

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday February 15, 2011
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

Guy Fogle, Director of the Western Ohio TV Consortium, came forward and announced the winner of the new logo for the Piqua Public Access Channel 5. Alexandra Nicodemus, a junior in the Interactive Media Program at Upper Valley JVS designed the winning logo and was presented with a \$50 gift certificate. A picture of the logo was shown to the viewing audience. Mayor Fess congratulated Alexandra on her logo design.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the January 18, 2011 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that the minutes of the January 18 2011 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting be approved. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 1-11 (3rd Reading)

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 33-66, relating to the Municipal Income Tax

City Manager Enderle stated this is the third reading for Ordinance No. 1-11 to provide funds for the purpose of permanent improvements, new equipment, extension and enlargement of municipal services and facilities, capital improvements and operating expenses of the City of Piqua and is just a housekeeping item.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 1-11 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Ordinance No. 1-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Martin, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No 1-11 adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-11-11

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Board of Miami County Commissioners for the design, right-of-way and construction of the County Road 25-A Phase II Reconstruction project

City Manager Enderle stated this resolution would allow the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Miami County Commissioners for the design, right-of-way and construction of the County Road 25-A Phase II Reconstruction Project. The project is scheduled for construction in 2013 with the design and right-of-way beginning in early 2011. The project will consist of the

reconstruction of County Road 25-A from Country Club Road to Looney Road and will include new granular base, asphalt pavement, concrete curb and gutter, sidewalks and the installation of a new storm sewer. Portions of the project area lie within the corporation limits of the City of Piqua, and portions of the project area lie beyond the corporation limits of the City of Piqua being located in Springcreek Township, under the jurisdiction of the Miami County Commissioners. All costs associated with the engineering design of the project will be split 50/50 between the City of Piqua and Miami County.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-11-11 at this time.

Mayor Fess inquired if curbs, gutters and sidewalks would be installed. City Manager Enderle stated when the City accepts funds we have to follow their guidelines on order to receive the funds.

Commissioner Terry asked if bicycle lanes were required. City Manager Enderle stated no.

Commissioner Martin asked if there is another phase to this project. City Manager Enderle stated yes, there is another resolution further down on the agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-11-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Fess and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-11-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-12-11

A Resolution awarding a contract for the purchase of a Case 580SN Loader Backhoe for the Power System

City Manager Enderle stated the Case 580SN Loader Backhoe will replace the E-52 that was purchased in 1999 and will reduce maintenance costs, decrease vehicle downtime, and improve the overall efficiency of operations in the Power System.

Mayor Fess asked what the backhoe was used for at the Power System. Ed Krieger, Power System Director stated it is used for construction projects.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-12-11 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-12-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Martin, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-12-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-13-11

A Resolution awarding a contract for the purchase of transformers for the Power System

City Manager Enderle stated each year the Power System solicits bids to replenish inventory. Bids were received from three vendors for transformer of various sizes, voltages, and quantities on January 10, 2100. The bids were evaluated on present value basis for the total cost to own and operate the transformers over the twenty-five year expected life. The contract is being awarded to Ermco for the purchase of a total of eight (8) transformers.

There was discussion of the various types of transformers and the cost. Ed Krieger, Power Systems Director explained the type of transformers, the cost factor, and stated they are basically replenishing their inventory at this time.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-13-11 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-13-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-13-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-14-11

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Valley Asphalt Corporation as the Primary Supplier, and Barrett Paving Materials, Inc. as the secondary supplier of hot mix for the 2011 Street and Alley Maintenance Program

City Manager Enderle stated bids were received and Valley Asphalt Corporation will be the primary supplier of hot mix with Barrett Paving Materials as the secondary supplier for the year 2011. Due to Barrett Paving only being able to supply one type of asphalt at a time, they will be the secondary supplier. The money has already been budgeted, and it is cheaper for the city to handle smaller street repaving and patches in house as compared to hiring a contractor.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-14-11 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-14-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Wilson, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-14-11 adopted.

