

The September 13, 2005 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 Present: Doug Evans Ken Pulskamp
Tracy Hueber Debbie McCarthy
Mark Kobasuk

Councilmembers Absent: Greg Thomas

Assistant to the Mayor: David Krings

Solicitor: Doug Miller

Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett

Police Chief: Daryl Zornes

Lieutenant: Tom Synan

Mayor Hammon: Would anyone like to address Council at this time?

State Representative Tom Brinkman: Good to see you all again.

- 1) **Local Government Fund:** Last time I was here we discussed the Local Government Fund, as you know that was maintained in the State at the same levels. Unfortunately, that has been frozen for four years. We are hoping to see a Budget Reconciliation Bill which we should have coming up here soon. If the revenues coming to the State improve, we should look to try and get some relief to local government and library fund because again they have been frozen for about four years.
- 2) **E-Check Facility:** The Mayor called me to discuss the E-Check facility. One of the first things I did when I got up there is vote to end E-Check, it will end here in this part of the state at the end of this year. For us it will be over but it is not over northeast Ohio and we do as a state have to come up with a plan. I'm hoping it will be not as intrusive as E-Check is, I doubt it will be E-Check because people dislike it so badly. But we do have to come up with some plan. Once that is resolved we are looking at hopefully the Mayor's interest in getting that building and getting an opportunity for Newtown to purchase the building or at least be in the running to purchase the building. Private individuals not by the state own it. We were totally screwed on the deal with E-Check because we paid to build the buildings, the taxpayers did and we handed it over to the folks who have Enviro-test and that type of thing. But we still think we can discuss with them being fair and equitable in trying to help our communities who have had to suffer through parts of their property having E-Check there. I have talked to the people in Blue Ash who have an E-Check facility and they could care less, their building is in a place where they could less who has it. There are some communities who are interested in the buildings and we're going to try our best to make sure there is some fair and above-the-table dealing. I met with Senator Bob Schuler, our State Senator on Saturday along with Representative Bill Seitz who is now up in Leadership, he is from the west side of town and we discussed a little bit about that, so we are looking ahead.
- 3) **Municipal Government and Urban Renewal Committee:** There have been very few bills in this committee that really have anything to do with anything, which is sometimes the nature of government. If you folks have anything that you are interested in or you see any quirk in the law that you think would allow you to manage your affairs better, please let me know. I'd be more than happy to either introduce new legislation or try to attach that idea onto an existing bill. Please don't hesitate to contact me as the Mayor did a few weeks ago, I'd be more than happy to look into whatever you might have in mind. Let me give you one example to close. Right now the Council hires the Solicitor, well there's one Village in northeast Ohio where the Council cannot agree on who to hire so now they have changed the law to allow the Mayor to have that option. Little things like that if you see something that would may make your operations better, I'd be happy to pursue that. Any questions?

Councilmember Doug Evans: The traffic situation is not getting any better around here, have you heard of anything that might help us? I know the Eastern Corridor is a Federal thing, does the state have any input into that?

Representative Brinkman: The Eastern Corridor is all I have heard about since I first came in. I met with O.D.O.T., last Wednesday, I went up there with a guy named Paul Naberhaus who is on the Hyde Park Community Council, working to try and get that done. Bottom line, it is going to be a lawsuit with the Sierra Club, friends of Little Miami on the bridge. Once that is decided, I think it will be able to move ahead quickly. That's basically what they're telling us, but it is certainly a project that everybody wants to move ahead up there and in the surrounding communities except for maybe that particular group and we'll just have to get it straightened out. As far as your actual traffic on SR32 and coming through, I haven't heard anything. Weren't there some improvements in the Federal Budget in the Highway Funding Bill? That might have been outside the county. We have a new Congressman, that's understandable, but Portman would have probably been out there talking more about it. I'll find out about that for you Doug.

Mr. Evans: We just want to know as soon as we can here so if there is any way we can have a say in it to make it easier for our residents.

Representative Brinkman: One thing that is obvious, we do have the Issue 2 money that is going to be on the ballot which is the Ohio Public Works, that's up for "Renewal". It's not up for Renewal until next year quite frankly, but they did put it on the ballot a year early on Issue 1 and that could make a difference on funding and those types of projects from a Public Works perspective. I don't know if you guys get into applying for that and what your last project was.

Mayor Hammon: Streets.

Representative Brinkman: Hopefully a "Renewal", the Renewal also has an increase of extra money for that project. That's one avenue you can look at.

Mayor Hammon: We have just received word on the Church Street funding, Church Street Phase II has been funded roughly for \$650,000 for the reconstruction on Church Street.

Representative Brinkman: How many miles?

Mayor Hammon: One-half mile, it's 1.4 million dollars for the project.

Representative Brinkman: We are trying to get old Wooster improved to try to get more people coming over the levy and cutting, instead of coming through here and cutting over the bridge down here to try and get more coming down the hill over the levy and then up Wooster. That would keep them away from Hyde Park and Mount Lookout Square, maybe away from you with the bridge winding their way through SR50. This should help with your traffic. That was one of our main discussions when we met with O.D.O.T. What they are trying to do there is very interesting, these are only done in a few places, they would do an overpass I guess Wooster and Wilmer would go under and have one light and all it would have would be straight, and left hand turn. These are only done I think in two or three places in the state of Ohio. We're talking a thirty million-dollar project to do that. This is something a lot of people are trying to push ahead, but that might relieve some traffic. People would find it speedier to go there and then Red Bank and then up 71. You can only hope. Don't hesitate to call me anytime.

Resident and Business Owner Paul Freede: I here to discuss the opposite, I want more traffic. I would like to know if we could possibly put a sign up on SR32 before the intersection stating, "to get to Nextel for example go through intersection and turn right." I have two tenants who have lost a tremendous amount of business since this intersection came into being. I may actually loose tenants. Could a sign be erected on the state highway?

Mayor Hammon: First we have to change I don't know where you'd put it, there is no place there on the right side.

Mr. Freede: Up by Rack Seven something in that area before you get to the intersection is what I'm thinking.

Mayor Hammon: Alright, I guess I don't see how it's going to help that far down the highway.

Mr. Freede: I don't know, I guess right now I'm grasping at straws looking for anyway to keep from having empty buildings and lose tenants.

Mayor Hammon: I spent an afternoon with Cindy, owner of the Frame Shop and said business is not really down but it's been kind of a weird pattern and she's not really sure now. She did say that during the worse part of construction, she had one of her better weeks. This is what she told me, the thing that came away from our meeting is one of her concerns and I would think Nextel's also is they don't want that island dressed up so people can't see when they come to the intersection. We need to consider that when we dress that island and keep it low to the ground so they can be seen from the intersection.

Mr. Freede: It is like a little maze up there, I'm sure it will get better as you clear up the mistakes that have been made. The low planting is a good idea, I was going to suggest no huge trees.

Mayor Hammon: Anyone else want to address Council? We'll close audience participation at this time.

Chief of Police Daryl Zornes: My Committee Chair has my report.

Fiscal Officer Keri Everett: I think you guys approved the ad for the Property Maintenance position for \$1,000.00. You need to amend it to \$1,500.00 retroactive to the last meeting. The Cincinnati Enquirer bill came in at \$1,035.10. I do not have a dollar amount on the Community Press yet.

Mr. Pulskamp: Actually you have that on the Checklist Keri. \$144.01.

Mayor Hammon: I signed a work order for it.

