

Madison businessman receives resolution for 30 years in business

By **DEBBIE PALINSKY**
For the Star Beacon

MADISON — Village council honored Jeffrey Lynn, a village resident and business owner, with a resolution on behalf of council and the village residents, in honor and appreciation for his 30 years as a Madison Village businessman and his community and recognition for his civic minded dedication to the community and its organizations. The resolution was presented at the Jan. 19, Monday night council meeting.

Lynn began learning the refrigeration trade at the age of eight while working in the family business. He bought the business in 1974 just after graduating from Willoughby South High School. At that time, the business saw gross sales of about \$68,000 annually.

In May of 1980, Lynn moved to Madison Village and opened up shop in his garage. As business continued to grow, he moved his operations across the street to the current location of 156 West Main Street where he rented the building from Bud Riegert for several years before purchasing the building in 1998.

Now, 30 years later, Penguin Mechanical Incorporated continues this service and sees yearly sales in excess of one million dollars and currently employs 14 people, including his wife, Kathy, who manages the office.

"Providing customers with old family standards,"



Photo by **DEBBIE PALINSKY**

JEFFREY LYNN, owner of Penguin Mechanical Inc., shakes hands with Madison Village Mayor Robert F. Lee after council members presented Lynn with a resolution for his 30 years in business.

Lynn said, is what has made his business so successful these past 30 years.

Lynn said the best part of his job is talking to people and becoming friends with the many people he has met through his 30 years in business.

After presenting Lynn with the resolution, many on council congratulated Lynn and commented on the obstacles Lynn has faced through the years, such as his house and business being severely flooded in 2006.

"Being a business owner is not always easy and we appreciate your efforts and the sacrifices you have made and we thank you," said Matt Zapp, village administrator.

Aside from his business, Lynn has taken an active role in the local and surrounding communities and holds memberships with the Willoughby Masonic Lodge 302, Scottish Rite Valley of Cleveland and

Lake-Geauga Scottish Rite Society, Geneva VFW Post 6846 and Geneva Fraternal of Eagles.

Lynn has been an active member of the American Legion Jay Wilson Post 112 holding several officer positions including serving as past commander for the Sons of the American Legion from 1997 to 1999. He was granted life membership to post 112 and currently serves as Director of the Madison Community Funeral Team.

"Since we started the funeral team in 1999, I have arranged and attended 689 funerals providing military honors for fallen veterans in the Madison and Perry area," Lynn said.

Councilman Robert Verdi thanked Lynn for his efforts on the funeral team and said, "I am a veteran and I thank you above and beyond."

Mayor Robert F. Lee agreed, "You are to be commended."