

COMMUNITY

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WINDHAM TOWNSHIP

Trustees hear joint fire district proposal

By Don Jovich
Record-Courier staff writer

WINDHAM TOWNSHIP — After nearly four years without a formal operating agreement, township and village officials have agreed to discuss the structure of the fire department.

Trustees convened Thursday for their regular meeting and heard a special presentation from the members of the

joint fire district exploratory advisory committee.

The meeting at Windham Town Hall highlighted the committee's findings and unanimous recommendation in support of a joint fire district.

"We look forward to working with the trustees to form a joint fire district," said Village Council President Scott Garrett. "We feel both sides will benefit."

Garrett said he would like

to begin discussions after the trustees have read the committee's report and supporting documentation.

"We would like to have a joint resolution in place by Nov. 1 and have a joint fire district go into effect by Jan. 1, 2008," Garrett said.

He said that in order for the fire department to move forward, a neutral board needs to be created.

The last operating agree-

ment between the township and village expired on Dec. 31, 2003 and has not been renewed.

Trustee Dan Timmons thanked the committee for presenting their information and said they would be happy to discuss the issue at their next meeting.

"We're taking it under advisement," Timmons said. "We need a chance to review the information we were pre-

sented with." Township resident Ted St. John, a committee member, said their goal was to bring both sides of the table together to discuss the fire department's structure.

"We need to change if Windham is ever going to progress," St. John said.

The next trustee meeting is scheduled for Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. at Windham Township Hall, 9011 N. Main St.