

## VILLAGE OF NEWTOWN FIRE/EMS SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Village of Newtown Council is exploring the option of withdrawing from the Little Miami Joint Fire & Rescue District (LMFR) and operating our own Village Fire Department due to the following:

- The LMFR is attempting to bring the Village of Golf Manor Fire Department, also including an expanded coverage of the Ridge Fire District of Columbia Township, into the district. The Village of Golf Manor is geographically isolated from the LMFR response district, and Newtown Village Council does not support the collection of tax dollars from Newtown residents through LMFR levies to be spent on manpower, equipment, existing station improvements, and potential station construction that will not directly benefit Newtown residents nor the current district. Newtown Village Council does not agree that the increased revenues generated by imposition of the LMFR District levies unto Golf Manor will offset the additional expenses that would be incurred with their membership. With only two votes on a six-person board, your Newtown representatives on the LMFR District Board cannot stop the induction of Golf Manor.
  
- LMFR budget forecasts cash reserves will be exhausted in 2018 and a levy would need to be placed on the ballot for additional funding in 2017. The Village of Newtown representatives on the LMFR District Board have repeatedly requested an extensive budget review in order to look for ways to cut costs to prolong a levy. This request has not yet been fulfilled.
  
- Current Property Value: Current Revenue: 12.05 Mills

Newtown	\$88,503,990	(40.66%)	\$807,120.00	(2 votes on LMFR Board)
Columbia Township	\$68,782,330	(31.60%)	\$627,275.17	(2 votes on LMFR Board)
Fairfax	\$60,358,060	(27.73%)	\$550,453.81	(2 votes on LMFR Board)

  - If Golf Manor becomes a member of the District, your tax contribution will remain the same but Newtown's Board representation will drop from having 2 of 6 votes to having 2 of 8 votes.
  
- The two new Fire Stations built in 2010 Cost:

Fairfax Station	\$4,230,931.98
Newtown Station	\$3,405,742.50
  
- Golf Manor currently provides services to the Ridge Fire District (part of Columbia Township)
  - Fire Professionals have recommended the construction of a new fire station at the Ridge & Highland area in Columbia Township to reduce response times and improve efficiency, and effectiveness. However this is not included in the proposed budget and there is no guarantee that the rest of Columbia Township will pass additional fire levies or join the LMFR District.
  
- Golf Manor will impose a 5.55 mill levy increase on their residents to raise them to the current district 12.05 mills (The increase will not be on the ballot, Golf Manor residents will not get a vote).

In an effort to secure the option of withdrawing from the Little Miami Fire & Rescue District and operating our own Village Fire Department, Village Council had to meet an August 5, 2015 electorate deadline for a Fire Levy. We will continue to execute our due diligence in this matter and should we elect to proceed with the withdrawal from the LMFR District, the Village will provide more information on our plan to provide professional Fire & EMS Services for the Village of Newtown.

Mayor Curt Cosby    Councilman Daryl Zornes    Councilman Mark Kobasuk    Councilman Curt Tiettmeyer  
Councilman Joe Harten    Councilman Chuck Short    Councilwoman Cheryl McConnell