MILTON TOWNSHIP

SPECIAL MEETING

The Special meeting held October 21, 2014, was called to order at approximately 6:30 PM by Chairman Weimer. After the Pledge of Allegiance the roll call was taken, Chairman Weimer, Trustee Campbell, Trustee Tomaino and Fiscal Officer Schulz were present.

Chairman Weimer stated that the purpose of the Special Meeting was at the request of the *Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC)*, to address Milton Township residents at this informational meeting about governmental natural gas opt out aggregation. Many communities in Mahoning and Columbiana have natural gas opt out aggregation on the ballot on November 4, and NOPEC has volunteered to host information meetings to educate the residents in the community on Governmental Opt Out Aggregation. They will be launching their new animated video that talks about the process in an easy and informative way.

Ms. Brenda Fargo from NOPEC was introduced and asked to address the public residents in attendance.

She advised that press releases have been in the Vindicator. Ms. Fargo explained the ballot issue and said that it was similar to the Electric Aggregation program that the Township participates in.

NOPEC is a not for profit organization which represents 175 communities for the purpose of buying natural gas for a lower price which is passed on to residents. NOPEC is the largest governmental energy aggregation –has used bulk-buying strategies to cut Northeast Ohio's utility costs by more than \$225 million. NOPEC provides low-cost electricity and natural gas to more than 750,000 customers in 10 Northeast Ohio counties.

There were some questions about the current rates. NOPEC rates are variable and not fixed rates. Also this will only affect those residents who have not selected a current supplier until their contracts expire.

If the issue passes in November there will be public hearings where individuals can come and bring their electric bills to review them with the NOPEC personnel.

<u>At approximately 6:55 PM Mr. Tomaino moved to adjourn, 10-21-14-S1, seconded by Trustee</u> Campbell and passed with 3 ayes.

Date 12/09/2014