

The December 10, 2013 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: Joe Harten
Mark Kobasuk
Cheryl McConnell

Chuck Short
Curt Tiettmeyer
Daryl Zornes

Solicitor: Doug Miller
Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett
Police Chief: Tom Synan

WinterFest in the Village: Saturday, December 14, 2013 (4:00pm to 8:30pm)

Please join us for our 7th annual "WinterFest in the Village," sponsored by the Newtown Business Association. There are about 40 members that make up the NBA. This year around \$12,000 was raised for this annual event.

Joe Motz, The Motz Group and WinterFest chairperson thanked Village Council, Police, Fire and Maintenance departments for their efforts in assuring the success of another fun-filled family event. WinterFest has the feeling of a Hallmark greeting card. Excluding food, most of the activities are free throughout the evening. To bring the evening to an end, 375 Japanese luminarias were launched in the baseball field behind the Newtown Baptist Church. WinterFest in the Village is always held the second Saturday in December.

Mayor Cosby thanked Joe Motz and the WinterFest Committee their hard work. The WinterFest Committee meets monthly throughout the year preparing for this annual event.

Energy Alliances

Mark Bishop, Bill Grafe and Polly Sayles gave an overview of Governmental Community Aggregation. Energy Alliances currently has around twenty-eight communities participating in their aggregation program. Energy Alliances works with Duke Energy on Community Aggregation. First, a community would pass a resolution seeking Aggregation to place the program on the Ballot. Upon approval, two Public Hearings would then take place. Individual customers have the option to be excluded from the Governmental Aggregation (Opt-out process). Energy Alliances would assist the Village of Newtown in placing the program on the Ballot. Energy Alliances would also educate the public on aggregation its benefits. Also explaining it is not a tax or an additional charge. The purpose of the program is to save the public money. There would be several opportunities each year for the public to opt-out of the program if they so chose.

Planning Commission (Reported by Joe Harten, Chairperson)

No applications have been received for the December Planning Commission meeting. The next regularly-scheduled meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2014.

Short Park - Miami Valley Christian Academy Venture (Reported by Mr. Harten)

The Village of Newtown has been in discussion with MVCA regarding the possibility of an athletic campus that would be constructed at Short Park. After the 11.13.2013 Public Meeting held at MVCA, Newtown Council had a working session on 12.02.2013 to review the Memorandum of Understanding and Points of Discussion. After discussing the Points of Emphasis for Negotiation, Village Council decided to have another working session 1.14.2014 at 6pm, prior to the regularly-scheduled Council Meeting.

Police Cruiser Purchase Program

Mrs. McConnell thanked Chief Synan for explaining the Purchase Program that has been in operation for the last several years.

LMFD Fire Board Update

Mr. Kobasuk reported that the carryover going into next year will be \$950,000. The Fire District will consider a levy in 2015.

Newtown Landfill Update

Mr. Kobasuk suggested legal counsel attend the Jan. 28th Council meeting to discuss legal analysis in executive session.

American Legal Publishing

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve \$870.00 to American Legal Publishing Corporation for the 2014 Ohio Basic Code (8 copies). Mr. Harten seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Resolution, Police Cruiser Purchase

The Council of the Village of Newtown is desirous of acquiring two new 2014 Dodge Charger Police Cruisers.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Zornes. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 44-2013 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH KEY CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE, INC. FOR POLICE CRUISERS, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Short seconded the motion.

Discussion

The purchase of the cruisers has been discussed at previous meeting. This resolution is to approve the cost of acquiring two vehicles, which shall not exceed \$47,374 for both vehicles.

Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Resolution, Contract w/Mobilcomm

The Council of the Village of Newtown wishes to purchase new equipment for two new police cruisers in the amount of \$12,000.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Short. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 45-2013 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MOBILCOMM FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Short seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Resolution, Contract w/Vinyl Graphics

The Council of the Village of Newtown wishes to purchase and install new graphics for one of the two new police cruisers in the amount of \$330.00.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Short. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 46-2013 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VINYL GRAPHICS FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE GRAPHICS, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Ordinance, Declaring Personal Property As Surplus

The Council of the Village of Newtown desires to dispose of two used Dodge Charger Police vehicles that will not be needed for Village purposes upon the purchase of two new vehicles. The items shall be sold to the Hocking County Sheriff's Office for a total of \$35,500.00.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Harten. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 11-2013 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS, AUTHORIZING ITS DISPOSITION, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Police Department Tire Purchase

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve \$1,223.60 for the purchase of two sets of tires (8 tires). Mr. Short seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Police Department – Brake Replacement

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve \$1,158.08 to Village Auto for brake replacement on two police cruisers. Mr. Short seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Microsoft Software License

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve \$3,778 from the Mayor’s Court Computer Fund for the Microsoft software license. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Computer Software Yearly Maintenance Agreement

Mr. Kobasuk made a motion to approve \$3,506.29 from the Mayor’s Court Computer Fund for the maintenance agreement for the computer software that runs the police department court records. Mr. Harten seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Checklist

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the 12.10.2013 Checklist for \$439,029.43. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

WinterFest in the Village: Saturday, December 14, 2013 ~ The Municipal Center and American Indian Education Center will be opened from 4:00pm until 8:00pm for the public to view the facility. Becky and Cheryl have volunteered to welcome people from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Mr. Tiettmeyer and his daughter Jessica will work 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Mr. Tiettmeyer asked other council members to contact Becky if they can work the 7:00pm to 8:00pm shift.

