they are tenants and working to earn an income, illegal means illegal.

Ms. Gischel: Right and we would collect taxes from them because they are living and or working here, which is what we are hired to do and that is what we administer. That is the code section we administer. I would look probably to your police chief.

Lieutenant Synan: Only the federal government can enforce immigration laws.

Mayor Hammon: Thank you for your time.

Mr. Evans: You don't have any percentages of the properties we have of the people that pay and don't pay, do you?

Ms. Gischel: I don't have a breakdown on strictly rental properties; we would have a breakdown for you readily available of what residents and businesses are filing. We could give you percentages of who is delinquent, as well as who is paying and who is delinquent on payment. That's where your subpoena program comes into play for the individual. I do have your individual delinquent information here with me and that was from your subpoena program in 2005. There were 449 letters mailed, there was no response to 331 of those and they received a subpoena. At that time, there was liability established of \$19,574 plus penalties and interest of about \$22,000 and that was from the one subpoena program that was run. So, you're doing all of the right things and now that we have the IRS information it is only going to increase the compliance.

Resident Donna Brooks:

1) Crull Street No-Parking:

What is the status of the no parking in the Crull subdivision?

Mayor Hammon: I have to get with Mr. Miller to talk about what no parking really is defined. Is it the right-of-way, is the edge, what is it really? How far deep on a property as we going to enforce it, that's the bottom line.

Mrs. Brooks: What is a parking pad and what is a front yard or a side yard or a yard in general? Granted there is not as much parking in the driving lanes now; that is much improved. There are still no white lines on Plum Street, they are every place else in the subdivision. We seem to have spent all of this time on it and there are still signs up every fifty feet. It seems to have come to a standstill.

Mayor Hammon: I will take the heat. I have not sat with Mr. Miller; he came in one day and I had to leave and we didn't we get back together. It's simply defined out. West Plum has an irregular edge of road down through there and that's one of the reason it wasn't done and then we'd have to go back and scrape it up if it was wrong.

Mrs. Brooks: Are the signs going to be changed to say no parking between the white lines?

Mayor Hammon: No. This council turned that down. It is absolutely 100% no parking. That's why I felt it was very important we get the definition of where you could and couldn't park on the roadway before the letter went out and we could tell people that.

Mrs. Brooks: The driving lanes are much better; people are not parking in the driving lanes as much, but it seems to have moved them to backyards and side yards. They're staying on the outside of the white lines, but again what's a parking pad and what's a front yard? It's just a question. There is an ordinance against parking on paved areas in front, side and back yards, right? Is a gravel pad sufficient?

Mayor Hammon: Do you agree with that Tom? She said you can't park in grass areas.

Lieutenant Synan: Well, has been some definition of what a front yard is and some of that is not all parking there, some is gravel and there are some zoning issues.

Mrs. Brooks: Does the area have to be paved in a back yard to park cars on it or is a gravel pad sufficient?

Mayor Hammon: It's my belief you can't have gravel. Mike Cornette would know.

Ms. Hueber: If gravel was already there and grandfathered in you could refresh it.

Mayor Hammon: You can refresh gravel; you can't put it down.

Ms. Hueber: People can't just pull back there and park now in their back yards any where because it has to be a paved surface.

Mrs. Brooks: But, there is a house on Crull Street that brought in several tons of gravel and is parking several automobiles on it in the backyard.

Mayor Hammon: Due to any litigation, I have no comment.

Mr. Kobasuk: That's in litigation?

Mayor Hammon: I said pending.

Mrs. Brooks: (Continued)

2) Joe Berger's Old Property:

What's going on behind Joe Berger's old property on SR 32? They've hauled in piles of dirt and raising the level that is going to create a situation with water and the creek. We've seen dump trucks and all.

Mayor Hammon: I will talk to Mike; I have talked to him before about it and they swore to Mike that there's nothing going on and nothing being added to the site; that they are just leveling it out. I was told there is a landscaping company storing stuff in their shed there and they are just cleaning it up in return for payment.

Mrs. Brooks: (Continued)

3) Storage Problem in Crull Subdivision:

There seems to be a problem with a number of people storing tables, bicycles and piles of things behind their houses. Do we need to take pictures?

Mayor Hammon: Dick Weber is the one you need to talk to; he is here on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Keep in mind, there is a fine line between junk and a mess.

