

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

November 26, 2013

Vice Mayor Tinnerman called the meeting to order.

Present were: Vice Mayor Tinnerman; *Councilmembers:* Fred Francis, Debbie Miller, Scott Fogle, Ora Ashley, and Susan Willis. *Also present were:* Manager Kline, Ben Herron, Tim Swartztrauber, Jill Grise, and Clerk Cantrell. *Absent:* Mayor Coate.

Dated: November 26, 2013

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

TREE LIGHTING

Vice Mayor Tinnerman thanked everyone for coming to the tree light ceremony.

MILTON AREA INDEPENDENT MERCHANTS (MIM)

P J Wertz gave each Councilmember a sheet containing the 2014 Schedule for the Milton Area Independent Merchants for their review. She stated MIM would like to continue doing the West Milton Fall Fling and take responsibility for the West Milton Tree Lighting. Ms. Wertz stated MIM would like to request the use of a meeting room, access to the cable network, and the use of the website to advertise a meeting to invite community members to brain storm to make these events a success. Scott Fogle stated he likes Ms. Wertz's idea of getting more people involved in the community.

Manager Kline stated he would like to see this group take off and go. He stated they are not asking for anything that the Municipality is not already giving them. Mr. Kline stated that in two (2) or three (3) years they might even start up the West Milton Chamber of Commerce again.

Scott Fogle stated maybe MIM could get individuals from Ludlow Falls, Laura, and Potsdam involved.

Vice Mayor Tinnerman stated Council is okay with MIM doing these things and to let the Municipality know when they need the items they requested.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Tim Swartztrauer showed a PowerPoint presentation showing items they found that needs to be repaired when they did the I&I testing. Manager Kline stated repairs that need to be done on private properties will have to be done by the owners. He stated the Municipality will have to repair the catch basins that have problems. Mr. Kline stated the storm sewers are the biggest problems. Manager Kline stated the Municipality will be writing letters to the property owners that need to make repairs. He stated the owners will be given a time frame as to when the work would need to be completed.

Susan Willis asked what happens if the property owners do not make the necessary repairs. Manager Kline stated Council would need to discuss what action to take and that Law Director Sell would need to be involved to see what legal avenues the Municipality would have.

Manager Kline stated the storm sewer maps for West Milton are not in good shape. He stated they need to know where the storm sewers go. Mr. Kline stated the Municipality needs to have base maps done to see where the storm sewers are actually located. Andy of Choice One stated they will look for grants to help with the cost of the work that needs to be completed. Andy stated it would cost twenty-three thousand (\$23,000.00) dollars to do the cad work for the maps from Lowry Drive south. Ben Herron stated at some point EPA would insist on these maps being done. Manager Kline stated Tim Swartztrauber wanted to purchase a camera to check the lines. He stated Mr. Swartztrauber has found a camera that does not freeze up that costs twenty-seven thousand (\$27,000.00) dollars. Manager Kline stated the Municipality cannot afford to hire this done and this would save money if the Municipal employees do this work. The cost for the original camera requested was fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars. But Manager Kline stated the Municipality just does not have the manpower to use that camera and the new one would be easier to use. Manager Kline stated he feels this is storm sewer related and thinks part of the street levy funds can be used to do this. He stated he would check with Law Director Sell to see if it is okay to use part of the street levy funds to pay for this work and the camera. Manager Kline stated the camera would be used for both the sanitary and storm sewers.

Manager Kline recommended adding a minimum of fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars to take care of I&I. Debbie Miller asked what this does to the Budget. Jill Grise stated there is a four hundred seventy thousand (\$470,000.00) dollar deficit.

Scott Fogle asked what the estimated cost would be to make the necessary repairs to the storm sewers. Manager Kline stated base maps are needed to

find out what all is wrong. Vice Mayor Tinnerman asked if the camera would be checking the lines why would there be a need for base maps. Ben Herron stated the old maps were hand drawn by a previous Municipal Manager years ago and they are not very accurate.

Debbie Miller stated that is a lot of deficit spending. She stated this is something that has to be fixed; but what can be given up in order to not be in such a deficit. Manager Kline stated Council could work on the budget in December; but pass legislation for three (3) months.

Manager Kline stated Tom Beck needs another three hundred (\$300.00) dollars for items for WMPA. It was the consensus to change the WMPA budget to five thousand five hundred (\$5,500.00) to cover the needed items.

