



April 26, 2019

SPECIAL WHITEHOUSE COUNCIL AGENDA
April 29, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Notice is hereby given that the Whitehouse Village Council will meet on for a special meeting on Monday, April 29, 2019, at 7:00 PM. This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, Village Hall, 6925 Providence Street, Whitehouse, Ohio.

Welcome and thank you for attending the Whitehouse Village Council meeting. The purpose of the Village Council meeting is to conduct the official business of the Village of Whitehouse and to hear citizen's comments pertaining to items that appear on the agenda and comments for future consideration. We welcome and encourage your participation. If you wish to make a comment, please wait to be recognized then step to the podium and state your name and address for the record. Please make your comments as concise as possible to allow time for others who wish to make comments. The Mayor presides over the Council meeting and has the authority to take the actions necessary to maintain order and proper decorum among those present. Thank you for your cooperation.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Discuss Potential Next Steps After Reviewing the Feasibility Study
- IV. Adjournment

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Mayor Donald Atkinson and Members of the Whitehouse Village Council

FROM: Jordan D. Daugherty, Village Administrator

SUBJECT: Special Joint Council Meeting of Monday, April 29, 2019

DATE: April 26, 2019

The Whitehouse Village Council is scheduled to meet for a special joint meeting on **Monday, April 29, 2019**, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Village Hall, 6925 Providence Street, Whitehouse, Ohio 43571.

The only item on the agenda is to discuss the potential next steps after reviewing the Fire Feasibility Study. A memo from Fire Chief Hartbarger is included in your packet.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan D. Daugherty
Village Administrator



Whitehouse Fire Department

10550 Waterville Street P.O. Box 2817
Whitehouse, Ohio 43571
419 877-0363
Fax 419 877-4827

Joshua Hartbarger, Chief

Jason Francis, Deputy Chief
William May, Assistant Chief

4/25/2019

Mayor and Council,

RE: April 29th, 2019 joint meeting

All,

In preparation for our meeting next week, I feel it is imperative that I share my thoughts on the "next steps" associated with our research pertaining to the potential fire district. As you have all heard me emphasize, we have a lot of research left before any recommendation from me can be made either supporting or not supporting a joint fire district.

This process began a year ago with a mutual understanding of the current staffing struggles fire departments face nationwide including those locally. Our goal was to look at a model or idea that addressed these issues in a joint effort thus eventually stabilizing costs associated with operations over time. The Ohio Fire Chiefs have submitted an excellent report providing a foundation to build on. However, in order for any final conclusion to be drawn on a direction, there are still two main questions that need to be answered. Number one: What is the associated cost of each municipality creating a plan to address issues on their own and strengthening our already excellent working relationship? Number two: What would both municipal Chiefs recommend in a staffing model for a joint fire district? This question is important as the two models reflected in the feasibility study were designed to serve as templates as Mr. Crosley pointed out. Chief Meyer and I have an excellent understanding of the successes and pitfalls associated with fire department staffing. It is imperative that we design a template we know will be successful.

We owe our residents due diligence in our decision making. Forming a conclusion at this phase would be hasty and potentially may not address our problems we started this process to solve. I recommend that a small focus group be created consisting of both municipal Fire Chiefs, both municipal Administrators, and an elected official from each municipality. I would also recommend that this process not be rushed in order to ensure the integrity of our research. I am confident that with this group the right decision can be recommended.

Regards,

Joshua Hartbarger