Ms. Everett: Okay then just amend it to whatever that is. It's also part of a Resolution, we had to move some around and pay for that, that was the first one. The second one was for \$6,000.00 and that's to pay for the Car wash sign.

Mr. Evans: John, that Car wash sign is fine with you?

Mayor Hammon: They removed it. I had Charlie go up and look at it, I assume he put the grass seed down and I just told him to fill in and throw down some grass seed.

Ms. Everett: Until I get things worked out with Bruce, I'm not paying for any of the 32 project. We did however receive the Water Works repayment in full. You have 2005 of the Mayor's report, I am going to go back and do 2004 so I think we should probably okay it as well. The Cingular/AT&T Wireless tower at the Maintenance Barn, they want to redo our lease and make some amendments. I gave that to Doug first so he can come back to you for that.

Mr. Miller: Have you talked to them at all about that Keri?

Ms. Everett: Just about getting their fax number and faxing them the information. The first one was like half of the price of what they are paying now. Then he called and said, "oops, I'll fax you a new one." That's why you have a second one that's a little bit higher of a dollar amount.

Mr. Evans: Why wouldn't it be the same or more? Is it on our property?

Mr. Miller: Yes, five years ago we leased ground to them for a cell tower. The annual rent was \$10,000.00. That was for a five-year agreement. They had an option to renew I think for nine (five-year) terms with a CPI increase.

Ms. Everett: They say they have twenty-eight or thirty cell towers they could possibly get rid of. They made it sound to me that our choice is to accept this or they can just take it down and get rid of it. You'll have to read everything. That was my impression of what he was saying.

Mr. Miller: That may be true if they merged and now could get rid of some poles.

Councilmember Tracy Hueber:

- 1) **Newsletter:** I have 2 and a half weeks to get the Newsletter together. Daryl, I need info from the Police Department and I'll talk to Charlie and the Fire Department. John if you could get your letter together. Anybody else, anything we have discussed the past couple of months. If you all could put your information in my mail box as soon as possible. Hopefully I can get the Newsletter printed up the first week in October so it can go out right after we proof it at our first meeting. This will be our third Newsletter. Hopefully you guys will have some input besides just my input, the Police Department, Fire Department.
- 2) **Police Department:** Grant was approved for the body armor, which helps us save about \$2,300.00. They are reimbursing us for 50% of the body armor.
- 3) **D.U.I. Task Force:** There has also been a grant for the D.U.I. Task Force, they approved 4 hours of overtime pay for our police officers and other expenses that might occur.
- 4) **Short Park:** I checked the paths which we were talking about down at Short Park. The paths are all six foot all the way around and nothing is wrong with those paths. They are more than willing to fix any low spots, Charlie is on the lookout for those. I don't know if the backstop is in yet. I did inform them that they are to seed everything like we request as Council. They have checked the contract and don't see the thing about dirt what you were talking about regarding the sewer line up to the bathroom spot, so John if you can find it.

Mayor Hammon: I have not found it, I found it before, I just have to go back and find it. The wording was they would build it if they had an excess of dirt and they were short. I think I've got an out if I find it. It may not have been in an executed contract.

Ms. Hueber: They are willing to work with us to do whatever needs to be done.

Mayor Hammon: Just let me look for a minute. You've got a copy of the committees. Mark has Parks and Recreation, I'd like for you to work with Mark to get him caught up with what is going on there. He is the chairperson. We can talk about it any time.

Ms. Hueber: Okay, if you guys could get me information for the Newsletter by the 23rd of September, that will give me a couple days for review before I get it to the printer.

Mr. Evans: Tracy, can you put the Halloween date and time in there.

Ms. Hueber: Yes, this Newsletter will cover through the winter. I'll have Charlie do snow removal, Christmas trees, etc because the next letter will not come out until January. This will be the last one for this year.

Mr. Evans: Who organized the firemen and the hay wagon? I know Marty had a lot to do with it.

Mayor Hammon: Civic League.

Mr. Evans: Are you guys going to try and do that again?

Resident Tom Busse: As far as I know, last year we had a concern with insurance and if we have that same problem this year we might decide not to do it.

Mr. Evans: Do you want to try and put a blurb in early?

Ms. Hueber: Can you put something together Tom?

Mr. Busse: I can try but I don't think I'm going to have an answer from the Insurance Agency on whether the hayride will happen this year.

Ms. Hueber: If the Civic League has anything else going on you could put it in there. You could just say, "call us or donations, whatever."

Mr. Busse: We just put up the Christmas decorations, but that's just us doing it. We have no other events happening. I'll try to get something for you. I'll get with our Treasurer who is working with the Insurance Agent. Last year it cost us an extra \$450 to insure that for three nights, we did have it covered by business donations. We were not out-of-pocket, but you still have to keep in the back of your mind who kicks in a \$100 or \$200 when it does come to race time and we're asking for money for the 5K Race. Their thinking, "hey, we already paid you guys \$100.00.) It could affect us, it's just not a very good payoff.

Mr. Evans: I didn't mind helping too, but my kids loved it. There was three or four people afterwards that called me and enjoyed it for those that knew about it.

Ms. Hueber: Can the Village pick up the insurance cost? No difference than a float in a parade.

Mr. Evans: That's what I was going to say, there is very few things the Village does for the kids. Everyone is not going to run in the race, but with this the kids could meet the police officers and the firemen. It was real nice how you guys gave them hot chocolate and them all something and had Santa Claus there.

Mr. Busse: We're willing to put it on.

Mayor Hammon: It's not a Village function, it's a Civic League function, but you could make it a Village function.

Mr. Busse: If you wanted to make it a Village function, then just let Civic League manage it for you. That would be fine, we have no problem with that.

Mr. Miller: How much is it Tom?

Mr. Busse: \$450.00.

Mayor Hammon: Alright, we need to make it a Village function and we can reimburse the Civic League for the cost of insurance.

Mr. Miller: Is this any kind of religious function?

Mr. Busse: No, just a hayride and look at Christmas decorations. Debbie McCarthy is a two-year winner of the award for best display too.

Mr. Krings: You should call the Insurance Agent, if it's a Newtown function there may not be a charge, it may already be covered.

Mr. Busse: We've got a one million-dollar liability policy for Civic League and the Agent said this event wouldn't be covered.

Ms. Hueber: Well, we'll look into it. If you're willing to do it, pick a date and get it to the letter and at least it will be a little more publicized in the Newsletter.

Mr. Kobasuk: Tracy, do you plan to cover in the Newsletter the tax levy in a neutral fashion? We're allowed to do that with some basic facts, aren't we Doug?

Mr. Miller: As long as it's informative.

Mr. Kobasuk: We need to start getting that word out.

Ms. Hueber: Somebody does need to put the wording together, did we talk about it?

Mayor Hammon: It's been in the paper.

Mr. Miller: I'll put something together, I know the important stuff.

Mr. Kobasuk: I think it's important that we get the word out, because people are not in a tax-hiking mode. Once the Mayor explained it, I thought it was a very good case made. If we all kind of have a united position on it, it looks like everybody voted for it just about.

Mr. Pulskamp: Especially with the school district and the levy on the ballot this year, it's a plus too.

