

**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Attendance**

The March 27, 2018 meeting of the Newtown Village Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Mark Kobasuk, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

<b>Council Members:</b>	Curt Tiettmeyer (Vice Mayor)	Terry Fairley	Solicitor: Emily T. Supinger (excused)
	Daryl Zornes	Don Carroll (excused)	Administrator: Jerry Thamann
	Chuck Short	Sarah Williams	Fiscal Officer: Keri Everett
			Assistant to Mayor: Becky Fairley

**MVCA / SHORT PARK DEVELOPMENT PLAN – NOTICE OF TERMINATION**  
Mayor Kobasuk read the below letter from the MVCA Board of Directors.



*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105*

Mayor Mark Kobasuk  
Village of Newtown  
3537 Church Street  
Newtown, OH 45244

March 22, 2018

Dear Mayor Kobasuk,

It is with great regret that we write you to share that the MVCA Board of Directors has voted to cease our efforts to develop Short Park. It is our desire to terminate the joint venture agreement and turn the maintenance of the park back over to the Village as of May 1, 2018. MVCA and Newtown have been discussing and taking action for five plus years to develop athletic facilities in Short Park. Many folks from both the Village and the school have poured countless hours into this venture. It is very unfortunate, but with escalating costs and escalating complexity of the project, the Board has concluded that the additional costs will be prohibitive. Most of the increased cost has been a result of the recent EPA requirements based on the findings of the landfill cover investigation.

We would like to specifically thank the former and present Village council members who showed great support for the project over time. Thank you to Joe, Cheryl, Curt, Daryl, Chuck, Terry, Don and Sarah. Thanks to Emily for her guidance and balance navigating multiple agreements and documents and to Jerry for helping to facilitate details. Thanks to the Becky and Keri for providing support and handling more details than we might even know. We are grateful for the support by Ben and Gerry on the engineering and zoning side as well. Thanks to Chuck who has worked with the school on any number of issues as we worked to live up to our maintenance requirements. Chief Synan is a big supporter and help to MVCA on a regular basis and we thank him for his support of the SPARC project as well. A special thanks to you Mark, you always made MVCA feel valued and you were a great supporter of the project, we wish we could have generated a different outcome.

MVCA still has a dream of home fields. Maybe we will find a different way to get this accomplished. What we want to communicate to the Village is our appreciation of your support to try and make home fields a reality. Moving forward we look forward to our ongoing strong relationship. We will continue to serve this community and we look forward to working together for the benefit of both organizations. We thank you for your past and future support.

With our gratitude,

MVCA Board of Directors



## Approval of Council Minutes

**Mr. Short made a motion to approve the 03.13.2018 Council Minutes, Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried.**

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### Citizen Participation (Two minute limit for each speaker) (Read by Mayor Kobasuk)

We have reached that point in our meeting where a citizen may express an opinion, make a statement, address a concern, or ask a question on any subject that is not otherwise on the agenda. This will allow the statement to be entered into the official meeting record. This portion of the meeting is not for Council to provide responses to citizen comments. If you have a concern or request information, please be sure to leave your contact information with the staff before you leave the meeting. A member of the staff will contact you regarding your request. Please state your name and where you live when addressing Council. Is there anyone present that would like to bring an item, not otherwise on the agenda, before Council?

### ATFD Update (Presented by Fire Chief Mark Ober)

Chief Ober's presentation compared January thru December 2017 responses to 2016; there was an increase of 6.8% with major increases occurring in two categories: Rescue/EMS and False Alarms. Fire Chief Mark Ober will be retiring August 3, 2018. At the time of his retirement, Mark Ober will have completed almost 42 years of service with the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department. He will go down in the history books for having served sixteen years as Anderson's Fire Chief – longer than any other Chief in the fire department's 77-year history.

Anderson Board of Trustees has formally appointed Assistant Chief Rick Martin as Anderson Township's next Fire Chief. Rick is a 33-year veteran of the Fire and Rescue Department. He has served as assistant chief since 2017, rising from the ranks as a firefighter-paramedic, lieutenant and battalion chief, a position he held for 17 years. He received a Commendation of Valor in 1995 from the Fire and Rescue Department and was named the American Legion Post 318 Firefighter of the Year in 2003. Besides numerous certifications in fire service, he also holds his J.D. from the Chase College of Law.