Engineer Bruce Brandstetter: (Handout)

1) Short Park – Rest Room (ODNR): (Photos)

ODNR has a grant application program; I think you all have a copy of the resolution. It's got to be postmarked February 1st; two-thirds state and one-third local funding program. There is only about \$140,000 available for Hamilton County. We've done a couple of these with grant money in some other counties. We've been using pre-cast, pre-constructed concrete restrooms and they work out pretty well. The photos show several options and prices. We could put a couple of vents at ground level for water to drain; but I don't expect that area gets flooded much anymore, but you still have to comply with FEMA. Doug, this is not like Issue II, they've asked for a whole bunch of stuff, just bare with us that is the normal procedure. We do have to show proof of ownership of the property, if you have some deeds on file or a survey.

Mr. Cosby: I'd just like to get a resolution passed tonight that we can get this thing moving.

Mr. Pulskamp: How much is it going to cost to do the grant application?

Mr. Brandstetter: We'll just do it.

Mr. Evans: Can't we tell you right now which way we want to go on it?

Mr. Brandstetter: No. If you want to go \$60,000 of it, ask for \$40,000; the whole county only gets \$140,000. It's a lot of paperwork and a small amount of money, but we do it for our existing clients as a service.

Mr. Evans: We need one so we ought to do it. Bruce, just get it done.

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

Mr. Cosby made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 01-2007 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWTOWN TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR STATE ISSUE ONE FUNDING, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN AMERGENCY. 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. Brandstetter: (Continued)

2) Church Street Construction:

- Construction is substantially complete
- Any necessary restoration type punch list items will be addressed in Spring 2007.
- We're working with R.A. Miller to do final quantities, final payments.
- Comments have been made about the location of the stop bar at eastbound SR 32, in front of the old Arnold station. It got pushed back; the mast arm had to be on the west side of the intersection. On the east, you've got that main transmission line in front of Main Street Café, it just wouldn't work. The other choice would have been to put a mast arm on the far side and drag it all the way across the street from north to south. The distance from the stop bar to the mast

arm is the minimum distance that it can be; it got pushed back about 20 feet, there was no room to put it on the other side.

Mr. Cosby: The problem with that is your stop bar and then if you move up to make a right turn then you're in the intersection; you're in no man's land, you don't know what's going on because you can't see the light.

Mr. Evans: Do you get a ticket when you go pass that line?

Lieutenant Synan: I know some people don't agree with it, but I think it's really good it is back there for the safety issue. The point is, you have to stop at that white line, but what is going on is people just go ahead and go pass the white line then they say they can't see the light. The law is to stop at the white line and guess what, you can see the light.

Mr. Brandstetter: What if you turn left?

Lieutenant Synan: You're not supposed to go past the white line. It has also helped with blocking the intersection. I think safety-wise it is a lot better. I do agree that when you're making a right-hand turn, but you're suppose to do that with caution anyway and since it's been like that we haven't had any accidents.

Mayor Hammon: We made the point to Bruce; let's work it at some other time.

Mr. Cosby: Southbound on Church Street, there is a telephone cable or something going right through that light; you don't have a clear view of that light. It's right in front of that bank of lights and it obstructs the view.

Mr. Brandstetter: I go through there a lot and I've never had a problem. We'll take a look at it.

Mr. Evans: What about coming down the hill and you're turning right and it doesn't say anything about no right turn on red, but the other lane coming from the dairy, they have an arrow to turn left onto SR 32.

Mr. Brandstetter: Right turn on red is to be done with caution.

Mr. Evans: My whole thing is I'm up there before; they used to not have a left turn arrow. You're pretty much underneath the light so in order to turn right on red you kind of guess a little bit.

Mr. Brandstetter: Caution is the word, if it's not safe maybe you should just wait until the light turns green.

Mayor Hammon: Do you want to make a motion to make it a no right turn on red?

Mr. Evans: I'm not going to.

Mayor Hammon: This is the same issue we had at Riverhills and Round Bottom; we realigned it, you can't see it. I know Bruce had it as no right turn on red and with Meridian and everyone else I just said let's make it turn on red, so everybody is aware of it and cautious of it.

Mr. Brandstetter: Those lights haven't been in all that long.

Mr. Brandstetter: Church Street, Phase II (Continued)

- Closeout documents need to be finalized with OPWC, MRF. Keri, I put MRF because they do require some closeout information now and I think they submit to you. I've never done it before, not that we can't do it but it's probably something, they've been very generous and we'll need to stay on it and if you need some help, call Dave Stenger and we can work our way through it.
- St. John Fisher gave us an easement to put some of the drainage structure on their property then we needed to execute the easement after they gave it to us.