Assistant to the Mayor, David Krings:

1) **Hamilton County Development Company:** The Mayor and I met with Harry Blanton and Greg Kathman last week and gave them a tour of the Village. They have outlined on this email as what they see as their immediate tasks and have asked a list of questions. Not so much that you can answer this evening, but that you contemplate the questions and then at a future meeting of your choice they will come in and further develop the economic development plan. Again, there is no action being requested tonight. Any comments or questions, I'll be happy to relay them. Here is the handout.

Mayor Hammon: This handout has some of the critical issues we discussed when we do the CRA. So you need to be thinking about them and come back to Council with the issues so they can go forward with it.

2) **Health Plan Updates:** We have some of the initial responses on the health plan. Hamilton County still has not made it's selection as I mentioned to you last week. Things don't seem to be moving as fast at the County as they have in the past. The plans we have received are from the Center for Local Government and you can see from the handout that the current health plan costs the Village in the neighborhood of \$107,000. The three different options put together that were put together that is the Diamond, Emerald A and the Emerald B, each one of them cuts the cost of the Village from anywhere from \$10,000 to approximately \$40,000. There are substantial savings in the works here. I attached a comparison of the various plans and it is something you are going to have to review and draw your own conclusions as to what is the best thing for both employees and the Village. Literally there are hundreds of comparison points between the various plans and to say that one is equal and the other simply impossible to do. It's a judgment call, some are better in some areas, others are better in other areas and then you have the overall cost to weigh. You'll have a number of different options, for example; you could say we'll take the least expensive plan and pay 100% but give the employees the option to go to more expensive ones. Or you could go to the more expensive one and still save money and have a higher level of plan for the employees. Another option, which I have initiated at a couple of places that I have worked, is that a number of the employees have the ability to get on a spouse's plan. What the Village could offer a monetary incentive for the employee to do that. We have to monitor that closely, you don't want to get in a situation where an employee, you have to especially watch for the really young ones they'll simply take the money and then not get on another plan. That's an option you all should consider. I left a message for you Doug, perhaps some of this should be discussed in Executive Session. I don't think it would wise to do anything immediately until we find out how the county turns out. I think it's likely that the best monetary deal will be from the Center for Local Government plans, one of them. The county plans as I understand it where they are negotiating right now, the increases will range somewhere between 4 and 9 percent. On, the second page where I do the comparison I give you the numbers for what it would cost the Village at 4% and 9%. You can see even with a 9% increase in the county's plan that we would still be saving money in the Village. My suggestion to you all is to review this and if we don't hear from the County by the end of September, I would suggest that we bring in some representatives of the Center for Local Government plans. Bring in three of them and have an "OPEN HOUSE" for the employees so we can get a better view of what the exact impact will be if the Council chooses one of those plans. I think it is important for both the management and the policy makers to understand what the impact would be for the employees. Without actually talking to the employees you can't actually figure it out because there are so many variables here; there might be a particular type of coverage that would be minor on the face of it but major to an individual employee. I'll be happy to take any questions now or follow your directions to a subsequent meeting.

Ms. Hueber: On the plan with the Center for Local Government, will they offer a flex plan like you said, if we opt to pay the lower? When I worked for an Insurance Company, we were given certain amount of dollars if we went higher and if we went on our spouse's insurance, we received a certain amount of money on our paycheck but you had to sign off stating you did have healthcare coverage. If they would opt to pay \$15.00 more a paycheck then they would have Plan B or Plan C. But all those Plans would have to be within the same company, correct? That would seem very flexible. The Center's plans stack up very well against the County's to begin with, the Center also offers Dental, Life and a Disability plan. If we decide to go with the Center, then I think we should look at the other plans. This is complicated enough without adding more and more plans to it.

Mr. Krings: Yes, it is less and less usual to have to governing body pay for the most expensive plan, but in fact if you continue with United, that is exactly what you will be doing.

Mr. Evans: Should this be addressed in Committee?

Mayor Hammon: There are other options, there are some things I have tried to do before. This is not the place to work, we can discuss it in Committee.

Mr. Krings: As soon as you give me direction, Council or Mayor, I'll be happy to follow-up.

3) **E-Check Building Purchase:** I just now gave some material to Doug Miller and I had sent some things to Doug and a copy over to the Mayor. I can email any of you copies if you

want. Finding of the owner of the E-Check building was a major project. The owner is not the E-Check people, neither is it the people listed on the tax records. It's yet a third private firm, which I finally reached the owner of that firm about one week ago. The owner told me that I am the first to have contacted him from the state, locally or from anywhere. It had not occurred to him that that might be a good municipal building. In fact he had already prepared some marketing materials for that building. In his mind, E-Check is going to close and he will be stuck with the building. He didn't mention anything like Representative Brinkman did about how the building was originally paid for by taxpayers money. I'll have to take a closer look at that. I believe the next step would be for the department heads, Doug Miller, myself and the Mayor and whoever else wants to tour the building. I also think we should tour it with an architect. Doug, who did you say?

Mr. Miller: Mike Cornette is our architect. I don't know if you want to get somebody else.

Mr. Evans: What about John Russell, not to say Mike couldn't.

Mr. Miller: Right, Mike is already on, but if you want John to that wouldn't be a bad idea.

Mr. Krings: We should have somebody so we can get a pretty good idea. It's a gut feeling that the building would be ideal for the Village. We should have a step-up from a gut feel as to how much money we would need and how well it would fit into the needs of the Village. At that point, I will be able to go back to the bond houses and to the bank and have a number in mind along with a rough estimate of the cost, which is something they would need if they were going to give us a line of credit. The owner is open at this point to a commitment to an option to buy. He is pretty much wide open, I think he is facing an empty building.

Ms. Hueber: If he didn't pay for it, I'm sure he is not hurting too badly. He would be in a win-win situation.

Mr. Krings: Let me suggest that perhaps we should follow-up a bit on that statement.

Mr. Pulskamp: Find out if they bought the land or the state bought the land?

Ms. Hueber: See what kind of records on that property.

Mr. Miller: My guess there is some type of guarantee that he doesn't lose money, there is probably some type of "out" in the lease.

Mr. Evans: It might be a good idea to lease it for a while with option-to-buy or some kind of contingency, at least we get it tied up.

Mr. Miller: If we could get an option that would be great.

Mr. Krings: Doug is going to be tough negotiator here, I'll make initial contacts and schedule tours. I would ask to either contact me directly or work through Keri or the Mayor and let me know if you are interested. I think we should do this fairly soon. Mayor if you could give me some direction as to which architect you would like for us to work us.

Mayor Hammon: We can bring them both, I know Mike is not going to have anything to do with it. He'll examine it and give you an option, but he is not going to do any design with it because he feels that's a conflict since he works for the Village. That's really not what he's here for, but he will give you an overview opinion. John would probably do it.

Mr. Miller: I knew Mike would know what would have to be done to get it to the point we would need.

Mr. Kobasuk: David, did he share with you those marketing plans, how was he going to market it?

Mr. Krings: Doug has a copy of everything except for the "as built" drawings. I'll contact Mr. Russell.

Ms. Hueber: If you get a date or time with them, could you just shoot us all an email and if we can make it, we will.

Mr. Miller: Let's not have more than three of you there.

Mayor Hammon: We can do it in groups of three, we'd have to call it as a Council meeting if we have more than three and would have to notify the press.

Mr. Miller: You can't have a majority of Council.

Mr. Krings:

4) **Personnel Policies:** I don't have anything to report, frankly I didn't have time.