RES. NO. 15-11

A resolution endorsing the Ohio Historical Preservation Tax Credit renewal to the Ohio General Assembly

City Manager Enderle state the City was able to take advantage of the Ohio Historical Preservation Tax Credit during the renovations of the Fort Piqua Plaza. By providing our endorsement of this program it will encourage our State politicians to continue their support of this worthwhile tax credit incentive program in the future. There is no direct financial impact to the City by endorsing this program, but the program had a huge impact on our local economy when we needed the funds to move forward with the Fort Piqua Plaza project, said City Manager Enderle.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-15-11.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-15-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Fess, Martin, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-15-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-16-11

A Resolution requesting preliminary legislation to provide systematic guardrail end terminal upgrades on Interstate 75 within the City of Piqua

City Manager Enderle stated ODOT is proposing to provide upgrades to the end treatments to the guardrail along Interstate 75 between the Statler Road overpass and the County Road 25-A exit in

the City of Piqua. This program is scheduled for bid in 2012 and as with all ODOT projects it requires the permission of the local entity prior to commencement of work within that entity.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-16-11.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-16-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Fess, Wilson, Vogt, Martin, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-16-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-17-11

A Resolution appointing Stephanie Gunter to the Tax Incentive Review Committee in accordance with Section 5709.85 of the Ohio Revised Code

City Manager Enderle stated the purpose of this resolution is to appoint a member to the Tax Incentive Review Council. The City currently administers an Enterprise Zone Program, which allows for the local legislative authority to enter into agreements with private enterprises to have taxes abated on tangible personal property and real property to provide an incentive to private industries to grow in the community. As a requirement of administering the program the local authority must appoint a certain number of members to the Tax Incentive Review Council. The council has a vacancy due to a member moving out of state recently and Ms. Gunter will be filling that position.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-17-11.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-17-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Vogt, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-17-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-18-11

A Resolution requesting preliminary legislation to convert several traffic signals along College Street

City Manager Enderle stated in June of 2009 the City submitted the College Street Corridor Traffic Signal/Intersection Modification Project to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for funding under the Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) program. This program was selected for funding and therefore needs to be programmed with ODOT so that we can begin the design process. The City has received \$469,381 in grant money for the construction from the Federal Highway Administration through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for this project with the total cost estimated at approximately \$672,000, said City Manager Enderle.

There was discussion of the notification period for the new signal installation, and the construction time frame. One of the advantages to the new signals will be that emergency vehicles will be able to control the traffic in the area and get through safer, said Commissioner Wilson. Commissioner Vogt asked if the Commission would have to vote again in 2013 for the signalization. City Manager Enderle stated this project was on the ten-year spreadsheet that was given to the Commission previously outlining the upcoming projects if the Street Levy passed. Commissioner Martin stated tax levy money should cover this project. Commissioner Terry stated this goes to show how important it was to have the Tax Levy passed.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-18-11.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-18-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Martin, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-18-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-19-11

A Resolution requesting preliminary legislation to widen to include a center turn lane and new curb and gutters on County Road 25A from Looney Road to Indian Ridge

City Manager Enderle stated in June 2009, the City submitted the County Road 25-A Phase III Reconstruction Project to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for funding under the Surface Transportation Program (STP). This program was selected for funding and therefore needs to be programmed with ODOT so that we can begin the design process. The project consists of widening County Road 25-A from Looney Road east to Indian Ridge Drive. The project will include two through lanes with a center turn lane and new curb and gutter, also included is sidewalk and tree lawn on both sides of the roadway for the entire length. Utility work will be completed as part of the project and includes the construction of a new storm sewer and this work is scheduled for spring 2015. The city received \$3,589,377 in grant money for the construction from the Federal Highway Administration through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission with the total cost being approximately \$5,207,000.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-19-11.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-19-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Fess and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-19-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-20-11

A Resolution requesting preliminary legislation to construct short segments of multi-use trails at both ends of the project to connect to existing trail facilities