Manager Kline stated now that the Street Levy has been passed Market Street needs to be worked on. Ben Herron discussed what it would take to do a full reconstruction of Market Street. He also gave information as to just widening the travel lanes to 14', do a full depth reclamation, a final overlay, engineering, grading, and miscellaneous supplies. Mr. Herron thinks the Municipality should do the water lines rather than hire it done. Susan Willis asked if the work is done on Market Street would other street work have to be postponed. Mr. Herron stated he does not want to postpone the repair to other streets put wants to make sure once the work is done is does not have to be torn back up to do water lines. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of Council to put \$105,000.00 in the budget to purchase a camera, do mapping, and additional money for work to be done on the streets. Manager Kline stated he would have Ms. Grise do temporary appropriations for three months so Council can continue to work on the budget at the Council Workshop Meeting to be held immediately after the regular Council Meeting. Council will be reviewing the overall budget to see what can be cut in order to not have such a large deficit.

WATER RATES – WATER COMMUNICATION

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember a sheet titled Residential Rates Comparisons for their review. He discussed the information and various suggestions for how to charge for water in the future. It was the consensus of Council to increase the Operations Charge to \$10.50 for 2014 and \$13.50 for 2015; the Rate/Usage charge remain the same at \$5.45/1000 gallons for 2014; Meter Debt Service be added at - \$2.85 for 5/8" meters - \$5.90 for 1-2" meters - \$19.60 for 3" + meters. Manager Kline stated he anticipates the rate/usage charge will drop the following year. He stated the legislation for

this needs to be completed for the December 2013 Council Meeting and passed as an Emergency Ordinance.

Scott Fogle asked if the information has been generated about the changes and increase to the water rates. Manager Kline stated he has to get the information completed by the first Friday in December in order to get the information out in time to the residents of West Milton. Manager Kline stated this information also needs to list changes in the water rules and regulations and changes in minimum payments that have to be made in order to not have their water shut off. He stated the full amount will have to be paid in order to not have their water shut off instead of a partial payment. Mr. Fogle asked Manager Kline to layout the history as to why the water rates have to be increased. He also asked Manager Kline to let the residents know that the Municipality is working with the City of Troy to see if they can change the amounts of the increases for future years. Mr. Fogle asked Manager Kline to discuss this information during the Council Meeting for residents who may be watching the Council Meeting. Manager Kline stated he will work on this.

EMPLOYEE RAISES – CHRISTMAS RECOGNITION

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember a sheet titled Employee Increase Cost Comparison for their review. This sheet showed what the cost of salaries would be to the Municipality if no increase was given for 2014; if a 1.5% increase was given; and if a 2% increase was given. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to give the Municipal employees a 1.5% increase for 2014.

It was discussed the Police Department would get the 1.5% increase as well as some of the officers would get step increases; therefore some officers would get two (2) increases for 2014.

Manager Kline stated that on December 10, 1996, a Resolution was passed to do the following for the full-time Municipal employees: Employee of the Year recognition; years of service anniversary pins; employee Christmas lunch not to exceed \$500.00; holiday gift certificates to B&B or Mr. Deals for a ham or turkey. Manager Kline stated through the years it went to a \$25.00 gift certificate being given to all full-time employees. He stated the Fire Department has their own thing they do; but that the Fire Chief has asked that the Fire Department employees be included in what is done for the Municipal employees. Manager Kline stated the Municipality has a fire company and the Municipality picks up the cost for the Fire Department and he suggests \$10.00 towards a \$20.00 gift certificate should be given to the

thirty-five (35) firemen. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to give the Municipal employees and the firemen each \$25.00 gift certificates for Christmas.

GENERAL DISCUSSION – OTHER LEGISLATION

Susan Willis stated she would like to continue looking at the request to drive golf carts on the West Milton streets. Ora Ashley stated he thinks ATVs need to be added to the request to drive golf carts on the street.

Scott Fogle stated the Park Board met with the firm that was hired to work on the Master Plan for the parks. He stated the firm is from Sidney. Mr. Fogle stated invitations will be sent out to the community asking for the residents input.

Scott Fogle stated the bowling alley would like to start leagues. He stated he would like to start a league of individuals that work for the Municipality and Union Township.

Vice Mayor Tinnerman stated someone he knows wants to save the dam. He stated the guy from Indiana wants to talk to Council about saving the dam. Mr. Tinnerman stated if Council wanted to hear what he had to say he could have him attend a Council Meeting. Vice Mayor Tinnerman stated he would be willing to listen to the gentleman not as a Councilmember but as an individual. Fred Francis stated it is up to Vice Mayor Tinnerman as to what he does with his own time; but he would want to find out from Law Director Sell as to whether the Municipality has already given up all its rights to the dam before he listens to the gentleman.

ADJOURNMENT

Ora Ashley made a motion, seconded by Susan Willis to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

Jason Tinnerman
Vice Mayor