5) **MSD Sewer Update:** The continuing frustration and embarrassment on my part. Let me start off by saying, "I put in several offers on it today." I'm going downtown for a meeting again tomorrow. I am not going to charge the Village anymore for my time, not until we get this thing resolved. Before Labor Day, I was told by the City of Cincinnati Solicitor's office that they were willing to pay up to the deductible amount of our insurance. I told them that was not acceptable, nor the Village insurer should have to do this. I spoke over the Labor Day weekend with then City Manager, Valerie Lemme, she agreed with my point of view and she is going to take care of it before she leaves office. The Solicitor's office got back to her and to Bob Campbell saying that both would not, could not approve the approach that Valerie would come up with. I received that news yesterday. I spoke with Dave Rager, the new City Manager both yesterday and today. Rager was of course the Director of Water Works and he told me that Newtown should not have to go through they are putting Newtown through. I told them I was sick and tired of coming to Newtown Council and having to say, "just one more day," and then have it fall apart in the subsequent days. This afternoon about four o'clock, an assistant to Rager told me that they have given direction to the Solicitor's office to figure out a way to get this thing done. Part of it, they needed a copy of our insurance so they could satisfy themselves that the insurance could be interpreted in a way that it wouldn't cover. That's if they manage to interpret it that way as opposed to our insurance company, them paying up to whatever isn't covered would take care of the \$10,000.00 claim that I put in. So, I'm going down there tomorrow and assist them in that effort. But again, I am embarrassed about it. This should not have taken as long, it should not be as complicated, but I'm not going to charge you anymore. We're going to get thing done!

- 6) **Evaluation Committee for Various Road Projects:** Late last week I attended a meeting, frankly I was there for another couple of grants I am working on for the other jurisdiction. One of the things on their agenda was a report of the Church Street grant. I took that opportunity to speak on behalf of the Mayor and Council and “Thank” that group for what they did. They basically took Newtown who was last in priority and put them first in priority, through nothing that I did, so that the Village would get that grant that the Mayor announced earlier. I took the liberty in speaking for the Mayor and Council and “Thanking” them, they said they frequently feel the criticism when they don’t choose a project, which in fact they were getting earlier in the same meeting and they felt pretty good about the “good” people of Newtown.
- 7) **Cell Tower:** Maybe you are right with the merger, maybe they are able to go with fewer towers. I just finished a cell tower negotiation with Verizon, not with Cingular and Verizon is paying slightly more than what they were required to under the contract. Here again, if they say they can get away without your tower, ask for the detail as to just how they are going to do that. It’s possible they could do that, but I wouldn’t take it on face value.

Mr. Krings: I will not be at the next Council meeting, there is a conference of the International City County Management Association, 8,000 City/County/Village Managers from around the world. I was President last year and I’m going to be at their conference in Minneapolis at the next meeting. That concludes my report.

Mayor Hammon: We talked a lot about that tower, don’t forget there is one right outside the corporation at the golf course down here. Originally that is the company we negotiated with and they backed out at the last minute. We have two of them extremely close already. One is Anderson’s and I don’t know exactly who that is.

Councilmember Ken Pulskamp:

1) **Zicka Property:** Doug, any word from Mike Zicka?

Mr. Miller: I thought I had sent over here a copy of the proposed deed.

Mayor Hammon: I didn’t get it.

Mr. Miller: They had a provision in there that it remain green space. Is that fine with everybody? It actually is a deed restriction that you would not be able to change without permission from whoever owns the apartments. That’s why I sent it over because I wanted to get a response tonight.

Mr. Pulskamp: I think that’s what we were after to begin with because right now we could divide part of that off.

Mr. Miller: The only thing I am thinking is that is the same restriction we had on this property we had gotten from the county. As it turned out we needed that restriction released and were able to do so, but it would be the same problem if we ever wanted to do anything like that. I don’t know if anybody ever thought at the time with the county that we would ever want to do anything other than park our green space with that. As it turned out, we did. I have a general aversion to deed restrictions, I guess particularly when they are on me that’s why.

Mr. Pulskamp: You’re talking about the property up River Hills Drive?

Mr. Miller: Correct, that is the property I am comparing it to for the example.

Mr. Pulskamp: This property is landlocked, well there is one access from River Hills.

Mr. Miller: If that’s not a problem for you.

Mayor Hammon: There have been conversations in Planning Commission to take the hillsides and deem them all green space in the Village. There has been conversation of what we would do to protect the hillsides, this just goes along with it.

Mr. Pulskamp: I think that was everybody’s thought to hold that space as green space.

Mayor Hammon: If you go back to the records and read it, there was always supposed to be green space. We failed to do that.

Mr. Pulskamp: When Ivy Hills was planned, it was supposed to be green space to begin with.

Mr. Miller: I do think we should have a title exam done to make sure there are no liens on it.

Once that’s approved, if the green space restriction is okay with everybody, I’ll tell him to send us a deal and we’ll get it done.

Mr. Evans: Mark, it is the land between River Hills and Ivy Hills, it’s above River Hills above the apartments and swings up to Ivy Hills, almost fifteen acres. We just don’t want somebody to develop it.

Mr. Pulskamp: Keri gave us the Mayor’s Monthly Statement to Council from January to August.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to approve the Mayor’s Monthly Statements for January through August, 2005. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to approve May 24, 2005 and June 28, 2005 Council Minutes. Mrs. McCarthy seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Abstained (due to not on Council at that time), Mrs. McCarthy-Yes.

Mr. Pulskamp: Thank you, you’re doing a great job Becky.

Mr. Pulskamp made a motion to amend the motion from the previous Council meeting, raising the amount from \$1,000 to \$1,149.11 for advertising for the Property Maintenance Enforcement position. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Doug Evans:

Mr. Evans made a motion to accept the Checklist dated September 13, 2005. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Doug Evans:

1) **R.I.T.A.** – What is the outcome with them?

Ms. Everett: They had a very full day. They will give me a result, a don't have it yet. We have blank R.I.T.A. tax forms here at Town Hall.

Mr. Pulskamp: They are available on-line as well.

2) **Reds Game:** I want to thank Mark and his wife, Barb for having Councilmembers and the Police Chief and Mayor down at the Reds Game. Very well done, good time had by all.

3) **Disaster Plan:** With the hurricane down south, do we have a disaster plan here?

Police Chief Zornes: Yes we have an updated plan.

Ms. Hueber: Daryl, can you put that information in your letter for the Newsletter. Is there a phone number or someplace for people to go in case Town Hall gets destroyed? List what people can do in the event of an emergency.

Police Chief Zornes: This disaster plan is ¾ of an inch thick, it's not only for Newtown but includes Hamilton County and Hamilton County EMA. We also have a new EMA Director for Hamilton County.

Resident Joan Waits: Where are we supposed to go?

Police Chief Zornes: We have a number of places, one being the old Newtown School, presently Miami Valley Christian Academy. Depending on the situation, you would be directed where to go.

Ms. Hueber: Maybe if you wanted to put a "Disaster" blurb in the Newsletter, i.e. in case of an emergency, this is where you would go. Put in there **how** people would find out.

Police Chief Zornes: You can't generalize because you don't know what the emergency would be.

Mr. Miller: How do people find out where to go?

Police Chief Zornes: They would be directed by the Police Officers. First thing one would do is to listen to the radio and television.

Mr. Miller: You could put that in the Newsletter.