City Manager Enderle stated the project consists of the addition of over one mile of bike lanes to the existing street corridors. The alignment will start at the Great Miami River Recreational Trail behind Bennett Intermediate School and will travel up a ramp to be constructed as a part of this project to Garnsey Street. The bike lane will continue west along Garnsey Street to Mote Park. The project will also create a bike lane beginning at the intersection of Commercial Street and Garnsey Street and will continue north down Commercial Street past Wood Street and connect into the existing Piqua Activity Trail for your Health (PATH). The project scope will include constructing short segments of multi-use trails at both ends of the project to connect the existing trail facilities to the existing street improvements. The project will also involve making the necessary improvements along the two street corridors to designate the bike route and enhance the pedestrian pathways. The project construction is scheduled for fall of 2014. The City has received \$421,462 in grant money for the construction from the Federal Highway Administration through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission with the total project cost estimated to be approximately \$625,000, said City Manager Enderle.

There was discussion concerning the reconstruction of Commercial Street and Garnsey Street. City Manager Enderle stated if we don't do the Bike Path, we won't get the funding and the streets will not get done. Commissioner Wilson asked if there would still be street parking on Garnsey Street. City Engineer Amy Havenar stated they do not have a design yet and will look at that in the future, but feels the plan is to have a shared use. Commissioner Wilson stated the city's share is \$200,000 and the city would be getting a lot for their money at this time.

Commissioner Terry stated she feels the Bike Path is a wonderful amenity to the city.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-20-11.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-20-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Wilson, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-20-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-21-11

A Resolution requesting preliminary legislation for the fence replacement and landscaping on US RT 36 from Scott Drive to Looney Road

City Manager Enderle stated in June of 2009, the City submitted the US Route 36 Corridor Beautification Project to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for funding under the Transportation Enhancement (TE) program. This project was selected for funding and therefore needs to be programmed with ODOT so that we can begin the design process.

The goal of this project is to enhance the landscaping found near one of the primary entrances to the community. The work limits for the project extend along the US Route 36 corridor from Scott Drive on the west to Looney Road on the east. The project scope consist of replacing the utilitarian looking right-of-way fence along the Interstate 75 limited access right-of-way and replacing it with a decorative fence; installing curbing around the existing grass median on US 36 west of the bridge, removing the painted island on US 36 east of the bridge and replacing it with a curbed, planting area; and installing concrete curbing at the pavement edges immediately adjacent to the bridge to provide for better separation between pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic. The project construction is scheduled for spring of 2014. The City has received \$288,945 in grant money for the construction from the Federal Highway Administration through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. The total project cost is estimated to be approximately \$525,400, said City Manager Enderle.

Commissioner Vogt asked what fence they plan on replacing. City Engineer Amy Havenar stated the chain link fence along the front of Red Lobster, and the fence across the street by the Speedway Gas Station. Commissioner Vogt voiced his opinion on keeping the chain link fence and painting it to save money at this time Commissioner Vogt stated he feels the State should come up with more money to help with this project.

Commissioner Martin asked what all was to be included in the project beside the fence at this time. Ms. Havenar explained what was included. City Manager Enderle stated it would certainly improve and enhance the entrances to the city at that location.

Public Comment

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, came forward and voiced his opinion on the project. Mr. Boehringer stated he wanted to challenge the local landscape businesses to step up and take on this landscape project. The City of Troy currently has a project called Operation Cloverleaf taken on by the local landscapers in Troy, said Mr. Boehringer. Mayor Fess stated currently the local Garden Clubs take care of several areas around town at this time.

Commissioner Martin asked if the City was committing to the spending of the money at this point. City Manager Enderle stated no, we are just getting it on the ODOT schedule, and if we turn it down we would lose the money.

Commissioner Terry asked if there would be time for any citizen's involvement in the planning like what was done with the Rt. 36/Ash Street Project. Ms. Havenar explained the procedure and stated there would be a time for public input in the future.

