

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
JULY 6, 2009
7:30 P.M.**

Piqua City Commission met at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street. Mayor Hudson called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Martin, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Absent: None.

ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move into Executive Session to prepare for and review negotiations on compensation or other terms and conditions of employment for City personnel.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn into Executive Session Roll Call, Aye: Martin, Vogt, Fess, Terry and Hudson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Executive Session and convene into the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting. Voice vote, Aye: Hudson, Martin, Fess, Terry and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that the minutes of the June 15, 2009 Regular City Commission Meeting, the June 22 and June 29 City Commission Work Sessions be approved. Voice vote, Aye: Hudson, Terry, Vogt, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORD. NO. 8-09

An Ordinance repealing Schedule A Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

City Manager Enderle gave a brief overview with a power point presentation showing the changes. City Manager Enderle further explained over the last year six department heads retired taking with them over thirty years of experience. Because of budget considerations, we have chosen to replace only three of those department heads and reassigned the duties of the others to existing staff. Also included is the elimination of the Administrative Secretary position that was vacated in December 2008, not filling the Deputy Assistant City Manager position, the Public Works Director position, and the Power System Assistant Director position. The Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Directors position has been vacant since September due to health reasons. This has resulted in a flattening of the organizational structure of the City, and has increased the number of director reports from ten to sixteen, said Mr. Enderle.

There was discussion on the various changes that are taking place, how these changes would affect the budget, and the added responsibilities to the various department heads, along with the salary increases to the department heads. Mr. Enderle explained the new responsibilities that would be assigned to each of the departments, and the changes in the pay ranges in the various departments.

Public Comment

Dick Haynes, Broadway, stated he would like to see the City Commission give Ordinance No. 08-09 three readings.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Ordinance No. 8-09 be given a first reading. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Terry, Hudson, Vogt, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Ordinance No. 8-09 be given a first reading.

ORD. NO. 9-09

An Ordinance amending Chapter 93 Fire Prevention of the Piqua Municipal Code

City Manager Enderle explained the reason for amending Chapter 93, and stating the City of Piqua is now adopting the Ohio Fire Code as the City Code. Law Director Stacy Wall further explained some of the other changes, including the issuance of Civil Citations by fire personal. The City has received a number of calls recently on open burning complaints, and need to be able to issue citations if needed, said Mr. Enderle.

There was discussion of the issuance of Civil Citations, and how they are issued, and by whom at this time.

Public Comment

Dick Haynes, Broadway, came forward and stated he would like to see more professionalism in enforcing these issues, and asked that Ordinance No. 9-09 be given three readings.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, to give Ordinance No. 7-09 a first reading. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Hudson, Fess, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Ordinance No. 9-09 be given a first reading.

RES. NO. R-54-09 (Public Hearing)

A Resolution accepting for statutory purposes a budget for the calendar year 2010

Finance Director Cynthia Holtzapple gave a brief overview of the changes in the Tax Budget for the calendar year 2010, and the reason it is to be filed with the County at this time.

There was discussion of several items in the budget, and Ms. Holtzapple explained.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. 54-09.

Moved by Commissioner Fess, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-54-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Fess, Vogt, Martin, Hudson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-54-09 adopted.

RES. NO. 55-09

A Resolution establishing "Trick or Treat Beggars Night" in the City of Piqua

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-55-09.

Moved by Commissioner Fess, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-55-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Hudson, Fess, Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-55-09 adopted.

RES. No. R-56-09

A Resolution appointing a member to the Golf Advisory Board for the City of Piqua

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-56-09.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-56-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Fess, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson declared Resolution No. R-56-09 adopted.

RES. NO. R-57-09

A Resolution appointing a member to the Golf Advisory Board for the City of Piqua

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-57-09.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-57-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Hudson, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-57-09 adopted.

RES. NO. R-58-09

A Resolution reappointing a member to the Community Diversity Committee

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-58-09.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. 58-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Terry, Fess, Martin, Hudson, and Vogt, Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-58-09 adopted.

RES. NO. R-59-09

A Resolution appointing an alternate member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-59-09.

Moved by Commissioner Fess, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-59-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Hudson, Martin, Fess, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-59-09 adopted.

RES. NO. R-60-09

A resolution in support of a one-quarter percent Miami County sales tax increase designated to the Miami County Communications Center

City Manager Enderle explained the need for the one-quarter percent increase in the sales tax in Miami County, and what is requested from the City of Piqua. The approval of Resolution No. R-60-09 is needed to support the County Commission in increasing the County Sales Tax by one-quarter percent, with the funds being earmarked for the operations of the Miami County Communication Center, said Mr. Enderle.

There was discussion on who would be required to pass resolutions to support the increase, the length of time the increase would be assessed, and the amount of the increase.

Commissioner Fess made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, to amend Resolution No. R-60-09 under Section 1, to add in the second line, after the wording one-quarter percent for **“five years”** for the ongoing operation of the Miami County Communications Center. Voice vote, Aye, Hudson, Vogt, Terry, Fess, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-60-09.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-60-09 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Vogt, Fess, Hudson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-60-09 adopted.

Other

Monthly Reports – May 2009

Monthly Reports for May 2009 were accepted.

