

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 17, 2008
5:00 P.M.
201 WEST WATER STREET
PIQUA, OHIO 45356**

Piqua City Commission met in a Special Work Session in the Commission Chambers in the Municipal Government Complex, 201 W. Water Street for a work session. Mayor Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Also present were Commissioners Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Absent: Fess. Also in attendance: City Manager Fred Enderle, City Engineer Amy Havenar, Sherry Heath, Jeff Marconette, Chuck Starrett,

Purpose of the Special Meeting is to discuss East Ash Street Improvement Project

City Manager Enderle explained the need for the improvements.

Amy Havenar, City Engineer, explained the city is in the planning stage of widening Ash Street, from Spring Street east to the National Guard Armory. This work is scheduled to begin in 2011.

There was discussion on the need for a barrier between proposed additional lanes of traffic and the problems that may arise with the residents parking on the north side of East Ash Street.

City Manager Enderle stated Federal and State funds are available to cover eighty percent of the project, but the state still needs to be satisfied with the final reports. There are federal guidelines for safety and from the standpoint of traffic projection guidelines that need to be followed. There are also some environmental impact studies that could limit our possibilities, said Mr. Enderle.

There were questions raised about weaving or curving of the new sidewalk along East Ash Street, and talk about a boulevard being placed on the street, having no left turns for residents, and the parking situation for residents that live along East Ash Street.

Ms. Havenar stated we have to present two or three options to the state for proposals for that location, and one of these options has to be if we do nothing at all. Ms. Havenar further stated if a proposal went through there would not be a fee for curb and gutter replacement.

Chuck Starrett, property owner on East Ash Street stated we are at a point where we don't know if we can sell or rent or even put a new roof on a home because we do not know what the city is going to do in that area. Mr. Enderle said, that the city feels the same way but reiterated that there is not much the city can do until the state makes a decision. State funding for expanding roadway can not be included in any acquisition of homes purchased to widen the streets, however the city can purchase homes as a beautification project, said Mr. Enderle.

Ms. Havenar stated it is important that the city not make any home purchases or alterations to the area in any way that would indicate to the state that the city was trying to influence any type of predetermined plan without the residents input, needs and concerns being addressed.

Another meeting is planned with city official and representatives from the state in late January, and residents and property owners are encouraged to attend to voice their concerns.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Piqua City Commission Work Session at 5:55 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Terry, Hudson and Vogt.
Motion carried unanimously.

THOMAS D. HUDSON, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____

REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION