

COMMUNITY

WINDHAM

Village officials seek settlement to fire district

Township trustees consult with attorney about issue

By Don Jovich
Record-Courier staff writer

WINDHAM — An offer from village officials has been given to township trustees to resolve any issues relating to forming a proposed joint fire district.

A letter signed by Village Council members and Mayor James Moore has been sent to township officials in an attempt to work out their differences.

"The council members that were present at the (Aug. 15) trustee meeting were very disappointed to find that all questions were being answered by your lawyer," the letter states.

Windham Township Trustees are working with attorney Mark Finamore, an expert on the topic of joint fire districts. Finamore is forming a legal opinion for the township on the possibility of forming the proposed joint fire district.

"We're awaiting a legal opinion from Mr. Finamore regarding the proposed joint fire district," said Township Trustee Howard Furl. "We are in the process of reviewing all of the documents given to us by the village."

In response, Village Coun-

cil voted to retain the legal services of attorney David "Chip" Comstock, who also is well-qualified in the process of forming joint fire districts.

According to village officials, the forming of a joint fire district would be to the benefit of both village and township.

"We are in hopes that we can continue to move forward on the issues that separate us and keep on schedule for our Nov. 1 date for the forming of the district," the letter states.

In order to encourage the township to move forward on forming a Joint (Village/Township) Fire District by Nov. 1 and to encourage the township to refrain from legal actions and costs to both parties, the village council and mayor are offering the township trustees the following proposals:

- The land real estate where the fire station is located
- The fire station
- Equipment
- Free village water
- No new tax. No need to terminate current tax levies. The 1 mill levy for operation and the one 1 mill levy for heavy equipment can remain in place until their terms end.