Review 2009 Street resurfacing and maintenance program

City Engineer Amy Havenar and Assistant Street Superintendent Don Seeberger gave a brief power point presentation on the 2009 Street & Alley Maintenance Program. Commissioner Fess stated for the record that the Street Department Superintendent was on vacation. City Manager Enderle explained the information on each of the slides in the presentation. Mr. Enderle stated tax funds are the most reliable funds the city receives, amounting to an average of 3.5 million dollars, and expenses have increased over revenues coming in, said Mr. Enderle.

After the presentation there was discussion of street reconstruction, street restoration, resurfacing, reinstatement of crack sealing, the number of miles of streets to be repaired, and alley paving. There were several questions voiced concerning the money from the one-quarter percent tax previously passed, where was it being used at this time, the length of time the tax was to be collected. There were several big street projects previously, which required a large amount of the money that was budgeted, said Mr. Enderle. It was stated the city should stay on top of the streets, return to street restoration, crack sealing, and find the money to continue with street repairs as needed.

Commissioner Martin asked when the asphalt plants open, and if the commission could have a plan in place before then so citizens can find out when their particular street will be taken care of.

Commissioner Vogt stated he would like to have a weekly schedule of where the street department is working on what streets at that particular time.

There was discussion on the number of employees in the Street Department at this time, will new employees be hired in the future to replace those who left, and the use of summer help in the Street Department. City Manager Enderle explained the reason for not filling the vacant positions in the Street Department, stating we have to live within the budget. Commissioner Fess stated maybe the Commission should get together for a meeting to look at the budget to see where we can get some funds to do some of things that need to be done.

Commissioner Martin asked if they could add to the report requested previously, the information when a street project is started, the expected completion date, what type of jobs are being worked on at what times. City Manager Enderle explained. Commissioner Martin also asked if the City of Piqua had the proper equipment to do the resurfacing projects themselves. City Manager Enderle stated the city could only do small projects, like alleys, small patches, and small sections of roads. Commissioner Vogt voiced his concern over the paving process, and the way it has been done in the past. Commissioner Fess stated citizens are very upset over the state of the streets in the City of Piqua.

City Manager Enderle went over the list of streets on the 2009 Street Patching/Repair Program Priorities beginning with the high to low priorities. Most communities do not pave their alleys; the plan now is to mill and seal the alleys in the future, and continue to fill the potholes as needed, said City Manager Enderle.

Commissioner Fess stated she is glad to see the list of high priorities on the street plan projections at this time.

Mayor Hudson asked if it would be possible to receive a weekly report as Commissioner Vogt requested. City Manager Enderle stated we can do this, and it can be posted on the City website to see where the streets are being worked on and when.

Commissioner Terry stated she appreciates all the hard work that went into this study, and seeing the program outlined in black and white makes it much easier to understand.

Public Comment

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street voiced his opinion on several issues.

Valerie Mullikin, Caldwell Street thanked the city for putting together the plan for the streets and infrastructure. Ms. Mullikan also voiced her opinion on several other items including tree roots growing in the streets, snow removal, and the National Night Out program in the City of Piqua.

Alan Miller, Park Avenue stated the next Northparks Neighborhood Association Meeting will be held Tuesday, July 8th at 7:00 P.M. in the Kiwanis Park and invited residents to attend.

Phil Kniess, S. Downing Street voiced his concern over a street closing in his neighborhood, and a letter he had received from St. Boniface Church regarding the street closing. City Manager Enderle explained the process of a street closing request.

Commissioner Vogt reminded citizens the City Car Show is set for August 1, 2009 at the Roadside Park on St. Rt. 66 with the proceeds going to the Parks Department this year.

Commissioner Fess congratulated the William M. McCulloch Dedication Committee, Civic Band, and the High School Choir for a wonderful evening. Commissioner Fess also thanked Mike Gutmann and Andy Burner Co-Chairman for the dedication and their committee on a job well done.

Commissioner Terry thanked Mike Gutmann and Andy Burner and their committee for the wonderful dedication ceremony. Commissioner Terry also reminded residents of the Northparks Neighborhood Association meeting at 7:00 P.M. July 7, 2009 in Kiwanis Park, and asked residents to keep grass clippings out of the gutters when mowing their lawns. Commissioner Terry thanked the 4th of July Committee on a job well done this year.

Mayor Hudson inquired as to the status of the Piqua Memorial Hospital demolition project. Health & Sanitation Director Amy Welker gave a brief update on the status of the project at this time. Mayor Hudson asked if the Intersection Study Project would be completed by the end of the year. City Manager Enderle gave a brief overview of the project. Mayor Hudson asked if Toone P. Wiggins would be able to meet the August 1, 2009 opening date. City Manager Enderle gave an update on the status of the restaurant opening.

Commissioner Fess inquired about the swings at Das Park. City Manager Enderle explained the swings are being replaced, and the old ones may possibly be moved to Kiwanis Park.

Mayor Hudson thanked the McCulloch Dedication Committee for their work, and the city employees for working so hard to make the public square, and the area in front of the Piqua Plaza beautiful for the dedication.

Moved by Commissioner Fess, seconded by Commissioner Terry, to adjourn from the Piqua City Commission at 9:52 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Hudson, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

THOMAS D. HUDSON, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION