

The August 21, 2015 Special Meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Curt Cosby, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council Members:	Joe Harten	Chuck Short
	Mark Kobasuk	Curt Tiettmeyer
	Cheryl McConnell	Daryl Zornes

Audience Participation

David Kubicki, 7912 Ashley View Drive. Mr. Kubicki resides in Columbia Township and serves as a Columbia Township Trustee, as well as a member of the Little Miami Fire and Rescue Fire District. Mr. Kubicki urged Village Council to give the Fire Board a chance to move in the right direction regarding changes previously discussed with several of Newtown council members. Council thanked Mr. Kubicki for reaching out.

LMFR Fire Chief Terry Ramsey told Village Council, LMFR had worked long and hard on the Golf Manor merger. He said while some may not understand the process, good intentions were had by all in the beginning. Chief Ramsey apologized – said at the beginning of the year; the merger looked like a good move. He apologized if the right information was not conveyed, but all intentions were to lengthen the present operations levy for as long as possible. Chief Ramsey said it has always been their intention to provide the best professional service.

Mr. Tiettmeyer thanked Mr. Kubicki for his efforts, as well as Mr. Lemon's time over the last few days to resolve this serious matter. Mr. Tiettmeyer stated that he was very disappointed in the letter that was mailed to Mr. Kobasuk and himself from Mr. David Olson. Mr. Olson took the four-point request from Village Council and for the most part, avoided or denied all points, except for an agreement to put off the Golf Manor merger. The letter was very clear there was no intention on Mr. Olson's part and there was an unwillingness for the Fire Board to work with Village Council on these serious points. While Mr. Olson didn't say what members, it is very unfortunate that he did speak for the LMFR board members. It is very disappointing that Chief Ramsey took it upon himself to go to businesses in the Village of Newtown to explain his point-of-view, which was very slanted in terms of what Council was trying to accomplish. Mr. Tiettmeyer said it was slanted to the point that he believes Chief Ramsey was not telling the truth about what was taking place or what was planned. Frankly, we are not 100% certain about what we are going to do, but we are getting there quickly, said Mr. Tiettmeyer. Mr. Tiettmeyer views Chief Ramsey's actions as a form of insubordination of how he has treated the Village of Newtown, which is the largest customer of the Little Miami Fire and Rescue district. The largest in terms of the contribution that is made to the joint venture. Given these chain of events, Mr. Tiettmeyer asked that Chief Ramsey resign immediately and should he choose not to resign, he should be terminated as Fire Chief. Mr. Tiettmeyer said he understands that Mr. Olson is not currently appointed by the Columbia Township trustees to be a resident-representative on the LMFR Fire Board. Therefore, Mr. Olson should not be serving on the Fire Board, let alone, serving as the Fire Board President. Mr. Tiettmeyer suggested Mr. Olson be removed from the Fire Board, immediately and only return if Columbia Township trustees move forward and formally appoint Mr. Olson to the Fire Board as their resident-representative. Mr. Tiettmeyer is suggesting this action because of the years of distress Newtown has been put under trying to deal with the LMFR Fire Board. Mr. Tiettmeyer said he has been a Newtown Council Member for six years and has never seen Chief Ramsey attend a Village Council meeting to attempt any type of discussion regarding the fire department.

Resolution, Tax Levy for Fire Protection

Whereas, on August 4, 2015, the Council of the Village of Newtown passed Resolution 32-2015 placing on the ballot for consideration by the electors in the Village of Newtown at the November 3, 2015 general election a 12.05 mill tax levy for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefore, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company.

A resolution to remove the issue from the November 3, 2015 general election ballot was prepared, but not adopted by Village Council. Therefore, Mayor Cosby called for an adjournment of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.

Transcribed by Becky Fairley