

**PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF LYNDHURST**

A Public Hearing was held on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 7:20 pm in Council Chambers at 5301 Mayfield Road, Vice Mayor Schlessel presiding.

Present were Council Representatives J. A. Marko, J. Price, J. A. Gambatese, S. C. Grushetsky, and C. A. LoPresti.

Others Present: Mayor Patrick Ward, Assistant Director of Law Ray Schmidlin, Director of Finance Mary A. Kovalchik, and Assistant Clerk of Council Kelly L. Miller. Also present was NOPEC Relationship Manager Nicole Harris.

Vice Mayor Schlessel called the hearing to order and asked for the notice to be read.

Mrs. Miller read the Public Hearing Notice in its entirety.

Mayor Ward stated this program will make it much easier for residents to opt-in and automatically be included in a program. It was the city's initial intent being one of the first NOPEC communities when residents elected to join NOPEC and aggregate for electric. The process for gas has been more cumbersome taking longer for residents to get enrolled in a program, which this will help streamline. Mayor Ward noted there are many program options offered by NOPEC including clean energy. He mentioned there is no cancellation fee which is his greatest concern based on feedback from residents.

Ms. Harris thanked City Council members and Mayor Ward for the opportunity to present the gas opt-in program. She stated that by passing this legislation to enroll in the program, residents can simply call to enroll in the gas aggregation program, rather than waiting for the opt-out notice. Ms. Harris noted that in November, residents will begin receiving an anniversary mailer inviting everyone to enroll or re-enroll in the aggregation program, as regulated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. She asked that any residents with questions be directed to call the NOPEC call center. Ms. Harris mentioned their call center has not been impacted by the employment shortage; they have both the manpower and technical capacity for the expected increase in calls. She also mentioned to keep in mind gas prices are higher right now based on the current market.

A resident inquired whether the NOPEC plan was a variable only, in which Ms. Harris replied there was also a fixed rate option.

Mayor Ward spoke about how he chose the fixed rate option for the city accounts.

With no other questions, or comments, Vice Mayor Schlessel closed the public hearing.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Mary A. Kovalchik
Clerk of Council