

COMMUNITY

PHONE: (330) 296-9657 • FAX: (330) 296-2698

WINDHAM

Proposal for joint fire district is finalized

Village council presented idea at meeting; trustees to hear presentation this week

By Don Jovich
Record-Courier staff writer

WINDHAM — With the goal of delivering better fire protection to Windham residents, a newly formed advisory committee feels it has come up with a win-win situation.

A finalized proposal sup-

porting a new joint fire district was presented to Village Council by the Joint Fire District Exploratory Advisory Committee Tuesday.

Mayor C. James Moore said the advisory committee determined that a joint fire district would better serve both the township and village.

“It’s a great opportunity

for both of us,” he said.

Advisory committee member Maurice Hankins, a retired assistant fire chief and former village mayor, said the cost to change to a fire district board would be insignificant and no additional taxes would be needed.

“Firefighters need to have one governing body to re-

port and request funding for all operations,” he said.

The last operating agreement between the township and village expired on Dec. 31, 2003 and has not been renewed. Since that time, Hankins said the township has made all of the decisions relating to the fire department.

Township Trustee Dan Tim-

mons said under the current situation, the trustees absorb the salaries of the board members, the fiscal officer, bi-annual audits and dispatching.

On Thursday, township trustees will hear the committee’s recommendation and will receive a copy of the report at their regular meeting.