

The March 22, 2011 meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Curt Cosby, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Councilmembers: Brian Burns Mark Kobasuk
Doug Evans (absent) Curt Tiettmeyer
Joe Harten (absent) Daryl Zornes

Solicitor: Doug Miller

Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett

Police Chief: Tom Synan

Audience Participation

Chuck Short, Newtown Veterans Association, presented Council with newly designed drawings for the Veterans Memorial. The Veterans Association has raised enough funds to begin and complete Phase I, which will be in place by Memorial Day. The memorial will be erected at Moundview Park, Newtown, Ohio. The Veterans Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. If interested in making a donation or you would like more details, please contact Chuck Short (513.673.4461 or email chuck@buckeyefinancial.com), Becky Fairley (513.561.7697 x10 or email bfairley@newtownohio.gov), Pauline Murrie (513.474.1422 or email paulinemurrie@fuse.net). Mayor Cosby thanked the Veterans Association for their hard work and energy in bringing the memorial to the village.

Forest Hills School District

Randy Smith, 7492 Pinehurst Drive, President Forest Hills School spoke to Village Council regarding the idea of closing Turpin High School and going to one high school. Recently, there was an article in the Community Journal and the Enquirer regarding the Forest Hills School Board having a work session and discussion about continuing the idea of closing Turpin High School and merging into one high school. Mr. Smith said that is not the case and is not on the Board's agenda. The Board is moving forward assuming they are going to maintain the two high school structure. Mr. Smith said it would require a massive tax increase to build one high school to accommodate all of the students; the payoff would take twenty-five years.

Local governments and school districts will be hit hard under Governor Kasich's recent budget proposal. The Forest Hills School District has planned for a 15% cut for the 2012 school year. Mr. Smith said the goal is not have to put another tax levy on the ballot this year. The Forest Hills School District is letting go twenty two people next month for the 2011-2012 school year, all in an effort to keep the budget balanced. Mr. Kobasuk asked Mr. Smith if the Board has definitely ruled out placing a levy on the ballot this year. Mr. Smith said, no, they are waiting to see what comes out of the budget from Columbus. The FHSD should have this information in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Smith said school districts like Forest Hills usually get the short end of the stick and if the impact is drastic they may have to place a levy on the ballot. Mayor Cosby asked Mr. Smith to come back to council after the school district receives the numbers from Columbus.

Checklist

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the 3-22-2011 Checklist for \$34,609.89, plus a supplemental of \$20,244.00 for a total of \$54,853.89. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. (Mr. Evans-Absent, Mr. Harten-Absent) Motion Carried.

Ordinance Adopting 2011 Appropriations

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 07-2011 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE VILLAGE APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2011 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Evans-Absent, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Burns-Yes, Mr. Harten-Absent. Motion Carried.

Council Minutes

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve the 03-08-2011 Council Minutes, seconded by Mr. Burns. All Aye. (Mr. Evans-Absent, Mr. Harten-Absent) Motion Carried.

Maintenance Department Update

Recycle wheelers are still available to village residents. Please call (513) 271-2009 with your name and contact information in receiving a 65-gallon recycling wheeler. No Parking signs for Ivy Hills Reserve were installed 3-14-2011. The Fountain is up and running. Hamilton County Salt Bid is \$72.42 per ton, which is \$4.00 higher per ton from last year. The deadline to enter bid is April 28th. Mr. Dickerson said it would cost \$25,347 to order 350 tons of salt.

LMFD Fire Board Update

Mr. Kobasuk attended the recent meeting and reported that all contracts have been awarded for the E-Check site. The project is moving forward with plans to break ground this week. The new fire station should be ready December 2011, due to the holidays, the fire department may not move-in until January 2012. Planning for the Fairfax fire station continues.

TIF Projects

Solicitor Miller presented Council with proposed agreements with the Forest Hills School District for the TIF projects, which were discussed a couple of meetings ago. This agreement reimburses the school district for everything they would have received for the TIF. Solicitor Miller asked Council to review the proposed agreements.

Annexation Survey

Previously, Council approved \$10,000 for an annexation survey. Solicitor Miller said this amount is not adequate; two proposals have been received: 1) \$11,007 and 2) \$24,500. He asked Council to approve an additional amount so the project can move forward. Solicitor Miller said Ben Brandstetter thought \$20,000 total should be enough for the survey. Mayor Cosby said he checked with Ms. Everett and the additional \$10,000 can be taken from the contingency fund.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve an additional \$10,000, to go with the \$10,000 previously approved, totally up to \$20,000 to cover survey costs. Mr. Burns seconded the motion. All Aye. (Mr. Evans-Absent, Mr. Harten-Absent) Motion Carried.

Martin Marietta Mining

Solicitor Miller stated.....There is a case management conference March 30th; at that point, it should be set for argument in front of the judge. Solicitor Miller said this is the appeal of the magistrate's decision. All briefs have been filed.

Property Acquisition

Solicitor Miller said there is no update on property acquisition. The contract is under review. Mayor Cosby asked Solicitor Miller to follow-up on the contract submitted by the village. Solicitor Miller will call the realtor tomorrow.

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