Board of Elections 2014 Polling Contract

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the contract for leasing the Municipal Center as a polling place for the 2014 election year. Mr. Harten seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Resolution, Change Order No. 15 - DER Development (\$3,415)

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Kobasuk. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 42-2013 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER TO A CONTRACT WITH D.E.R. DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Resolution, 2014 Temporary Appropriations

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Zornes. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 43-2013 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2014 VILLAGE APPROPRIATIONS, DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion.

Discussion

In order to continue daily operations, Temporary Appropriations for the following year is adopted at this time each year until the budget for the following year has been finalized.

Roll Call: Mr. Harten-Yes, Mrs. McConnell-Yes, Mr. Kobasuk-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes. Motion Carried.

Mammoth Tusk - Report and Proposal from Cincinnati Museum Center

The mammoth tusk, currently being displayed in a cabinet in the old Town Hall needs to be restored and reframed. Mr. Tiettmeyer asked experts from the Cincinnati Museum Center to take a look at the mammoth tusk the day of the Ribbon Cutting. The fossil has resided in a non-archival, non-climate controlled display case since 1967. The CMC have made recommendations to preserve the fossil.

Two options for transfer of the tusk to CMC are available:

- 1) Newtown retains ownership and loans CMC the tusk, in which case the village will assume the expenses of conservation of the specimen. This cost is estimated at \$2,200. The Village of Newtown would be recognized on a plaque.

- 2) Newtown transfers title to Cincinnati Museum Center, in which case, CMC will absorb all conservation expenses. CMC would prefer this option as it would allow formal accession and addition of the fossil into CMC's collection.

After discussing the options, it was the general consensus that Newtown would retain ownership of the tusk. Mr. Tiettmeyer made the recommendation to pay the money to have the tusk restored and loan it to the CMC for a negotiated amount of time. He agrees the Village should retain ownership, regardless what is ultimately decided. Mr. Kobasuk suggested restoring the tusk and find a place for it in the Municipal Center. Mr. Tiettmeyer's concern is that the Municipal Center is also the American Indian Education Center and said he is not so sure the tusk has anything to do with that. Mr. Tiettmeyer said the tusk was found in Camp Dennison, not in Newtown. Mr. Tiettmeyer will talk to the Cincinnati Museum Center about what type of structure they would construct for the exhibit and the appropriate placement. In the next three or four months, we are looking to begin renovations to the police department. Mr. Tiettmeyer said it would be beneficial to come to a resolution with what to do with the tusk in the first quarter and have it tusk restored and find its final resting place.

2014 Budget – Department Capital Requests

Mr. Tiettmeyer reminded everyone that department capital requests need to be received by December 31st.

Finance Committee (Reported by Curt Tiettmeyer, Chairperson)

The committee will meet January 7th at 6:30pm at the Municipal Center.

Employee Appreciation Gift Card

In lieu of having an Employee Appreciation / Holiday Gathering last year, Council agreed to purchase \$40 gift cards for the employees. Mr. Tiettmeyer recommended that we do the same this year for all paid full-time and part-time employees only. Mr. Short suggested raising the amount to \$50 this year, which would keep it under \$1,000. Therefore, eighteen gift cards would be purchased for a total of \$900. Mr. Kobasuk said he would leave the amount to the finance chairman, Mr. Tiettmeyer. Mr. Tiettmeyer said he is okay with the \$40 or \$50 and \$50 would be in line with what other municipalities typically provide.

Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the purchase of Employee Appreciation gift cards in the amount of \$50.00 each. Mr. Short seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Municipal Center New Digital Sign

The new digital message sign has been installed and looks really nice. Mr. Tiettmeyer suggested that an ad hoc committee be created to oversee proposed messages that would be displayed on the digital sign. Mr. Tiettmeyer recommended the committee consist of Becky, the mayor and one council person. It was decided that the committee would involve Solicitor Miller if the content of a message was controversial in any way. Solicitor Miller did say that the sign could not be used to advertise and support an election issue, such as a levy.

Mrs. McConnell nominated Curt Tiettmeyer to be named to the ad hoc committee, seconded by Mr. Harten.

Stained Glass

The box for the stained glass has been made and will be hung by DER Development Company. The box houses LED lighting, which will showcase the stained glass as a focal point when one enters the front door.

Municipal Center Punch List

The permanent railings are being painted at DER's shop and will be installed, weather permitting. Mr. Tiettmeyer said the punch list is near completion.

Council Minutes

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve the 10.22.2013 Council Minutes, seconded by Mr. Short. All Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Zornes made a motion to approve the 11.12.2013 Council Minutes, seconded by Mr. Short. All Aye. Motion Carried.

ODOT Retro-Reflective Signs

The Ohio Department of Transportation has placed numerous retro-reflective signs on SR32. These signs are intended to be three times brighter and should last twice as long before needing to be replaced. Mr. Dickerson is working with the person in charge of installing the signs to see if placement of the posts can be minimized.

Salt Reserve for 2014

Hamilton County Engineer's Eastern Maintenance Facility, located at the corner of Round Bottom Road and SR 32, stores our salt in their dome and has asked that we keep our inventory around 300 tons. Currently, we have about 215 tons of salt on hand. Mr. Dickerson said we will not need to purchase salt until 2014.

Charley Harper

John Russell, resident and past mayor, presented a framed Charley Harper print to the citizens of Newtown. This gift is from John and Sandy Russell in celebration of the 11.12.2013 opening of the American Indian Education Center. Charley Harper (August 4, 1922 – June 10, 2007) was a Cincinnati-based American Modernist artist.

Mr. Short made a motion to adjourn at 8:30pm.

Transcribed by Becky Fairley