Chief Ober thanked the Village staff for the support he and the department have received. Mayor and Village Council thanked Chief Ober for the quality of service and professionalism exemplified by the ATFD personnel since January 2016. It is comforting to know the quality of service currently provided by ATFD, will continue August 3<sup>rd</sup> and thereafter, when Assistant Fire Chief Rick Martin is promoted to Fire Chief, serving the fine folks of Anderson Township and the Village of Newtown. Congratulations to Fire Chief Mark Ober for the many years of commitment faithfully and dutifully serving multiple communities!

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chris Hicks thanked Mayor Kobasuk for reading the letter from the MVCA Board members.

Kelly Carlier, Newtown resident told Council they should consider Short Park a valuable asset contributing to the growth of the Village. The bike trail is having/will continue to have a significant impact on the Village and it should not be ignored. Ms. Carlier has lived next to the park for nearly eighteen years. Despite the park being in limbo as far as upgrades over the past five years, bike and foot traffic around the park has increased significant. We have an opportunity here and should rethink how the center of the Village should develop Short Park because of the trail.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Thamann submitted the below report via email to council. This summary is not meant to be inclusive, but only a short list of various administrative activities.

1. Smith's Bell and Clock, Inc. has been provided authorization to move forward with the repair of the post clock in Bicentennial Park. The repairs are limited to replacing the motor and worn out gears to get the clock timing synchronized and running properly. The estimated quote is \$950 plus any additional parts and labor. Separate pricing was requested to replace the bezel glass with clear lexan, replace the lighting with LED backlighting and a photocell, and install a clock controller for automatic daylight savings and power loss correction. These components were an additional \$2,400. The additional work has not been authorized and the scope of services is to get the clock running properly.
2. United Maier Signs, Inc. was contacted to review the Fire Department sign proposal the company submitted to the Village. The sign proposal was submitted sometime in 2016 with a revision to the design proposal in May of 2016, and again in June of 2017. The representative indicated the proposed sign material includes a painted aluminum face with black reflective vinyl graphics. The representative indicated the sun is extremely harsh on reflective lettering and we may get approximately four years out of the graphics. Non-reflective lasts longer. With this in mind a sign sample was sent to United Maier to consider other materials for a Fire Department sign. Additionally, the existing concrete block base with the street address will be removed by the Village. I am in the process of obtaining a proposal for an enhanced sign which will last much longer, but is definitely more expensive.

Mayor Kobasuk said the sign proposals are to be brought to Council for approval.

3. There has been a request to install signage in front of the Police Station. An idea suggested is some type of an illuminated globe with the "Police" wording on the globe. I have searched the internet for examples but have not been very successful on an old-fashioned sign post with an illuminated globe. I have reached out to the company repairing the clock to see if they could use a clock post and design a globe to fit onto the top of the post. An update with additional design details and cost will be provided if the company is capable of manufacturing this type of sign.  
  
A price will also be obtained to add vinyl lettering on the glass front of the building to indicate the police department's address.
4. A presentation on Hamilton County's Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) will be provided at the April 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. I have pertinent information on the program and some specific information on Newtown I want to present to Council. Also, I confirmed Joy Pierson, Hamilton County's Community Development Administrator will be in attendance to address any county-wide program questions and/or questions specific to Newtown's participation. To participate in the 2019 CDBG funding cycle, a resolution will have to be passed by Council. It is anticipated this resolution will have to be submitted to the community development office by no later than mid June. The 2019 participation year application process has not yet been determined by HUD.
5. In the 2018 appropriations Council funded \$30,000 toward an updated or a new Village of Newtown Comprehensive Plan. The existing plan was approved by Council in June of 1998. The 1998 Comprehensive Plan was completed by Pflum, Klausmeier and Gehrum (PKG) Consultants. The contract with PKG was entered into in 1996 and had a not to exceed price of \$53,500.

