

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

November 18, 2014

Mayor Tinnerman called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Tinnerman; *Councilmembers:* Sarah Copp, Fred Francis, Susan Willis, Scott Fogle, Don Dohrman, and Anthony Miller. *Also present were:* Manager Kline, Ben Herron, Tim Swartztrauber, Jill Grise, and Clerk Cantrell. *Absent:* None.

Dated: November 18, 2014

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

CREDIT - FULL OR HALF

Mayor Tinnerman stated Council presented the Ordinance tonight regarding the tax credit. He stated the tax credit was one percent (1%) and it is in the Ordinance as one-half of a percent (1/2%). Mayor Tinnerman asked what Council wanted to do. Scott Fogle stated he thinks the whole credit needs to be removed. He stated Council needs to do due diligence while they are doing this. Mr. Fogle stated Council needs to get information out to the public. He stated the half of a percent (1/2%) for the fire and police needs to go on the ballot as a permanent levy. Mr. Fogle stated he does not think Council should wait until November to put it on the ballot. Manager Kline stated Ginny Rammel, from Milton-Union Schools stated starting in November 2015 they would be having renewals on the ballot for the next three (3) years. Fred Francis talked about all the things people do not realize was taken out of the budget. He stated this information needs to be put out to the public and explained why it is being done. Don Dohrman stated he agrees that change in the credit should be done all at once. He stated he spoke with his father-in-law regarding this issue and his father-in-law stated it should be done all at once rather than coming back again next year. Susan Willis stated she agrees with Scott Fogle and Fred Francis the key is going to be educating the public. Fred Francis stated the tax is on earned income not non-earned income. Each Councilmember expressed their feelings about the need to no longer allow the credit. While each Councilmember would like to continue the credit, they were in consensus that in order to provide the citizens of West Milton with quality and continuous services there is no other choice but to discontinue the credit at this time. Council discussed ways to get the information out to the public so they could see and understand why the credit needs to be discontinued. It was discussed it is important to let the citizens know this is not an increase in tax. The tax has been there for

sometime; but a credit of up to one percent (1%) has been allowed for taxes paid in the citizens' working city. Fred Francis stated a lot of citizens think the money paid to the other cities is given to West Milton; but it is not. Council discussed dates they would like to hold sessions to explain to the public what has been taken out of the budget and why the tax credit needs to be discontinued at this time. A message will be put on the water bills regarding the tax credit and on January 13, 2015, a Question and Answer Session will be held at 7:00 p.m. before the Council Meeting. Manager Kline will have information available for Council by the December 9, 2014, Council Meeting to help them be more educated when answering questions from the public.

BALLOT ISSUE - WHEN

Susan Willis stated she thinks the fire and police one-half of a percent (1/2%) levy needs to be on the May ballot as a permanent levy. Anthony Miller stated he thinks Council needs to get the information out to the public and then have it on the November ballot. Scott Fogle stated he agrees it should be put on the May ballot. After discussion, it was the consensus to put the following items on the May ballot:

- Mayor Seat
- Charter Change – need to change the presentation of the Budget in July to October.
- Fire and Police One-Half of a Percent as Permanent

ZONING ISSUES – JUNK MOTOR, KENNELS

It was the consensus of Council to skip this item of discussion tonight. Manager Kline stated Officer Stevens has been working on this. Manager Kline will have a draft for the January Meeting.

Manager Kline stated Sarah Copp gave him information regarding a house with twelve (12) little dogs. He stated he called the City of Troy to see what they allow. Manager Kline stated they only allow four (4) dogs and if there are more the owner would have to purchase a kennel license. He stated they do not allow a kennel in a residential area. Manager Kline stated he would also check with animal control to see what regulations they have.

DECEMBER METING AGENDA ITEMS

Manager Kline stated the following items will be on the Agenda for the December Meeting:

- Ordinance CM-14-22 – Appropriate Funds for 2015 Fiscal Year - Second Reading
- Ordinance CM-14-23 – Amending Chapter 96.15 Tax Credit - Second Reading
- Budget
- Manager Kline’s Contract
- Swearing in of new Police Chief
- Planning Board Appointments – Three Appointments

BUDGETARY UPDATES

Tim Swartztrauber stated he has obtained quotes for a Grinder for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated they priced just a screen; but a grinder is needed. He stated the quote came in at seventy-eight thousand nine hundred and fifty (\$78,950) dollars. Mr. Swartztrauber stated his crew could do the installation of the grinder; therefore saving the Municipality thirty thousand (\$30,000) dollars. He stated this is in the replacement budget. Mr. Swartztrauber stated this is a twelve (12) week order. He stated he would like to place the order this year in order to have it in place by the spring rains. Manager Kline stated Council would have to approve the purchase and then do the re-appropriation of the budget. Manager Kline stated he would add eighty thousand (\$80,000) to amend the budget and have it for the December Meeting.

Manager Kline stated they have switched over who gets paid out of what funds. He stated they are looking to see if this can be done from the first of the year instead of just the last three (3) or four (4) pays of the year.

GENERAL UPDATES

Susan Willis asked how the Municipality is doing on its salt supply. Ben Herron stated they are in good shape. He stated it is business as usual. Mr. Herron stated if we have a winter like last year the Municipality would run low; but he thinks they would be able to get more salt.

Scott Fogle asked if a letter was sent to Ginny Rammel regarding getting out of the lease for the park area. Manager Kline stated he met with her and she asked him if Council was upset with them. He stated he told her no and explained why it was necessary to get out of the lease. Manager Kline stated the President of the School Board stated it is just business. He stated he told her that he talked to Senator Beagle and that the Municipality might come back to them in the future regarding the park area. Ben Herron stated the staff has taken down all the items belonging to the Municipality except the signs and

trash cans. He stated the Municipality would not be emptying the trash cans any longer.

Scott Fogle stated he put together a Recreational Vehicle Question and Answer sheet for the public. He asked Manager Kline to review it.

ADJOURNMENT

Scott Fogle made a motion, seconded by Susan Willis to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Linda L. Cantrell CAP-OM
Clerk of Council

Jason Tinnerman
Mayor