Mayor Hammon: If you remember from 9/11, you were instructed to have your escape routes planned with a safe place to go. They told you what you should have with you, a radio, water and a plan how to meet up with family. That's one thing people don't do, plan on if you get separated and where to meet. Not to brag, but Rhonda and I have a plan on how we are going to communicate and where we're going to go. We're not going to rely on the Village, we have our plan in place.

Ms. Hueber: Daryl that's something we could list to have a "Family Emergency Plan" first.

Mr. Evans: Keri, was there anything else you can think of finance wise?

Ms. Everett: Just to amend the Resolution.

Mr. Evans made a motion to suspend the rules for Resolution 15-2005. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Evans made a motion to accept RESOLUTION 15-2005 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND RECONCILING THE BUDGET AND AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2005 RETROACTIVE TO AUGUST 23, 2005 DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mayor Hammon: Keri talked to you about the \$6,000 paying for the sign and the other one is for additional funds for the advertising.

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 16-2005 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN R. HAMMON AS OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUNDING. Ms. Hueber seconded the motion. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Councilmember Mark Kobasuk: The only I have is the article I passed out and I guess in the Newsletter we are going to cover the tax levy. I don't have anything else.

Councilmember Debbie McCarthy:

1) **MATCHA Design:** I would like to introduce Sue Veldkamp to present a demonstration for our new website.

Solicitor Doug Miller: As far as the contract with Sue, we made it real simple. It's \$3,000 to set up the website and anything Council wants after that, the charge will be \$35.00.

Sue Veldkamp, Webmaster, MATCHA Design Inc.: I have never had a contract with anyone and when Debbie asked for a contract a couple of weeks ago, I basically pulled one off line and modified it with my name and put it out there. (Mrs. Veldkamp demonstrated how she took the existing website and reorganized it. Pictures on the website reflect the Village and she discussed various sections, i.e. "Village Voice", Mayor's Welcome, Community Events, Councilmembers,

etc.) Mrs. Veldkamp also demonstrated how to navigate the website. When residents submit suggestions to the "Village Voice," Mrs. Veldkamp told Council she would seek their approval before listing these suggestions. There is an "Entertainment" section, etc. You can utilize this website any way you want. When given updates to add to the website, there will be a 48 hr period for updates.

Mayor Hammon: Someone on Council will sign off on updates before they are put on the website.

Mr. Pulskamp: Can that be set up so it goes to a mass mailing so if it's a Council issue it comes to all Councilmembers at the same time instead of one person.

Ms. Veldkamp: Absolutely.

Ms. Veldkamp: One of the new sections is a "Village Ordinance," listing different Ordinances that have been passed. Those are linked where visitors can download and view. There is a "Parks and Recreation" section, which features all of the parks. Schools, churches, local businesses and Flagg Spring Cemetery are on there, basically anything that has any interaction with the Village.

Mr. Pulskamp: These are strictly Newtown businesses?

Ms. Veldkamp: Newtown businesses. Information on the Maintenance Department, Police Department, "Meet the Officers" page lists all the officers in the Village.

Mr. Pulskamp: We need to add the R.I.T.A. information on the website.

Mrs. McCarthy: We'll get the information from Keri, remember this is just a demo.

Mr. Pulskamp: I know, it's very very good.

Ms. Veldkamp: I was telling Debra, as far as I'm concerned, this could go live.

Mr. Pulskamp: How long would you plan on keeping the minutes on the webpage?

Ms. Hueber: Didn't we say we'd keep one month's worth and then roll it off?

Mr. Pulskamp: Three months.

Ms. Veldkamp: Demonstrated the "tour" of proposed new website with "voiceover" and clips of the Village.

Ms. Hueber: That "tour" of the website would be especially helpful for the HCDC guys.

Mrs. McCarthy: We should buy "newtown.org", we should have both (.org and .com.).

Mr. Pulskamp: It should be (.gov).

Mayor Hammon: Newtown, CT takes (villageofnewtown.gov).

Mrs. McCarthy: Anyway, we should own both of those domains.

Ms. Veldkamp: We can apply when it comes available or you can put a backorder in.

Mrs. McCarthy: We should do that and it is \$200.00. We should have both of those domains, we only have one. The other one is under Nancy Devore's name.

Mr. Pulskamp: (villageofnewtown.com), Randy Smith has that.

Ms. Hueber: Randy grabbed it real quickly for us because we didn't have our computer system setup. Randy would be willing to turn it over to us.

Mrs. McCarthy: It's in her name, but it's for the Village of Newtown. So, she could just automatically renew it?

Ms. Hueber: Yes and not let us have it, make us buy it from her.

Mrs. McCarthy: What do you guys recommend then?

Ms. Veldkamp: Just as her if she would be willing to turn the domain over to the Village of Newtown?

Ms. Hueber: Randy paid for it, we shouldn't have somebody else paying for our domain.

Mrs. McCarthy: I'll check, I'll get with Randy and find out and work it out with Randy. I'll call Nancy as well and talk to Nancy about that.

Ms. Hueber: That was a very good presentation, very nice.

Mr. Pulskamp: On the contract, it has \$3,000 to redo it, who is to say when it's done?

Ms. Veldkamp: I would say Council would say when it is done. The only thing I told Debbie in the beginning is that I would like to work with one person and she could bring me whatever the Council wants.

Mr. Pulskamp: \$35.00 per hour?

Ms. Veldkamp: Yes.

Mr. Pulskamp: I just want a range, are we looking at 10 hours a month or what are we looking at a month?

Mrs. McCarthy: I don't know, what did you do with Jill?

Mr. Pulskamp: Hers was a flat fee and that is why I'm asking.

Ms. Everett: No, her updates were per hour.

Mr. Pulskamp: But the newest one was actually per month. Time wise to get the minutes updated, resolutions, ordinances, changing the calendar, businesses, what are you looking at hour wise per month? Would you be willing to do a flat fee every month?

Ms. Veldkamp: I would like to give you a really good estimate of how long it would take me. If there are different events that need to be added, different things that are periodical. Typically to do the scanning, I'm scanning the minutes, I'm not retyping.

Mr. Pulskamp: Debra, I gave them to you on a disk in a word format.

Mrs. McCarthy: These are all the new minutes.

Ms. Veldkamp: The 2004, I had.

Mr. Pulskamp: But I gave you 2005 minutes also.

Ms. Everett: Is it easier to get a disk the scanning?

Ms. Veldkamp: It would just take one step out of the process. Scanning to PDF, I have Adobe Acrobat and takes about 30 seconds per page to scan a document. If it's in "word" all I have to do is hit a button and it would convert the whole document to PDF so that would save a little bit of time just to hit a button as opposed to putting it in page by page. You could even email them to me.

Mr. Pulskamp: Would you be willing to set a per monthly fee for the updates?

Ms. Veldkamp: I think so, sure and then I think over and above that, then we could say \$45 an hour.

Mr. Evans: While we're doing the website, I would like to go ahead and do the tour with audio.

Mrs. McCarthy: I was going to mention that as well, because I think we should do it too for the cost.

Ms. Hueber: I think so, we're putting out a new website all new-vamped, let's just get it done nicely.

Mr. Pulskamp: What's the difference between 4 and 6 in the contract?

Mr. Miller: Six is in there basically to say that we say when it is done.

Mrs. McCarthy: When are we going to go live because we could go tomorrow. Since Doug is our Solicitor, I'm going to let Doug handle notifying Jill.

Ms. Everett: Are you just doing a contract or are we doing an ordinance?