Based on the age of the existing Comprehensive Plan and the updates of the Zoning Code and Maps, I suggest consultants be contacted for proposals on a new Comprehensive Plan. Writing a new plan can be very time consuming and expensive. The Planning Commission should discuss the need for a new or updated Comprehensive Plan and submit a recommendation to Village Council. Based on the time to complete the 1998 Plan (approximately 21 months), Council could consider funding this project over a two year period. This is assuming the Plan would be completed prior to the end of 2019. Consultants can submit written proposals and include a timeline on completion of the plan, the scope of services to create a new plan and an updated zoning map, and a contract price.

I had discussed with Gerry Stoker the 1998 Plan and the involvement of the many stakeholders from a variety of cross sections of the community and the advisory steering committee which participated in the process. I also discussed with Gerry and our Solicitor, Emily Supinger a list of potential consultants the Village may want to seek proposals.

Mayor Kobasuk told Mr. Thamann to obtain quotes from three consultants. A two-year plan is being considered.

6. Other general administrative items addressed since the last Council meeting include comments on the personnel policy manual; Burger Farm drainage; inquiries about the height of Newtown Fill; computer hardware/software and the IT program; review with Gerry Stoker the zoning code on signage pertaining to height and setback regulations; discussions with Solicitor and Fiscal Officer on needed legislation for blanket purchase orders and the creation of a petty cash fund.

Engineering Update (Mr. Thamann updated council on various projects.)

Mr. Thamann will follow-up with Jeanie Monk, family member of Ms. Suarez regarding Ragland Road easement.

IT / Computer Update (Mr. Thamann reported)

This has been a long process - a few computers will need to be purchased. Lt. McBreen will order Mr. Thamann a new computer. Chuck Morgan's computer also needs to be replaced. The servers need to be upgraded to prevent the crashing issue. Lt. McBreen has met with Time Warner to up the IT Band internet speed from 5 to 50.

MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kobasuk reported that the Cincinnati Soccer Club "CincySC" has purchased a parcel of land to the right of the Sticksel property for a double lane that would have an ingress/egress from Church Street. The soccer club will need to come before the Planning Commission for approval. If not approved, their options will be to bring before the Board of Zoning Appeals and then to the Court of Common Pleas.

COUNCIL REPORTS (None)

Village Solicitor's Report (To be reported by Solicitor Emily Supinger)

Solicitor Supinger will speak to the terms of the agreement with MVCA at the 4.10.2018 Council Meeting. Personnel Practices Manual will also be discussed with Council.

NEW LEGISLATION

Resolution, ATLL

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

**Mrs. Williams made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 05-2018 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH ANDERSON TOWNSHIP LITTLE LEAGUE, INC. FOR USE OF ATHLETIC FIELDS. Mr. Zornes seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Williams-Yes, Mr. Fairley-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes. Motion Carried.**

Resolution, Kubota Utility Vehicle

Mr. Fairley explained that this is a budgeted item and due to safety concerns, Council decided to purchase this year instead of next. The quote from Baxla Tractor Sales, Inc. for the purchase of the Kubota Utility Vehicle, which includes the trade-in value of the 1998 John Deere Gator 6X4, in a total amount of \$18,580.03.

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

**Mr. Fairley made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 06-2018 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A KUBOTA UTILITY VEHICLE AND THE TRADE-IN OF A 1998 JOHN DEERE GATOR 6X4. Mr. Short seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Williams-Yes, Mr. Fairley-Yes, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes. Motion Carried.**

Ordinance, Salaries for Village Personnel

**Mr. Short made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Zornes. Roll Call: Mrs. Williams-Yes, Mr. Fairley-Abstain, Mr. Tiettmeyer-Yes, Mr. Short-Yes, Mr. Zornes-Yes. Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Checklist

**Mr. Tiettmeyer made a motion to approve the 03.13.2018 Checklist, in the amount of \$68,044.72. Mr. Short seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Approved.**

Lenten Fish Fry & Easter Egg Hunt

Mr. Short thanked Chief Ober and personnel for participating in the 2018 Lenten Fish Fry and Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Newtown Civic League. Due to the weather this year, there were only about thirty children that participated in the egg hunt – 4500 eggs were a free for all so the kids left with plenty of eggs this year!

Mr. Fairley made a motion to adjourn at 7:17pm, seconded by Mr. Short. Motion Carried.

Transcribed by Becky Fairley (from notes taken at meeting)