

**MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday October 5, 2010  
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 Fess called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Vogt, Martin, Terry, and Wilson. Absent: None.

**REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

**PROCLAMATION – Community Planning Month in the City of Piqua**

Accepting – Mr. Chris Schmiesing – City Planner

Mayor Fess read the proclamation and presented it to City Planner Chris Schmiesing.

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the September 21, 2010 Regular Piqua City Commission meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that the minutes of the September 21, 2010 Regular Piqua City Commission meeting be approved. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RES. NO. R-116-10**

A Resolution authorizing the execution of a loan agreement with Morris Heating, Cooling and Comfort Systems, LLC in the amount of \$45,000

City Manager Enderle stated the City of Piqua received a \$90,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. The amount of the loan to Morris Heating, Cooling and Comfort Systems, LLC will be \$45,000 and the terms of this agreement will be for seven years at 3% interest. Morris Heating, Cooling and Comfort Systems, LLC is a new business who will sell and service geothermal heating /cooling systems, outdoor awning units for residential and commercial applications, and outdoor lighting systems. They plan to use the money to purchase vehicles, tools, office equipment and fixtures, said City Manager Enderle.

Linda Morris, CEO of Morris Heating, Cooling and Comfort Systems, LLC, came forward and gave a brief overview of the plans for the use of the grant money. Ms. Morris thanked Bill Lutz and the Development Department for helping them secure the loan.

City Manager Enderle stated this is the first program that has required City Commission approval.

**Public Comment**

Joe Francis, Parkway Drive came forward and asked if he heard right the loan was from the United States Department of Agriculture? City Manager Enderle stated yes, this is the first time the City has taken advantage of this program.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-116-10 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Fess, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-116-10 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-117-10**

A Resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2010 Community Development Block Grant Tier One Downtown Revitalization Program application

City Manager Enderle stated the resolution is to support the City's application for funding through the Ohio Department of Development's Tier One Downtown Revitalization Grant Program for the creation of a comprehensive downtown revitalization and development plan for the Riverfront Mill District area. Wood Street, South Wayne Street, West Water Street, Spring Street, and the Great Miami River bound the area for revitalization. The grant requires a match by the city, and the city's request for \$23,500 demands the city's match be \$11,750. The Development Department has the sufficient funds within the department's budget to meet the match requirements, said City Manager Enderle.

**Public Comment**

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, came forward and asked what the current status is of the former Mill Building, and if there are any plans for refurbishing it. City Manager Enderle stated at this time there are no current plans to refurbish the building.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-117-10 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Vogt, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-117-10 adopted.

**RES. NO. 118-10**

A Resolution of authorization to submit an application for Federal Safetea-Lu Funds through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

City Manager Enderle stated currently streetscape features are on Main Street from Wood Street to Greene Street. The North Main Streetscape would extend the streetscape design north to Riverside Drive to complete the streetscaping on the North Main Street Corridor. The streetscape will be the similar to those currently in place on Main Street, including new concrete sidewalk, brick pavers, decorative light poles, street signage, trash receptacles, tree grates and benches, said City Manager Enderle.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-118-10

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-118-10 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Wilson, Vogt, Martin, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-118-10 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-119-10**

A Resolution authorizing the assignment of a certain Canal Lease No. 21

City Manager Enderle stated the City of Piqua is responsible for paying the canal leases due to the State of Ohio semi-annually, and in order to recoup these costs, enters into a lease agreement with the property owner for semi-annual payments. This is not a profit making scenario, the city is breaking even by assessing property owners the fees the city is paying to the State on behalf of the property, said City Manager Enderle.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-119-10.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-119-10 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Fess, Wilson, Vogt, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-119-10 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-120-10**

A Resolution authorizing legal counsel to settle two litigation matters

Law Director Stacy Wall gave a brief explanation on the nature of the litigation matter involving a former City employee.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-120-10.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-120-10 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Terry, Fess, and Wilson. Nay: Vogt. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-120-10 adopted on a 4-1 vote.

**OTHER**

**Street Levy Information – Ms. Amy Havenar**

City Engineer Amy Havenar gave a power point presentation on the ¼% renewal levy and citing the reasons for the renewal. A fact sheet with information is available on the City's website and in various city offices. Ms. Havenar pointed out that this is a renewal levy and is income based, and the money generated from this would be roughly \$1 million and is used only for construction, reconstruction, and resurfacing of roadways. In the last ten years the city has resurfaced 29 miles of streets, and reconstructed 4.6 miles of streets, said Ms. Havenar.

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, asked if this included the Route 36 Bridge Deck Replacement. Ms. Havenar stated no that is not a city project.

Mayor Fess stated this is a renewal levy, and is the same as it has been for the last twenty years. It is important to take advantage of grant money whenever possible. This can be used in conjunction with the local match for grant money received. Commissioner Wilson stated there are 103 miles of streets in Piqua now, and we are still using the same money we used twenty years ago when there were only 80 miles of streets.

