

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

June 25, 2013

Mayor Coate called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Coate; *Councilmembers:* Fred Francis (*came into the meeting at 7:55 p.m.*), Jason Tinnerman, Scott Fogle, Ora Ashley, and Susan Willis. *Also present were:* Manager Kline, Ben Herron, Tim Swartztrauber, Jill Grise, and Clerk Cantrell. *Absent:* Miller.

The following Certificate of the Clerk of the Council to the presiding Officer of the Council of the Municipality of West Milton was read: The undersigned certified that all requirements to notice and notification has been done or attempted to be done in compliance with Council Rule III.

Dated: June 25, 2013

Signed: Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

SERVICE AND SAFETY UPDATES

Manager Kline stated that he, Tim Swartztrauber, and Andy from Choice One met with the OEPA last week. He stated if the Municipality shows progress on working on the I&I the Municipality might be granted an extension to complete the project. Tim Swartztrauber stated near the end of the time given to complete the project a letter would need to be written requesting an extension. The project is due to be completed by October 2016.

Tim Swartztrauber stated bids for the water meters will be opened on July 1, 2013. He also stated money for the effluent channel would be available on July 1, 2013. Mr. Swartztrauber stated effluent channel project would probably be started in early October 2013.

Tim Swartztrauber stated Jim Wilson is now up and around. He stated Don Knife has taken a job with the City of Piqua as their plant operator. Don was a fifteen (15) year employee. Cory plans to take the WWII test and Tim Swartztrauber plans to take the WI test in November 2013. Manager Kline stated Lisa Hendricks (*a former Municipal employee*) has agreed to work six (6) hours a week until Tim Swartztrauber passes his test.

Ben Herron stated he, Manager Kline, and Tim Swartztrauber met with Vectren. He stated Vectren sent in as many crews as possible to try and have the necessary work completed before the Fourth of July. Mr. Herron stated due to the work done by Vectren the Municipality got a lot of new sidewalks and other things done for West Milton. He stated eighty percent (80%) of the asphalt is completed. Mr. Herron stated Vectren would be back after the Fourth of July to complete the work.

Ben Herron stated the parking lot has the base coat and curb installed. He stated on Wednesday, June 26, 2013, the finish coat would be put down and then the parking lot would be striped for the parking stalls.

Ben Herron stated a granite bench would be placed by the memorial planter area in honor of Duke Small (*it will be placed near his plaque in the park*). Dodd's Monuments will be doing the bench and installation for the seven hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$755.00) received in donations for this project.

Ben Herron stated a lightning strike took out the Municipal Building's air conditioning. He stated the Municipal Building was running on one (1) compressor for four (4) days. The air conditioning is back up and running at a cost of a little over six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). It appears the insurance will take care of most of the cost.

Ben Herron stated everything will be done by July 1, 2013, for the Fourth of July Festival.

Ben Herron stated the Fire Department would be going out to bid for the roof repair/replacement. He stated they would need to do this in order to find out how much it will cost. Mr. Herron stated Bill Jay has now served on the Fire Department for sixty (60) years. Mr. Herron thinks it might be even longer, due to the fact Mr. Jay use to come along with his dad to do things when Mr. Jay was very young.

Fred Francis came into the meeting at this time (7:55 p.m.).

Manager Kline stated Officer Jason Newton will be leaving his employment with West Milton sometime in July 2013. He stated Mike Morgan went to work for the City of Sidney and is now interested in returning to work as an officer for West Milton. Manager Kline stated he and Chief Kempel are in favor of Mike returning. He stated Mike is wiser and more mature now.

PARKING LOT REGS

Manager Kline stated he and Chief Kempel would like to know if Council would want to setup regulations for the new parking lot. He suggested the regulations allow for two (2) hour parking limits for Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. He stated there will be thirty-three (33) parking spots. Manager Kline stated in order to receive money to do the parking lot there has to be a minimum of thirty-three (33) parking spots. Susan Willis asked how these regulations would affect the other parking lots downtown. Ben Herron stated those lots are private lots for the downtown business owners. Jason Tinnerman asked what would happen if someone parked a vehicle and did not move it for several days. Manager Kline stated the regulations could include the ability to have the vehicles removed from the parking lot. Scott Fogle asked how many handicap spots the parking lot would have. Manager Kline stated right now two (2). Susan Willis suggested two (2) more spots be designated as handicap parking. Manager Kline stated there has to be thirty-three (33) spots. So it would be difficult to have two (2) more van accessible spots. Ben Herron stated they could possibly do two (2) standard handicap parking spots that are not van accessible at a later time, if they see the need for additional handicap spots. It was the consensus of Council to have Manager Kline develop parking regulations for their review. Manager Kline stated he would like for traffic coming out of the parking lot to have the ability to go left or right onto Washington Street. He stated he would like to make Hamilton a two-way street.

PARK BOARD UPDATE

Manager Kline stated he is looking for grants for projects for the parks. He stated he feels a Master Plan should be developed for the parks. This would give the Park Board a plan to work from when trying to make improvements to the parks in West Milton. Manager Kline stated he is searching for firms that do these plans. Scott Fogle suggested Manager Kline check with local communities to see if they were able to obtain grants to do projects for their parks. Ben Herron, Manager Kline, and Councilmembers discussed the various things they have heard that citizens believe will be put in the park

area where the old school building was located. Mr. Herron stated he sent out a memo to several individuals to try and stop the rumors.

JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE PARADE

Susan Willis reminded Councilmembers to be at the Municipal Building at 10:30 a.m. on July 4, 2013. She stated Officer Stevens would like to recognize Erwin's for allowing the Municipality to use their vehicles for the Fourth of July Parades for many years. Ms. Willis stated so far there have been over fifty (50) entries. She stated Dayton Freight Lines will have their new truck in the Independence Parade. Ms. Willis stated *Dayton Daily News* did an article about West Milton and the Independence Parade. She stated the motorcycle people will be here and Tom Beck will be video taping the stunts they do.

TAX BUDGET

Jill Grise stated the Tax Budget is something that has to be completed each year for the County. She stated it needs to be passed at the July Council Meeting. She stated the Tax Budget is nothing definite; that by the time the actual Budget is completed it will have changed a lot. Ms. Grise stated the General Fund is losing a lot of money every year. She gave Councilmembers two (2) charts for their review (*Summary Statement of Fund Activity for Budget Year 2014 and EOY General Fund Balances*). Ms. Grise stated the General Fund is going down a lot each year due to having to subsidize the Street Fund. She stated in 2014 the Street Fund will need approximately fifty-one thousand dollars (\$51,000.00) from the General Fund and in 2015 approximately one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the General Fund.

HEALTHCARE

Manager Kline stated he and Jill Grise attended a seminar for small groups needing health care. He stated they are projecting a thirty percent (30%) increase in rates in 2014 and a fifty percent (50%) increase in rates in 2015. Manager Kline stated the Municipal employees are filling out forms so the health care insurance can be taken out for bids.

STREET LEVY

Manager Kline stated the 3 mill levy has been renewed several times. Mr. Kline stated the levy was on the ballot for the first time in 1984. He stated the Municipality receives approximately ninety-three thousand dollars

(\$93,000) from this levy. Mr. Kline stated that figure is based off of 1984 taxes. Manager Kline gave Councilmembers two (2) handouts for their review (*West Milton Village – Miami County Future Levy Projections and Street Fund Comparison 10-Year*). The Future Levy Projections handout showed how much money replacement levies for 2 mills, 2.5 mills, and 3 mills would generate and what it would cost homeowners if their homes were valued at \$75,000, \$100,000, and \$125,000 in additional taxes. Discussion took place as to whether it should be put on the ballot as a replacement levy, a renewal levy, or a street operating levy to fund street maintenance and street operating expenses and at what mileage if it is a replacement levy. Jason Tinnerman, Susan Willis, and Ora Ashley expressed how important they feel it is to get information out to the public to help them understand why the Municipality needs the additional monies. Fred Francis also gave information as to changes that will go into affect if HB59 is passed. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of Council to have Manager Kline prepare legislation for a 3 mil replacement levy. It was also the consensus of Council that the Municipality needs to work hard to education the public.

Manager Kline stated he would be doing an application for funds from the OPWC. He stated he needs to do some research to see what funds can be applied for. Mr. Kline stated he would like to submit the Market Street and I&I projects for funding. Fred Francis asked if Manager Kline was still looking to do a loan(s) for the meters. Manager Kline stated yes and that he would like to include a couple of other projects in the loan application.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THOUGHTS AND EFFORTS

Manager Kline stated he has been looking at the old Opera House. He stated it has deteriorated but that it is more of a hoarding problem. Manager Kline suggested if the Municipality purchased the building the Municipality might be able to obtain grants to make the building safe and make it where a builder would be interested in restoring it.

Manager Kline asked Council if they would like to have a Farmers' Market in West Milton. After discussion, it was decided Manager Kline would obtain information to see if any farmers were interested in coming to West Milton for a Farmers' Market.

Manager Kline stated he wrote a letter in May 2013 to the owner of the property across the river asking for help developing the property. He stated

he received a call and the owner is interested and wants to do due diligence before committing to anything. Manager Kline stated he received a call from a realtor. He will report back to Council as soon as he knows anything else.

OTHER

Bob Stallman from DP&L Energy stated the new rate for energy for West Milton residents will go from 6.25% to 6.49% in September. He stated they decided to wait until September to make the change. Mr. Stallman stated anyone interested in enrolling in a lower rate should do so as soon as possible.

Jason Tinnerman stated the Charter Review Committee met and have broken down the Charter into the different sections. He stated they will be working on the last few sections. Mr. Tinnerman asked Council to let the committee members know if they have any suggested changes. He stated they have not had any major changes yet. Mr. Tinnerman stated Council can setup its own rules of how to operate and how Council should conduct themselves within the community. He stated the next meeting of the committee will be held the week after the Fourth of July. Manager Kline stated if there are major changes to the Charter it would have to go to the citizens for a vote; but if they are minor changes it can be done by a vote of Council.

Scott Fogle stated Pastor Steve Peters has started a new Church. He stated Rev. Peters is looking for property for the Church. Mr. Fogle asked if anyone noticed property that might be available to let him know. The new Church is called Grace Haven Church. Scott Fogle stated he would not be at the July 9, 2013, Council Meeting.

Manager Kline stated the bowling alley is doing well.

ADJOURNMENT

Susan Willis made a motion, seconded by Ora Ashley to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

Michael Coate II
Mayor