

Village News

From Mayor C. James Moore
October 26, 2006

Police Chief Jack DeSalvo's resignation due to his acceptance of a disability pension, became effective October 27, 2006. Police Sgt. Dale Korman remains the Officer in Charge until a new Chief is appointed by the Mayor and approved by Council (per Ohio Revised Code). An advertisement for the Police Chief opening has produced ten (10) candidates' resumes. The Council's Safety/Personnel/Rules (SPR) Committee (M. Garrett, R. Barrett and S. Garrett) will be assisting me with thorough reviews and interviews of the candidates for the Police Chief position. Jack started as a part time officer in July, 1983; became a full time officer in February, 1990 and became Chief in June, 2000. We sincerely appreciate Chief DeSalvo's 23 years of dedicated service with our Police Department. CONGRATULATIONS to Chief DeSalvo. We wish Jack a very happy and healthy retirement.

The East Center and North Main Street new sewer line construction is completed. There are some remaining street and landscaping repairs to be finished. In Spring 2007 and with better weather conditions the contractors will do landscaping repairs to the larger areas. We anticipate that this \$1.6 million project will be completed under budget. The Ohio EPA and the Clean Water Act mandated that the new sewer lines be installed. Treatment of ground water and rain water infiltration at the Sewer Plant has been significantly reduced.

Another apartment building located at 9591 Community will be torn down by years end or early 2007. Neighborhood Development Services (NDS) recently acquired this building for the purpose of tearing it down. The building does not meet our Village Housing Code Ordinance Regulations. There have been approximately 11 apartment buildings torn down since year 2000 (approximately 66 apartments). From 1980 until now there have been approximately 82 apartment buildings torn down (approximately 516 apartments).

Four (4) more new single family homes are planned for construction in 2007. They will be built on vacant land parcels in the apartment complex area owned by NDS. This is part of an ongoing plan to gradually reduce the density of multi-family apartment buildings and replace them with single family home ownership. In January, 2005 the Village Zoning Committee rezoned the apartment complex making most of the area single family and commercial zoned.

A total of 37 single family homes have been built in the Village since year 2000. Of them, 28 were built in the apartment area and 9 were built in the Village east side (New Homes) area. The additional 4 new homes in 2007 will bring the total to 41 new homes built in our Village since year 2000.

The Community Road construction consisting of new sewer and water lines, sidewalks, curbing, landscaping and street lighting titled The Community Distress Grant has been delayed approximately 45 days until January, 2007. This project is sponsored by the Portage County Commissioners and NDS. The costs of over \$500,000 will be paid for by grant funds sought through the Ohio Department of Development, the County Commissioners and NDS.

The new Cortland Bank groundbreaking was held October 20, 2006. The cost of the building project is reported to be close to \$900,000 and will expand the drive-thru lanes from one to three and will add an ATM which the current location does not have. The new bank will be close to 2600 square feet. The location of the new bank is where five blighted apartment buildings were torn down by NDS in 2000. Thereafter in January 2005 that location was re-zoned commercial by Council. NDS sold that location area to Cortland Bank this year, 2006.

Other News items:

- The Village website (www.windhamvillage.com) has been updated by Lori Lee our Income Tax Administrator. Much more will be done as we continue to build the website as time allows.
- As Mayor, I have began posting some ongoing news and information on the local public forum website (www.takeforum.com/forum/?mforum=windhamohio) under Village; Village Talk.
- The Army National Guard, Congressman Ryan's representative and the Village will be meeting soon for further discussion about the Village providing water and service into the arsenal.
- An advertisement for a new Rental Housing Code Inspector for multi-family dwellings has brought 7 candidates resumes. We are seeking better enforcement of the housing code ordinance and more strict language in the ordinance.
- We received notice that the landlords are forming an association. All landlords, except a couple, are agreeable. We hope the association will cooperate to make many improved changes in the multi-family apartments.

ENJOY THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS!

