



Fire Chief Bradford L. Shull, OFE

## **28 March, 2016 - Gahanna Council Briefing**

### **MECC and Gahanna join up for Local Government Public Safety Capital Grant application.**

The MECC township partners and Gahanna PD have teamed up to pursue a collaborative grant from the State of Ohio. The grant would provide for the replacement of mission critical radio consoles and enhancement with collaborative infrastructure access. With collaboration, work from all involved and an evaluation of current and needed equipment, the initiative is projected to cost roughly half of what would be needed if done separately. The grant award request was for \$460,000.

### **Assistance from Gahanna technical services crucial in connecting Jefferson to MECC**

Chief Shull has been working extensively with Deputy Service Director Matthew Holdren to research connecting Jefferson to the MECC via existing fiber optic infrastructure. This project is ongoing and still in the planning phase. We appreciate the willingness of Gahanna to assist in this important endeavor.

### **Jefferson Executive Staff travel to Underwriters Laboratories to Witness Live Fire Experiments**

Chief Shull and Battalion Chief McCullough traveled to Underwriter Laboratories near Chicago to witness and learn from ground breaking research on how modern construction and fire suppression techniques impact fire incidents in new residential structures. The research is funded through the US Department of Homeland Security and will provide tangible scientific data for use by the fire service.

Current realizations from UL include:

- New construction and furnishings burn nine times faster than legacy materials.
- Closing your doors when you sleep at night reduces the chances of fire entering your room and increases the chance of survivability.
- The fire service must adjust tactics to increase the viability of fire victims and to prevent the further spread of fire.

Since new homes can be problematic when fire is present, this amplifies the need for family fire prevention education, use and maintenance of smoke detectors and the consideration of residential sprinkler installation. Understanding these challenges, the impact they can have on our community and how to address them is a priority for your Jefferson Township Fire Department. For more information contact the Jefferson Township Fire Department or visit, online, UL <http://ulfirefightersafety.com> or the National Institute of Standards and Technology <http://www.nist.gov/fire>.