

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Delaware City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

March 1

21

Held _____ 20 _____

The work session meeting of Council was held on March 1, 2021 and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and was held remotely through Cisco Webex and streamed Live through Facebook due to the State of Emergency – Executive Order 2020-01D. The following members of Council were remotely present: Second Ward Lisa Keller, Third Ward Cory Hoffman, Fourth Ward Drew Farrell, At-Large George Hellinger, Vice-Mayor Kent Shafer and Mayor Riggle who presided. Absent from the meeting was First Ward Chris Jones.

Staff Present Remotely: Natalia Harris, City Attorney, Sean Hughes, Economic Development Director, Kyle Kridler, Assistant City Manager, and Tom Homan, City Manager

Motion to Excuse: Vice-Mayor Shafer motioned to excuse Councilman Jones, seconded by Mr. Farrell. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

ITEM 2: PRESENTATION OF DELAWARE REAL ESTATE MARKET ASSESSMENT - Pete DiSalvo, DiSalvo Development Advisors

Mr. DiSalvo reviewed the purpose of the report which provided a detailed assessment of market-supported development opportunities and document research relevant to builders. The report also provides a strategic tool for city staff charged with planning and incentivizing future development. The report looks to identify market condition based on review of prior research, collect detailed inventories, identify occupancy and prevailing rates and development characteristics. It also looks to identify demographics, labor force and priority development areas.

ITEM 3: DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY AGGREGATION

A. Presentation from Scioto Energy – Greg Bechert, Managing Partner at Scioto Energy and Fritz Drake, Business Development Manager at Scioto Energy

Mr. Homan discussed that Scioto Energy is used to purchase energy for the City of Delaware buildings. Mr. Bechert discussed that Scioto Energy was founding 2009 and is an energy broker in the State of Ohio. Scioto Energy has provided the City energy since 2017. He discussed that energy aggregation is negotiating a fee with an energy provider. He discussed the higher demand will cause a higher cost. Aggregate energy is usually participated mostly with the residential market and this can cause a higher demand. He discussed that aggregate energy could help to get a community to renewable energy if the community identifies this as a goal. He also discussed that renewable energy may not be a cost savings to the community. Mr. Hellinger questioned how they determine if there is enough sustainable energy available to meet the demand.

B. Presentation from Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council – Chuck Keiper, Executive Director of NOPEC

Mr. Keiper provided information and background history on energy deregulation in Ohio. He discussed the goal to provide choice and discount pricing to consumers and utilities are still regulated by PUCO. He reviewed the benefits of aggregation and

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that opt-out aggregation was included in the deregulation legislation to allow communities to provide programs for its residents and small business. Benefits include potential savings due to larger buying power, ability to negotiate better terms and conditions, allows for more pricing/product options, protects participants from confusing or misleading offers, help to manage community energy goals. He discussed that NOPEC is a non-profit Council of Governments that is operated by the members for the members. The NOPEC mission is to service member communities and consumers. Core Focus is to aggregate, educate, and advocate to maximize the value of membership. He provided information on House Bill 6. He provided information on the NOPEC Governance and that each county/region has a vote in electing their representative to the NOPEC Board of Directors and each community appoints a representative to the NOPEC General Assembly. NOPEC receives fees from the energy suppliers who supply their customers with natural gas and electricity. They do not receive funding from residential or small business customers, taxpayers, or the communities that they serve. NOPEC is non-profit and member-director and committed to the interest of the community. He discussed the desire of communities to have green energy and that they work with those communities that are interested in a greener footprint. NOPEC offers a no risk terms and conditions with no penalty to change rate plans.

Council requested feedback from surrounding communities on their experiences with aggregate energy. Mr. Homan discussed the preference to have this a 2022 initiative due to timing and the city's responsibility to educate citizens on the ballot issue.

ITEM 4: DISCUSSION ON SEWER UTILITIES SERVICES FOR EVANS FARM

Mr. Homan provided an update on discussions with Evans Farm Delaware on utility services needs and the possibility for Council to reconsider the annexation that failed.

ITEM 5: NEXT WORK SESSION DATE: - April 5, 2021

Mr. Homan discussed that the topic for the April Work Session would be the report from Pros Consulting relating to parks and recreation.

ITEM 6: ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice-Mayor Shafer motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.



Mayor Carolyn Kay Riggle



Elaine McCloskey, Council Clerk