3) Traffic Signal Interconnection:

- Plans have been revised and forwarded to ODOT for bidding (Note – revision was to allow for radio interconnect in lieu of hardwire due to Duke Energy.)
- Bid Opening is scheduled for Spring 2007 with construction to be completed later in 2007. Next correspondence you will probably get is what the cost of it is in the pre-construction meeting.

4) River Hills Subdivision Curb Improvements:

- Bid Opening scheduled for February 16, 2007.
- Council review and approval of bids scheduled for February 27, 2007.

5) ODNR Grand Application: (Re-Cap, discussed above.)

- Grant applications are due to ODNR on February 1, 2007.
- Funding is two-thirds ODNR, one-third Village.
- Program is very competitive, \$140,000 in funds are available from ODNR for Hamilton County in 2007.
- Resolution is required, along with property ownership documentation with the grant application. Typically, ODNR follows up with a request for additional information in June.

6) Round Bottom Road Improvements:

- Project was not funded at the district level, but was forwarded on to OPWC for possible Small Government funding. Typically, awards are made in the Spring.

7) Ragland Road / GCWW:

- Meeting was held with Greater Cincinnati Water Works at site on December 19, 2006. They committed to submitting several alternatives. BCI to follow up. We will follow-up; someone will be here your last meeting in February.

Mayor John Hammon:

1. CRA Housing Board: Council needs to make a decision on who the reps are going to be for the CRA Housing Board. I've been working on mine so we do need to make a decision so we can put that board together.

Mr. Kobasuk: Do we have a list of tentative candidates?

Mayor Hammon: I do know of Barb Greve and Daryl Foster and Heather Patton.

Solicitor Miller: While you are on that subject, there are some recording requirements that you are required to do; I believe before March 31st.

Ms. Everett: I believe Mike has already done them.

Mayor Hammon: I talked to him and he has.

Mr. Miller: I don't think there was anything to report this year because I don't know that there were any applications.

Mr. Kobasuk: Does council appoint two or three?

Mayor Hammon: I nominate two and council nominates two. Planning Commission puts one on the board and that will be Leo Honebrink and those five members can add two more.

Ms. Hueber: There was a guy in here from Ragland.

Mayor Hammon: That is one of mine.

Ms. Hueber: At one point we talked about requirements, property owners, and business owners. John has one and that was the gentleman that was here one time.

Mayor Hammon: He just got back to me a couple of days ago.

Mr. Kobasuk: John, can you tell me who the candidate is that was here?

Mayor Hammon: Brian Burns on Ragland.

Mr. Evans: Heather wants to and we have two others so we can just get this done.

Mayor Hammon: Council nominates two and I nominate two, so if you want to take two and make the motions and do it.

Mr. Evans: Daryl.

Ms. Hueber: Daryl Foster and Barb; they are both property owners.

Mr. Evans: They are both property owners and residents.

Ms. Hueber: And business owners.

Mr. Kobasuk: What about Heather?

Ms. Hueber: Are you a property owner?

Mrs. Patton: No.

Mr. Kobasuk: Why do we have to have property owners?

Mr. Pulskamp: Because I think if they are making decisions for this village you should have a vested interest in the property of this village.

Mr. Kobasuk: I think you can't discriminate against renters; you've got to consider them too.

Ms. Hueber: Both Barb and Daryl have renovated properties and both have lived here too for a while.

Mr. Evans: I'm sure we have plenty of room for Heather; it's not like we don't have room.

Mr. Kobasuk: She shows up for the meetings; she is showing an interest.

Mr. Evans: Exactly.

Ms. Hueber: That would be three; how many more do we need if we put Barb and Daryl?

Mayor Hammon: You guys get two. Someone needs to make a motion for two people and we'll take a vote on it.

Mrs. Patton: Either way, my feelings won't be hurt.

Mr. Evans: We'll still get you on.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to appoint Daryl Foster and Barb Greve to the CRA Board.

Discussion:

Mr. Kobasuk: What about Heather? I'm just trying to figure out how this all plays out? I'm not sure how she is going to get on? You've got Leo from Planning, two from council and John you're going to appoint Brian Burns and somebody else. Is Heather acceptable to you?

Mayor Hammon: I will sit and talk to her.

Ms. Hueber: Let's just appoint our two. He seconded it.

Mr. Pulskamp: That whole group gets to appoint two also, right John?

Mayor Hammon: Yes.

