

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

September 24, 2013

Mayor Coate called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Coate; *Councilmembers:* Fred Francis, Debbie Miller, Jason Tinnerman, Scott Fogle, Ora Ashley, and Susan Willis (*came into the meeting at 7:49 p.m.*) *Also present were:* Manager Kline, Jill Grise, and Clerk Cantrell. *Absent:* None.

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: September 24, 2013

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

WATER AND SEWER REGULATION CHANGES

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember a copy of Chapter 51: Sewer Rules and Regulations Ordinance of the Codified Ordinances for their review. This sheet showed proposed changes to the Sewer Rules and Regulations. Manager Kline stated the months to **not** charge residences for sewer usage for watering their lawns has been changed from “June through September” to “May through August.”

Jill Grise stated now if someone runs out on a bill and then moves to another residence in West Milton the Municipality collects the last amount due and pays it back to the landlord. Manager Kline stated Council needs to decide if the Municipality should refuse service to someone that runs out on a bill or continue collecting the money and giving it back to the landlord. Manager Kline stated he is going to have Law Director Sell research what can be done. Manager Kline stated the landlord is ultimately responsible for the property per the Ordinances.

Manager Kline discussed the following change: Section 51.98 and Section 52.121 – change “Municipal Manager” in all sections to “Finance Director.”

Jason Tinnerman asked if there are properties that do not have structures on them that have to pay fees. Jill Grise stated some people in Ludlow Falls are

on wells; but they still get a minimum bill because they choose not to be hooked up.

After discussion of the proposed changes, Council made the additional following correction to Section 51.22 (F)(2) and Section 52.116 (C)(2) – from “five (5) day payment extension” to “fourteen (14) day payment extension.”

Scott Fogle asked Manager Kline where the water study stands. Manager Kline stated the City of Troy found out Council has been looking for an alternative source for water and they called and wanted to talk. He stated Patrick stated, “You are not receiving enough services for what you pay.” Manager Kline stated Patrick offered to read the meters for the Municipality. Manager Kline is going to work with the City of Troy to see if they will lower their rates for the Municipality.

Susan Willis came into the meeting at this time.

Manager Kline stated the City of Troy is going to pay for a study to show if they could lower the rates for the Municipality and Miami County.

Scott Fogle asked how soon the meters would be going in. Manager Kline stated not until December. Jason Tinnerman asked if any of this should be put on hold until we see what Troy is doing. Manager Kline stated he told Everett J. Prescott, Inc. that he does not want to pay a restocking fee.

Scott Fogle stated the “Replacing Our Water Meters” fact sheet was very well put together. He asked Manager Kline when it would be going out to the citizens. Manager Kline stated it would be going out next week and will be televised at the November meeting.

Manager Kline talked about Section 52.142 (B)(1)(c). It states “All meter installations between the transmission line from the master meter to the Water Distribution Plant shall be charged a connection fee of \$1,500.” Manager Kline stated there are residents that live along the transmission line that the Municipality could provide water. He stated the fees for this needs to be raised from six hundred dollars (\$600.00) to fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).

Scott Fogle asked if Sensus had something on U-Tube for individuals to watch regarding the meters. Manager Kline stated he will check it out.

STREET LEVY FACT SHEET

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember a copy of a Street Levy Facts sheet for their review. The fact sheet lists information about revenues since 1985; list of projects; expenses have increased and how it affects a project; the cost of general annual maintenance; what the levy is asking for; how much it will cost a property owner; revenues which are in freefall; and other relevant facts. Scott Fogle asked Manager Kline to keep the information to one sheet and to give background information and the amount it would cost residents per month. Manager Kline stated the Municipality has lost two hundred and forty-three thousand dollars (\$243,000.00) in revenue from state and local governments. Debbie Miller suggested adding the link for the county so residents could look up their tax information regarding their property. Scott Fogle suggested putting in how many employees the Municipality had in 1984 and now and how many more miles of roads that are being taken care of now verses 1984. Mr. Fogle stated he would like for the fact sheet to be available to give out at the Milton-Union Homecoming a week from this Friday. Mr. Fogle asked that the information be put on the Municipal website, WPMA, and in the *Milton Daily News*.

Fred Francis asked Councilmembers to give him dates for town hall meetings and who can help with them.

2014 BUDGET - DRAFT

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember a copy of the draft Budget for 2014 for their review. The following line items were discussed:

- Park Transfer
- Street Transfer
- Contract Services – Computer Consultant
- Contract Services – Mosquito Fogging
- Contract Services – Street Lights
- Health Insurance
- OP&F Pension Contribution
- Capital Improvements – Fire Department and Park Department
- Street Resurfacing
- Transfer – Utility Meter Replacement Debt Service
- Part-Time for Water Operations
- Contract Services – Water Operations
- Sewer Salaries
- Part-Time for Sewer Department
- UV Bulbs

Capital Projects – Police Depart. – Replace 4 Computers & 4 In-Car Videos
Capital Projects – Fire Department – Radio Replacement

Manager Kline gave each Councilmember an Employee Increase Cost Comparison for their review. He stated no salary increases were included in the first draft of the proposed 2014 Budget. Manager Kline stated he looked at the CPI to determine what increase to include.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Manager Kline stated he would like to change the agenda for the October 8 2013, Council Meeting. He would like to make these changes so there will be time to honor Bill Jay for his sixty plus (60+) years with the Fire Department.

Ora Ashley stated he thought the Municipality should purchase more signs and leave them up longer for the Community Pride winners. It was discussed whether ten (10) or twelve (12) volunteers should write down potential winners for the Community Pride awards rather than have private residents make recommendations. Debbie Miller stated letting residents make nominations keeps them more involved.

Ora Ashley stated he wanted to welcome Cory Ward and his dad as business owners. They opened the C&L Bate Shop in West Milton.

Susan Willis stated the debate between individuals running for Council would be held on October 14, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

Ora Ashley made a motion, seconded by Scott Fogle to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

Michael Coate II
Mayor