

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

January 28, 2014

Mayor Coate called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Coate; *Councilmembers:* Susan Willis, Jason Tinnerman, Scott Fogle, Ora Ashley, and Anthony Miller. *Also present were:* Manager Kline, Ben Herron, and Clerk Cantrell. *Absent:* Fred Francis.

Dated: January 28, 2014

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

DP&L PROPOSAL

Bob Stallman, Director of Community Development for DPL Energy, gave an update on the Government Aggregation and Community Savings Program. Mayor Coate stated he has received several phone calls from residents wanting the \$0.619 per kilowatt hour rate that is being offered. Mr. Stallman stated there are five (5) to ten (10) active energy suppliers that go after residential customers. He stated residents have a lot of terms and options to choose from and it will probably be that way for the next twelve (12) to sixteen (16) months. Mr. Stallman stated the current program expires in May of 2014. He stated therefore DPL Energy has a new extension offer of \$0.619 per kilowatt hour which would end in May of 2017. Mr. Stallman stated if a representative is at your home signing you up you will get a call to verify that you understand what you are signing up for.

Scott Fogle stated he and Fred Francis pay \$0.625 per kilowatt hour and have signed up to pay \$0.639 per kilowatt hour; and they will also receive a seventy-five (\$75.00) gift card in the mail.

Mr. Stallman stated DPL Energy sells a commodity and the rates vary because of the market conditions. He stated in 2017 they will go to a market base rate.

Mr. Stallman explained how Government Aggregation works. He stated Electric Choice enables local governments to secure electric supply for their communities at competitive prices through aggregation. Mr. Stallman stated there are two (2) different types of aggregation: opt-out and opt-in. He stated opt-out needs ballot approval from the residents and that opt-in does

not. Mr. Stallman stated DP&L Energy Resources can assist the local government in implementing steps to be certified as a government aggregator with the PUCO, help develop a plan of operations and governance, help hold public hearings regarding the plan, and help file the plan with the PUCO. Mr. Stallman explained the timeline to do Government Aggregation. He stated about seventy (70%) of the residents in West Milton would be eligible to participate in this program. Discussion took place regarding doing Government Aggregation. Scott Fogle stated this program basically would just benefit new customers changing from DP&L. Mr. Stallman stated this program is for new customers not existing customers. It was the consensus of Council to not go the Government Aggregation route.

Mr. Stallman asked the Councilmembers to give DPL Energy an endorsement for the new program they are offering to residents. He stated they would send out the postcards, letters, and do the marketing for this program. Mr. Stallman stated it would not be a set rate; but a guaranteed reduction over the market rate. It was the consensus of Council to endorse the new savings program. Mr. Stallman stated he would get Manager Kline an agreement for the February 11, 2014, Council Meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Manager Kline stated the Finance Committee for Council should not consist of more than three (3) people. He stated he personally has served on several finance committees. Manager Kline stated usually a Finance Committee consists of a numbers person, the Mayor, and another person interested in serving on the committee. He stated the Municipality is spending more money than the General Fund is bringing in. Manager Kline stated he would like to meet with the committee and get their interpretation of the budget and monies being spent, as well as he would like for him and Jill Grise to give the committee their interpretation. Ora Ashley stated with the way the Municipality is losing money an additional tax may be needed. Jason Tinnerman stated he has a concern about having a finance committee. Discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of having a finance committee. Manager Kline stated the Municipal Manager and the Finance Committee reports to Council. Scott Fogle stated he really reviews the budget and does due diligence and feels that all of Council needs to do the same. Manager Kline stated the Finance Committee would be able to defend the budget and that it would be an advantage to him as a manager. It was the consensus of Council to have the following serve on the Finance Committee: Mayor Coate, Fred Francis, and Anthony Miller.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Ben Herron gave each Councilmember a handout entitled Salt History and Summary for their review. He stated in the 1980s and 1990s the average bid/usage of salt was four hundred (400) ton and the twenty (20) year average cost was thirty (\$30.00) per ton. Mr. Herron stated in the 2000s he lowered the bid/usage to three hundred (300) ton and the fifteen (15) year average cost to present day is fifty (\$50.00) per ton. He stated the cost per ton from September 1, 2013, to August 31, 2014, has been fifty two dollars and eighty cents (\$52.80) per ton. Mr. Herron stated for this season the Municipality currently has sixty (60%) percent of its salt budget left. He explained how this was possible due to increasing lane miles: better calibration of salt spreading controls; treating of drive lanes and not entire road width; education on how to better utilize salt; experimentation with deicing products; 2007 introduction of pre-treating and current new uses of brine system; and a lot of extra scraping.

Manager Kline stated there was not much of an update on I&I. He stated they are trying to stay proactive so as not to have water main breaks; but thinks they may still end up having a water main break. Manager Kline stated the Wastewater Treatment Plant iced over last night. He stated he instructed Tim Swartztrauber to contact at least three (3) companies regarding getting bids for the camera. Manager Kline stated the meters have arrived and they had a pre-construction meeting. He stated it needs to be at least thirty two (32) degrees or higher to install the meters.

Manager Kline stated the Charter Committee will start meeting again in February of 2014.

Manager Kline stated the Law Director's contract is up at the end of January 2014. He stated he met with Lenee Brosh today.

Manager Kline stated the Lions Club met earlier tonight and they thought he was there to take over the Fourth of July Festival. He stated he expressed to them he was not there to take over the Festival. Manager Kline stated the Lions Club would like to give the Festival to someone else. He stated one (1) or two (2) people from Rotary have stated they would help with the Festival. Discussion took place regarding the Festival. Susan Willis stated the Parade Committee needs more help from the community. Scott Fogle suggested maybe having a band and doing away with the rides. Susan Willis asked about the banners for the hometown heroes. She stated they are trying to make the parade bigger and that they would be doing floats this year.

Scott Fogle stated the Park Board had a really good meeting. He stated the Park Board will be presenting three concepts for the park to the community in February 2014. Susan Willis stated the Girl Scouts will be paying for two (2) park benches and will be checking with other troops to see if they can pay for at least six (6) benches.

Jason Tinnerman stated he is concerned with the overall appearance and cleanliness of West Milton. He would like to see the number of rentals be limited in West Milton.

Manager Kline stated Chuck Sell has been the Law Director for West Milton since October 1987.

ADJOURNMENT

Susan Willis made a motion, seconded by Jason Tinnerman to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

Michael Coate II
Mayor