Mr. Kobasuk: I'd like to know how it's going to pan out before we vote.

Mr. Pulskamp: It's not our choice.

Mr. Kobasuk: Yes, it's somewhat is your choice; you can look at other folks.

Mayor Hammon: Mark, as I was looking for some professional people, but the fact that the two people has talked about to me are business owners. I was looking for purely homeowners, people that are not in the business community to have another look at the board. Some of the people I was originally recruiting heavily, I backed off of.

Mr. Kobasuk: I'm just looking for some adversity; Heather is a woman and she has lived here.

Mr. Cosby: This doesn't have to be voted on this evening does it?

Mayor Hammon: There's a motion on the table.

Ms. Hueber: I'm going to go ahead with this because I think these two people are business owners and residents and have been good for the community.

Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-No, Mr. Cosby-Abstain, Mrs. McCarthy-No. Motion Carried.

Mayor Hammon: (Continued)

- 2. Board of Elections:** We have a contract with Board of Elections for this year to use Town Hall as a polling place. It's basically for the May 8th primary and for the general election on November 6th. I'd like for someone to make a motion approving the contract with them.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to approve the contract with Hamilton County Board of Elections. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mayor Hammon: They are having a hard time of getting polling places. I did get a very nice letter from John Williams, thanking us for allowing them to use Town Hall.

Lieutenant Tom Synan:

1. Statistical Reports for 2006:

- List of actual charges and percentages of whether they went up or down.
- Charges that went to Mayor's Court.
- Hamilton County, specific citations that were written and I included the officers involved with some of their statistics. Responded to 4,269 dispatched/officer initiated calls, issued 981 traffic citations, made 167 drug-related arrests, 240 paramedic calls, 560 suspicious persons and arrested 1,004 adults, both criminal and warrants. Our drug arrests are up 52%; however, many of the crimes such as break-ins and thefts and robberies were actually down. Our deaths were down total 83% and our breaking and entering is down 100%.
- Last year, I initiated a program called Traffic Blitz to have an impact on aggressive driving we had seen and also reduce accidents. Our tickets were up 11% due to this program; however, our accidents were down 11%.

Mr. Kobasuk: How is the drug trafficking problem? Is it still an issue?

Lieutenant Synan: Our drug arrests are up 52% and I contribute that to two officers on duty, at each time and they also are very proactive. I think the reason our thefts are down so dramatically and our break-ins are down so dramatically is because we are so proactive with the drugs. Many communities, for example Over-the-Rhine, you have robberies, break-ins, thefts because of the drug-related activity. Many of our break-ins in the past have been results of people using narcotics, along with robberies. We've tried to be more pro-active, be visible and let the drug users and dealers know that we're out there and I think it's paying off. You don't have the associated crime with it.

Lieutenant Synan: (Continued)

2. SWAT Team: I have also been in the process of trying out for the Hamilton County Police Association SWAT Team. I went through a firearm qualification and completed physical and psychological testing. I have been accepted to the team. My hope is that it opens the doors to the Village of Newtown receiving a great many resources. Hopefully, being on the team we'll have the SWAT Team, their equipment and their expertise here more often. I am a tactical officer; basically, I do the entries, the perimeter, help with search warrants, hostage situations and those types of things.
3. Police Cruisers: One cruiser came in Friday; it is at Camp Safety being equipped and then it will go for graphics and we're hoping to have it back by the end of next week. Another cruiser is scheduled to come in tomorrow and another one a week or two after that. Apparently, it has been the talk of this whole area; several departments are now looking at Dodge Chargers. The State Patrol has even come down and talked to us; their agency is apparently looking at Dodge Chargers also. Mopar magazine, a nationally distributed magazine has contacted Officer Kent Orso, from our department, to maybe do a spread on the Newtown Police Department and the new cruisers. Bethel got one of the cruisers and their gas mileage went down 5.7 miles per gallon. Harrison had originally gone with 6 cylinders and 1 Hemi and the Hemi actually gets better gas mileage than their 6 cylinders and also the Ford. Hopefully, the same thing will happen here.
4. SAGA Organization: They go to the schools and they work with the media to try to reduce the drug and alcohol use by kids in schools. Apparently, they've wanted Newtown to be a part of this for quite a while. They asked me to be an advisor on their board, which I accepted and they will work with kids from 7th to 12th grades. They will actually come to Newtown and help us with enforcement and assist in getting the word out about drugs and alcohol.
5. Galls Uniforms: I have worked with Galls in ordering our uniforms. They had a free grant program where they will research and write grants for us. I've been in contact with them and they sent me a response and want me to fill out equipment that we may want or need.