Mayor Fess thanked Ms. Havenar for her presentation.

**American Public Power Association – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APPA (Video) – Mr. Ed Krieger**

Power Systems Director Ed Krieger presented a short video on the APPA; further stating the City of Piqua has been a member of the APPA since 1969.

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Krieger for his presentation. Mayor Fess also thanked the Mr. Krieger and the Distribution Department employees for their dedication to the City of Piqua, and wished APPA a Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Monthly Reports – August 2010**

Monthly Reports were accepted.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dan Ramer, Broadway, came forward and thanked City Manager Enderle, Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director Bill Murphy, City Commissioners, and all the City Departments for the job they do everyday.

Mr. Ramer continued by stating he appreciates the challenges the city faces each and every day, through these difficult economic times with the many demands made on the city. Mr. Ramer stated what he values in a City Commissioner is for them to be positive and well informed, intelligent, and want what is best for the city as a whole. Mr. Ramer continued stating he wants a city that is progressive, welcoming and helpful to businesses, helps to promote a community that is clean, orderly, well run, and a good place to work and live. Mr. Ramer further stated he believes the City Commission is doing a wonderful job, and they are not alone. He and many other citizens of Piqua have confidence that this City Commission and the City officials have done, and will do what is in the best interest of the City of Piqua in the long run. Mr. Ramer ended by stating, "Keep up the good work".

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Ramer for his comments and stated it was greatly appreciated.

Edna Stiefel, Boone Street, came forward and thanked all Piqua residents, and Susan Hartley of the Piqua Daily Call for their support in getting the information out concerning the recent increase in the number of break ins in Piqua.

Mayor Fess thanked Ms. Stiefel for her concern for residents and her continued work with the City. Mayor Fess stated that the Piqua Daily Call is again running the police beat in the newspaper.

Regina Favorite, New Haven Road, asked if the old Atomic Plant located in Piqua was a part of the APPA?

Mr. Krieger stated there were only two facilities built in the country, and one was located in the City of Piqua.

Mayor Fess asked about the use of the Dome at this time. Mr. Krieger stated his office is located in the old reactor and is checked yearly for radiation.

Luke Bolin, Ann Street, voiced his concern over the recent breaking and entering in the city, and asked what citizens can do if someone is trying to break in to his or her home.

Police Chief Jamison stated the Police Department should be notified. Law Director Wall stated the city cannot legally advise citizens. Mayor Fess stated citizens should just use common sense and be careful.

John Brown came forward and stated he wanted to publicly support the Street Levy Renewal, and the Piqua Library Operational Levy. Mr. Brown voiced his concern over the increased negativity in the city, and asked citizens to work together to make Piqua a better place to live and work. Other municipalities are facing the same problems; Piqua is not alone, said Mr. Brown. Positively Promoting Piqua (PPP) is a supporting group providing the silent majority a forum to voice their support of all that is good and what is going on in the community.

Jeanie Jordan Bates, Broadway, came forward and asked citizens to vote for the Piqua Library Operational Levy, citing the various reasons it is very important to get out and vote. Ms. Bates further stated if the levy does not pass the Library would have to make major cuts.

Ruth Koon, Park Avenue, representing MainStreet Piqua came forward and stated "The Chocolate Walk" sponsored by Winans and will take place downtown on Friday October 15, 2010 from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. Ms. Koon briefly explained the nature of the walk and who would benefit from the proceeds. Tickets will be sold for \$15 each and are needed in order to participate; anyone having questions can contact the MainStreet Piqua office at 773-9355.

Also on Saturday, October 16, 2010 a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk sponsored by Ben and Lois Scott will take place along the bike path leaving from the Gazebo at 9:00 AM and ending at the Lock 9 Park. There is no registration, donations will be accepted, said Ms, Koon.

Edna Stiefel, Boone Street, stated Northparks Neighborhood Association will be meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at Wilder School and invited all residents to attend. Ms. Stiefel stated the next project the Northparks Neighborhood Association plans to raise funds for is the replacement of the fence around Kiwanis Park.

**City Commission Comments**

Commissioner Vogt thanked John Brown and Dan Ramer for their comments, stating he has not felt this good in a long time.

Commissioner Wilson thanked MainStreet Piqua for hosting the Car Show and Stride & Ride that was held recently, stating it was very well attended.

Commissioner Wilson also thanked the Positively Promoting Piqua representatives for their positive comments.

Commissioner Terry stated she has received a lot of positive support during the recall process, and wanted to thank the citizens for their support and truly appreciates it.

Mayor Fess appreciates the Positively Promoting Piqua group for their support, and stated it is great to have people stand up for the community, it shows the community is pulling together.

Mayor Fess reminded citizens the Veterans will be leaving on Friday Oct 8, 2010 for their trip to Washington D.C. and all are welcome to come and see them off.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 8:55 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
REBECCA J. COOL  
CLERK OF COMMISSION