Mr. Miller: I have an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract for website design services. Is everybody satisfied with this contract, I've heard a lot of things, i.e. can you do it for a flat fee?

Mr. Pulskamp: Debbie, can we pass the \$3,500 for her to do the website?

Mayor Hammon: I would suggest to give her three months to experience what to expect and then let her come back and give us a price, then we could amend the contract.

Mr. Miller: That was going to be my suggestion, so let's get it done.

Mr. Pulskamp: Right. I want to get it done also.

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

Mrs. McCarthy made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE 31-2005 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MATCHA DESIGN FOR WEBSITE DESIGN SERVICES, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Pulskamp seconded the motion. All Aye. Ms. Hueber-Yes, Mr. Pulskamp-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mrs. McCarthy-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mrs. McCarthy: If any of you have anything to change or add to your bios, give that to me. Also, Sue, I wanted to ask you, "if Randy Smith still owns it, then why would Jill just renew the domain?"

Ms. Veldkamp: I do that for a lot of my clients. I register my name, it costs \$35.00 a year to year and I get the notices when they're expiring so I go renew them and I then just invoice the client for the \$35.00.

Ms. Hueber: I think Randy turned that over, didn't we pay for that one? Then who paid for it when she renewed it?

Mrs. McCarthy: We just got billed for \$50.00.

Ms. Hueber: So then it might not be in Randy's name anymore?

Mr. Miller: Then how do we get it registered to us?

Ms. Veldkamp: There's a couple different ways, you can contact Jill and tell her that she needs to turn the domain name over. I'll email you the server information that she would need to point it to. Probably the easiest way, I could put in a transfer request to Network Solutions that cost \$19.00. They simply send an email to the administrative contact whoever that is on that domain and all that person has to do is approve the move. Then it's all done. It's just whether that person will approve.

Mrs. McCarthy: All right, who's going to do this? Ken?

Mr. Pulskamp: I could call Jill or...

Mr. Miller: Well, I was going to send her a letter saying she is done at the end of September or now. Part of that, we want the name.

Mr. Pulskamp: I can call her tomorrow.

Mr. Miller: All right. Now supposedly also, Nancy Devore has (villageofnewtown.org).

Ms. Hueber: Where were you, we already had that conversation. The best way I think for us to do it with Nancy is to pay the \$19.00 and see if we can do the transfer without having to talk to her about it.

Ms. Veldkamp: We can put it through, if it doesn't go through then we don't pay.

Ms. Hueber: It might be the easiest way for us to do it as Council and then we don't have to worry about it. Then if she says "no", then we make our verbal contact.

Mrs. McCarthy: Good that's a good idea. Does everybody agree?

Mayor Hammon: It's your responsibility to make it happen. Next..

Mrs. McCarthy: Okay, thank you Sue.

Councilmember Debbie McCarthy:

2) **Village Corp Sign:** The sign that is on Little Dry Run is damaged again. This has to be the third time. It seems there's a pattern, whoever is damaging these signs does the Anderson one first and sometimes they do ours right away. They both are so close to one another. They waited awhile, because Anderson's has been damaged for at least two weeks and ours is now completely demolished. My opinion is that we do not replace it or remove the whole thing. This is just an ongoing thing and I feel it's a waste of money.

3) **Tying Signs Together:** I had mentioned tying all signs together and these are the signs I talked about. I got paperwork from Bruce Brandstetter and got with Mike Cornette in regards to the distance. Everything is all worked out and mapped on the map and we can go ahead and do it. I'd like to have Council approve \$973.00 for two signs, \$973.00 each for Short Park.

Ms. Hueber: Did you already go through this?

Mayor Hammon: We talked about it before, we walked the street. Since Debbie and I talked, I really don't recommend it. Most communities I have gone through have very small signs that are

just "Park" signs on another post. This is another maintenance issue, somebody has to turn around it. Have you resolved it with Bruce whether the right-of-way is there or not?

Mrs. McCarthy: No.

Mayor Hammon: We don't even know if the right-of-way is there. Mike thought the scale was 3 to 5 feet. You were supposed to resolve it with Bruce.

Mrs. McCarthy: No, I didn't know that.

Mayor Hammon: Come on Debbie we sat here, I don't want to loose my cool, but we sat here and had a conversation with Mike one afternoon and he drew it on the map.

Mrs. McCarthy: Yes I know that and Mike swore to both of us that it is okay to do those signs.

Mayor Hammon: No, he did not. He told you to go back to Bruce and get the scale blown up and make sure of it.

Ms. Hueber: Do we all want to spend \$900.00 before she wastes her time? \$900.00 each on Short Park? I don't think, I don't know.

Mayor Hammon: I went through Blue Ash and Kenwood and a lot of communities simply have a sign that says such and such park.

Ms. Hueber: In green.

Mayor Hammon: Well I have seen blue and I've seen brown.

Ms. Hueber: Those are \$150.00 each at the most.

Mayor Hammon: I am anti-sign, as Bruce has found out with trying to work with me the past week. I don't want to put signs everywhere. I think we can take a small sign and mount it on an existing sign base.

Ms. Hueber: We can do brown, which is what "parks" stand for.

Mr. Evans: The one thing I think we all might be missing, we can put the "park" thing in the Newsletter and put the "park" thing in our stuff. But to advertise the sign for everybody coming through village, then everybody using the park would be from the outside and not really taxpayers.

Mr. Pulskamp: I agree with you Doug.

Ms. Hueber: That's why everybody thinks that's such a little nice kept secret, it's really just for the residents.

Mr. Evans: I think the sign looks great Debbie, you did a great job doing it okay.

Ms. Everett: Well, the whole idea came up because the Firemen's Festival was not there this year because. That's exactly what they told me, the feedback they got was no one knew that it was there.

Ms. Hueber: Well, the feedback came from Fairfax residents. They were very ticked off, I was at the board meeting when they discussed it and they were appalled that they moved it to Newtown.

Mayor Hammon: There are times when people will come in for sports related activities, it doesn't hurt to have the signs there. I just don't know about putting a large sign out for people having to edge around it, and you have to consider who's yard it will go in. We're talking about people's front yards behind the sidewalk.

Mrs. McCarthy: So where are you going to put your other signs you just mentioned?

Mayor Hammon: There are signs all the way down the highway here. There's railroad-crossing signs, all kinds of signs where you could just put a little arrow on a sign on these existing signs. Every community I went into identified where the parks were pretty much the same way, with a little arrow.

Ms. Hueber: You can put one on Debolt where there is an entrance to the park too.

Mayor Hammon: Certainly, we can put one on Main Street and Debolt.

Mrs. McCarthy: I just figured that it's classy it would tie in with all of our signs to look the same.

Ms. Hueber: I see your point, they are pretty but I don't know and should we advertise the way "parks" do which is the cheap inexpensive "brown."

Mr. Pulskamp: I agree with what Doug said.

Mayor Hammon: A problem we'll have and we've discussed this is there will be a kid riding a bike on the sidewalk and take a hand and put it through the sign. Debbie, do you want to make a motion or just sit on it?

Mrs. McCarthy: I guess I'll sit on it, doesn't sound like anyone is interested.

Ms. Hueber: What about the broken one? How about we get them in "aluminum?" Same exact thing and they won't be able to break that. The existing signs are hard foam, which can break and bust.

Mr. Evans: The outfit that does the signs, KLEEM, they make signs for about \$50.00 each.

Ms. Hueber: See if they can redo that one, I know ours are a lot nicer.

Mr. Evans: Ask them about the hard ones too, I'm for the smaller signs.

4) **"NO PARKING" ON DEBOLT ST:** We have "NO PARKING" on Debolt Street and I think to make it look nice we should fill in both sides of the street, fill it in with dirt and grass seed.

Mayor Hammon: Talk to Greg and have it done. I don't have any problem, I'd say to do it in front of the residents home and maybe not in front of the park quite yet.

5) **Campaign Debate:** With four seats coming up, John has anyone discussed or decided when the debate is going to be? My thinking is that I'd like to get those running for the election to put something on the website.

Mr. Miller: You may put that there is going to be a debate.

Myor Hammon: I'm going to talk to Doug Hall to see if he wants to host it again.

6) **Committees:** I noticed that Mark is on the "Public Safety" Committee and I would assume he is now going to be the "alternate" for the FireBoard.

Ms. Hueber: We'll probably wait, unless he really wants to, we don't to change that do we. We don't have an alternate unless you want to be an alternate, I can call you if I'm not going to be there.

Mr. Kobasuk: I'll be happy to be an alternate. I'd be happy to go to the meetings.

Ms. Hueber: We're right in the middle of finishing up the contracts. If you'd like to go, I have a list of the meetings and you can go with me.

Mr. Kobasuk: Sure, I'd like to go with you. When is the next meeting.

Ms. Hueber: It's next Wednesday at Fairfax.

Ms. Hueber made a motion to make Mark Kobasuk the alternate for "Public Safety." All Aye. Motion Carried.

Solicitor Doug Miller: I don't know if Council, this pipe and wire thing, we have apparently an eavesment to run our wires and pipes through the railroad right-of-way down the road.

Mayor Hammon: The storm/sewer system in that part of town runs underneath the railroad tracks out into the open ditch.

Mr. Miller:

- 1) **Agreement with Railroad:** Apparently, for years and years and years, we've paid \$70.00 a year for doing that. We've received this letter from them saying, "we'd like to renew the arrangement and just pay us a lump-sum of \$2,000 and you'd never have to pay anything again. Of course that would cover us for the next thirty years. Nobody seems to be able to find that agreement so I did make contact with them and to let you know, they are supposed to be sending me a copy of the agreement.
- 2) **Workers Compensation:** I did attend the workers comp hearing that we had and actually by the time the hearing came around there was actually another appeal that the former employee had filed on it denying something they had denied. The appeal we had, they took under advisement and will issue a ruling. Actually won the other one, I don't know how but it was denied. Anyway, I would not be optimistic just from what I saw at the hearing, which is what I told you before. I'll let you know when we get a result. The reason for the appeal that was filed by your claims administrator, Sheakley, was based on they had the wrong information and naturally their reason for the appeal doesn't apply in this case but we argued it anyway.

Engineer Bruce Brandstetter:

- 1) **SR 32 & River Hills Drive: (handout)** I have a copy of a revised pavement marking plans. I know there have been a lot of questions. A lot of the pavement markings that are there now are the temporary ones and are not what the final plans are going to be. We've had a lot of discussions about a lane from SR 32 onto Roundbottom Road, how that's functioning. We've marked pavement where the stripes would actually be and I think we've come up with a program that will work, not a lot of changes to it. The question has come up is to put a left turn lane dedicated arrow from River Hills Drive West onto SR 32. Those are major changes. I'm meeting with the electrical contractor tomorrow. The issue that comes up with that flat turn lane as an existing controller, which is an electrical box, I'm a Civil Engineer, not an Electrical Engineer but the controller box controls all these things. We have to make sure it has the capacity to add what you call an additional "phase." I have a large-scale drawing, but the major change after we've been out to the site, like I say is to go to a left-turn lane from SR 32 onto Roundbottom Road, instead of trying retain two lanes there is a lot of drift coming over. When we were out in the field we came to the conclusion that the best thing to do is how it was here before. Traffic on SR 32 is a continuous move onto Roundbottom Road, but they have to "yield." They would yield to the cars, if vehicles are making a left-turn lane from SR 32 or coming across from River Hills Drive. The bulk of your traffic makes that movement to SR 32 North out of Roundbottom Road then any other movement in the intersection. John pointed this out, from River Hills Drive onto SR 32, he asked that we flip-flop it. We shortened this up a little bit, the drop lane. They are going to pave the side streets tomorrow, they are talking about paving the next few days.

Mrs. McCarthy: Look at all the changes you're going to do, I'm worried about collisions. I'm telling you, all I've gotten from my neighbors is they cannot stand that intersection.

Mr. Brandstetter: The pavement markings aren't final markings. Once it is completed, it will be clear what is going on. People don't like change. This project is a 1998 project and it's 2005. I bet we went through eight or ten alternatives as to how to do this. Debbie, I think once we get it properly marked and the signals are working right.

Mrs. McCarthy: I hope so, I tell you I hate talking to my neighbors now. They think that intersection is a joke John.

Mayor Hammon: Why?

Mrs. McCarthy: A couple of things. First of all, where the lines are and lights are. Number two, they feel the lanes are not big enough for trucks and fear a head-on collision. I'm just telling you what my neighbors are saying John.

Mayor Hammon: These lanes are bigger than Church Street and Valley by two feet. I'm telling you that.

Mrs. McCarthy: I'm telling you about complaints.

Mayor Hammon: I have heard them too and have received a lot of them. These are temporary mistakes. The double yellow lines on Roundbottom Road will be moved three feet toward the west, which makes the turn-lane bigger.

Mr. Brandstetter: Debbie, the other thing is I might point out you're going to have more room through here then you have now.

Mrs. McCarthy: Bruce, are these the same blueprints that Gary Collins looked at? Gary told you and John that that intersection was not going to work.

Mr. Brandstetter: I don't recall what Gary Collins said.

Mr. Evans: If it has proper signage, it should work a lot better. There are concerns where somebody is turning left from 32 onto Roundbottom Road and the truck swings around there real fast. There are other things we can adjust maybe if it doesn't work quite right. But, Bruce, John, Tom and I have sat there and watched and trying to think all these things through and watched traffic to see where the problems are. Bruce has done everything in his power to make it the best

it could be with what we were given without tearing out the curbs. That was one suggestion to move the curb back.

Mr. Brandstetter: We looked seriously at taking this curb-line here, we've looked at moving that line five feet over to the west to get move room. What happens is then the left tire of a car facing River Hills Drive, his left tire lines up with the curb and the sidewalk. It's just not a reasonable movement. Could we have asked for more right-of-way from Meridian? Sure, we could have asked for more. We took seven parking spaces, parking is a premium there and it probably would have taken eight more. I don't think we would have gotten it.

Mayor Hammon: We wouldn't have gotten it and kept Meridian.

Mr. Brandstetter: You don't want to lose Meridian as a corporate citizen that's for sure. It's like a lot of things in life, it's a compromise. I have a buddy that lives here in town and I ran into Randy Smith and asked them what they have heard? Just trying to take people's temperatures. He said, "I haven't heard anything, but that's a good thing." I said, "yeah, you're probably right." I know some people are unhappy and some don't like change. I think most of what people are complaining about should be addressed by these revisions.

Mr. Evans: With Dave being on vacation, is there anybody else that could check the striping before it gets painted? If the striping is wrong, it could be more problems.

Mr. Brandstetter: Yeah, I'll get somebody to check it.

Mayor Hammon: The whole 32 has to be done properly, put down with the thermal. That has to be done by the end of September.

Mr. Brandstetter: Properly, meaning thermal striping or changing?

Mayor Hammon: Yeah, thermal striping. The state did call me and said that project will close out September 30th, they will not paying for anything that goes past that date.

Mr. Brandstetter: I understand, I got an email from them too. The game plan is to pave the next two days and then stripe. The paving is scheduled this week and we are adding paving to the railroad tracks, we were a couple of hundred feet short, it's about \$2,000 and everybody said to go ahead and do it. River Hills Drive, John pointed out Water Works went up and paved, we have asked Sunesis to give us a price to pave the rest of it. My recommendation to you is to get a price from Jurgensen too, they're willing to do that. We need to move fairly quickly, Water Works will pay for a share of it. Once we get a price, John and I will work out a deal with Water Works and I'd like to have something in hand in two weeks. There are some major repairs that need to be made, catch-basin needs to be rebuilt. We're talking \$35,000 in getting good cost sharings.

Mr. Pulskamp: I don't know if I even agree with the cost-sharing because that road was in good shape until Water Works,

Mr. Brandstetter: It's been a year since we paved it.

Mayor Hammon: It's been some time. Ken, when Bruce and I met, I may not have it exactly right, but you know they could have just gone back in and filled what they had dug. That's the jest of doing the whole road, we will incur some share.

Mr. Brandstetter: I think you'll see on number three here, where they are letting us do some things with their money. Granted it's their money, but it's helping you get some grants.

2) **Church and Valley:** Paving is scheduled for Saturday the 17th. Hamilton County Park District, we had to reconnect a couple of wire services. We didn't realize they were in the area and extended out beyond the project. They maintain two or three water services along your property on Church Street and we'll work that out with them on cost. That was \$2,000-\$4,000, it wasn't cheap but it was something we had to go ahead and do. Traffic signal construction, I know the question has come up a few times. Our final drawings for the interconnect and the signals will be submitted to O.D.O.T. in January. Construction will be next summer. That is for traffic signals at each end of Valley and then the interconnect on all the other signals. When John and I were at the Hamilton County Engineers office, we found out that they are going to fund Church Street Phase II. It's \$1.4mill project, there is somewhat of a new breakdown. OPWC's grant is \$686,000, Cincinnati Water Works is paying \$350,000. We applied twice for \$150,000 MRF, they've already given you one of the \$150,000 and they said yes to the second. We've had some discussions on taking it. Construction cost for the Village will be about \$64,000.

Mrs. McCarthy: When are we going to do that Bruce?

Mr. Brandstetter: Next summer.

Mayor Hammon: I thought it was January 1st, what happened?

Mr. Brandstetter: If you work your way up through my handout, the \$1.4 mill does include a new mast arm, John pointed out this is the only intersection that wouldn't have one so we need to do that. We have to go ahead and design it, then we have to take care of the storm easements for St. John Fisher and some right-of-way. We'll finish up utility coordination, easements, and plans this fall. We'll put the project out to bid in December or January. February, March and April do the underground work. April, May and June we'll do the curb and pavement. July to August, we'll closeout.

Mrs. McCarthy: Bruce, when were we supposed to do that road? Church Street.

Mr. Brandstetter: When the money became available.

Mayor Hammon: We were told that we were number one, we never got funding, so we never did it.

Ms. Everett: We applied again and now we got it.

Mrs. McCarthy: So, we're looking at next year some time.

Mr. Brandstetter: Yes.

Mrs. McCarthy: The reason I'm asking, for the owner at Jones Fish Hatchery, I go over there quite a bit. The big drain in front there.

Mayor Hammon: It's already been addressed. It's moving, it's part of the project.

Mrs. McCarthy: It's moved now? Yes I know that, but what is he supposed to do in the interim when it rains really hard and water doesn't go into that at all?

Mayor Hammon: As we've done everything else, we've done nothing. This will be all dug up in six months. When he says underground, it's the waterline and storm water, catch basins and everything else. There's not much you can do unless you want to spend thousands of dollars for six months.

Mr. Brandstetter:

- 1) **Church Street Phase II:** Now that we know we have the money for Church Street Phase II, one of the discussions John and I had with County Engineers office was Round Bottom Road where they need a two-lane and putting in a turn-lane, so when that signal goes in you can get all that done at once.
- 2) **Issue II / MRF Roundbottom:** Pretty much now we're finished, the main streets in town are done. We did traffic counts last Thursday, there was 12,000 cars per day roughly, Thursday and Friday and 10,000 cars on Saturday on Roundbottom, between the Flooring Company and the Carwash. What we anticipate is a funding of construction cost only. The Village would do \$32,000, MRF would provide \$64,000, OPWC \$224,000, this is by no means a given, this is a great application that's competitive. This is the game plan. In order to do that, we would need from you tonight a Resolution, I think Doug knew this was coming. We would need a Fiscal Certificate, Keri we will give it to you that would be signed. If you pass the Resolution, I'm done.

Mayor Hammon:

- 1) **Barrett Paving:** They are going to make Barrett a corporate research lab for paving. As part of that project, they asked if the section on Roundbottom Road that they could use some new "blacktopping," they don't reduce the price but will give us a very extended warranty on it. It's kind of helping them out to do some research there. They are trying to change the philosophy at that site, it's not going to be abandoned.
- 2) **Island:** Gary Meisner is going to keep the plans of the island to come up with some landscaping.

Mr. Evans: He told me he would do it for "no cost."

- 3) **West Street:** Some of you may not know, part of West Street is in Anderson Township and even though we passed a "NO PARKING" in the Village of Newtown, that does not apply to about half of the West Street on the western side. That is where the RV is parked and some other vehicles are being parked. I have contacted Anderson and asked them if they would put "NO PARKING" on their segment of the road. They said they would look into that.
- 4) **Hamilton County Development Company:** They would like to have a single contact and for the lack of anybody else at the time, I told them to put myself down. They would like for everything to kind of come through me at this point-in-time. I did talk to them about the parking lot and didn't get an answer from them. We kind of focused on what the business district should be and look like.
- 5) **Committee List:** Committee list is there, hopefully you'll leave it there. The other thing I have done, I've sat here when we've talked about the Secretary's job and there are a few things haunting me. I think we need to do some things differently. I have created an "ad-hoc" committee, David will be the chairman of it with Tracy, Keri and Daryl to look at how the traffic ticket, once it comes into the office and flows through the court system and out of again. I think there is too much time being spent with officers in the office and not on the streets. I'd like to wait on hiring somebody until we can identify what we changes we can make. I would really like a Police Clerk, Clerk of Courts and then a Secretary/Receptionist on the other side. I think this will position us for the future and achieve some of the goals we want to achieve.

Ms. Hueber: Can we make sure somebody is here to answer the phones if Keri has a day off so the police are not doing it. I think we should either hire somebody part-time or temp services if Becky can't do it.

Mayor Hammon: Becky has asked about coming in sometimes and I have told her not to come in, we can change and ask her to come in when Keri is off.

Ms. Hueber: Don't you guys think we should do that or not?

Mr. Pulskamp: Somebody should be in Town Hall instead of the police answering the phones.

Ms. Hueber: Just so somebody is here at this desk if Keri can't be here. If Keri knows in advance that she will not be here, then Becky can help her do something else just so we have somebody here.

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

Completed 11/4/05
brf