Mayor Hammon: You have an ordinance in front of you for a Street Commissioner. Ken, would you like to handle that one?

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 ORDINANCE 01-2007 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING A STREET COMMISSIONER AND CEMETERY SEXTON IN THE VILLAGE OF NEWTOWN, 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 made a motion to suspend the rules. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE 02-2007 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION OF LEGAL COUNSEL, DISPENSING WITH

THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Mr. Kobasuk: Do you now have the meetings two nights a week, besides Council for the Mayor's Court, two nights a month?

Solicitor Miller: We're having Mayor's Court two on the opposite Tuesdays.

Mr. Kobasuk: So, you're going to be coming four nights and you're only going to get \$3,000 more for that?

Mayor Hammon: It keeps the competition from bidding on it.

Mr. Miller: I took into consideration that I now have 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. open on the opposite Tuesdays.

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

Mr. Pulskamp: I also have a resolution approving Supplemental Appropriations.

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

Ms. Everett: There is one correction that Doug Miller pointed out on Page 3, 12/18/2006 from the General Fund to the Equipment Reserve for the Cruiser Equipment and Graphics, to the Equipment Reserve, it should be going into "Transfers In," not "Transfers Out."

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion adopting RESOLUTION 02-2007 A RESOLUTION APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS AND RECONCILING THE BUDGET AND AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mayor Hammon:

1. **Mike Cornette's Contract:** Mike's contract is up and there is a certification program that inspectors have got to go through and he has looked into this; we had a discussion about three months ago. There was one qualified inspector in Hamilton County, to do a certain phase of the inspections. This is a new one and I think it has to be by June, so Mike is actually looking into whether it is worthwhile for him to go through the training and expenses or could we contract it back to Hamilton County. I'm sure more people will come on with Hamilton County, but right now when he looked into it there was only one. He is looking at other options to come back and put his best contract together for us.
2. **Committees:** I'm assuming we want to put them off until next council meeting, so everybody think about it.
3. **Personnel Practices:** Does anyone want to go through them tonight?

Mr. Pulskamp: I think that is going to be longer than what everybody wants to give tonight.

Mr. Kobasuk: Should we have a Working Session for that?

Mr. Pulskamp: I was going to say a Special Meeting.

Mayor Hammon: Right now I have people scheduled all the way through February to give presentations. Carolyn Mosely, Anderson Chamber of Commerce is scheduled to come to the next council meeting. They have been trying to start a chapter in Newtown.

Ms. Hueber: I think they mean a separate meeting, not on a regular Tuesday.

Mayor Hammon: If you guys want to do it that is fine. We'll call a Special Meeting for Tuesday, January 31st at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel practices.

Lieutenant Synan: Are employees still invited next Tuesday?

Mr. Cosby: Absolutely.

Mayor Hammon: (Continued)

4. **Vice Mayor:** We need for someone to be nominated and appointed as Vice Mayor.

Mr. Evans made a motion to nominate Mark Kobasuk as President Pro Temp. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Fiscal Officer Keri Everett:

1. **Liability Insurance:** Doug Evans, you need to make a motion for the liability insurance it expires today.

Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the Ohio Plan Liability Insurance for 2007, in the amount of \$24,859. Mr. Kobasuk seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Doug Evans:

1. **Checklist:** Any questions on the checklist?

Mr. Kobasuk: I have none.

Mr. Cosby: I went over it thoroughly.

Ms. Hueber: The only thing I can say is that is an expensive Christmas meal; we need to cut that back next year. There were a lot of people there for \$3,000; that was a lot of money.

Mr. Evans made a motion to accept the Checklist dated 1/23/2007, in the amount of \$75,423.61. I want to abstain from #4781 because my name is on it. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Puskamp-Abstain, Mr. Evans-Abstain, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Cosby-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Fiscal Officer Keri Everett:

2. Software Upgrade: You all had approved for the software upgrade for Mayor's Court with the police department. I need a motion for \$2,000 more dollars; that would cover a computer cabinet, 16-port router, network cards, memory sticks, cable, miscellaneous hardware, and the labor. They are actually moving it from the wall in the police department and putting it in Tom's office.

Mr. Evans made a motion to approve \$2,000 for software upgrades for Mayor's Court. Mr. Puskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Cosby made a motion to adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

Transcribed by Becky Fairley
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