Commissioner Wilson stated he received information on a traffic count and it was noted approximately 15,000 – 20,000 vehicles travel through that area each day. It would be a shame not to take advantage of this project at this time to beautify that area.

Mayor Fess stated anything we can do to make Piqua stand out in peoples minds the better we are.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-21-11 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Terry, Martin and Wilson. Nay: Vogt. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-21-11 adopted on a 4-1 vote.

RES. NO. R-22-11

A Resolution reappointing a member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

City Manager Enderle stated this resolution reappoints William Vogt to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire March 1, 2012.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-22-11.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-22-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Commissioner Vogt abstained due to his appointment. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-22-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-23-11

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

City Manager Enderle stated this resolution reappoints William P. Murphy as the alternate member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire March 1, 2012.

Public Comment

Frank Barhorst, S. Wayne Street, came forward and stated when he was a Commissioner on the Piqua City Commission he served for twelve years on the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Barhorst stated he feels it is very important to have Piqua representation on the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Board.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-23-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Martin, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-23-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-24-11

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

City Manager Enderle stated this resolution reappoints Christopher Schmiesing as the alternate member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire March 1, 2012.

Commissioner Vogt noted he has been nominated to the Executive Board of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission the last two years, and it is a very good group to work with.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-24-11.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-24-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Fess, Vogt, Martin, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-24-11 adopted.

RES. NO. R-25-11

A Resolution appointing a member to the Board of Zoning Appeals as the Planning Commission Representative

City Manager Enderle stated this resolution appoints Mike Taylor as the Planning Commission representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term to expire on January 1, 2012.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-25-11.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-25-11 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Terry, Wilson, Vogt, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-25-11 adopted.

OTHER

Eurasian Watermilfoil 2010 Progress Report- Ms. Amy Havenar

City Engineer Amy Havenar gave a brief update on the progress of the Eurasian Watermilfoil since they were introduced in Franz Pond and Echo Lake in late 2009.

Economic Development Update – Mr. Bill Murphy

Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director Bill Murphy gave an update on the 2010 Activity and the Plan of Work for 2011.

Monthly Reports – December 2010

Monthly Reports for the month of December 2010 were accepted.

Mayor Fess stated she received a telephone call concerning the number of deer on Park Avenue and asked Police Chief Jamison to give a brief update on the deer situation.

Police Chief Jamison gave a brief overview on the problem with the deer population in the Park Avenue area, and what is currently being done at this time to reduce the number of deer in the area.

Mayor Fess reminded citizens to drive carefully in and around the city, and to be especially careful around dusk when the deer are more active.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Bloom, representing the Piqua Firefighters, came forward and read a prepared Mr. Bloom stated he would like to correct something that was said at the last Commission meeting of January 18, 2011. Mr. Bloom further stated that Fire Chief Mike Rindler did notify Firefighter/paramedics Cleadous Hawk and Eric Wood that as of September 1, 2010 they would be laid off in violation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the City and IAFF Local 252. These lay offs were

ultimately averted when the Fire Department was able to cut an additional \$40,000 from the budget. Mr. Bloom asked that the information be noted for the record at this time.

Shannon Brandon, Marlboro Avenue, came forward and voiced her opinion and asked several questions in regards to the Piqua water supply and the reason for the need to build a new Water Treatment Plant at this time. Ms. Brandon asked how the city came to the conclusion to build a surface water plant, and how would it affect her water rates. Mayor Fess stated the city held several work sessions to gather information and four options were suggested. No matter what option is chosen the water rates will be affected about the same, said Mayor Fess. City Manager Enderle further explained the cost benefit of the options, and the effect on the rates. These are only preliminary plans at this time; we are looking at a possible surface water plant, ground water plant, or a combined water plant. Ms. Brandon inquired as to the possibility of purchasing water from Troy and if we were considering that option at this time. City Manager Enderle stated he understands the City of Troy would like to sell water to the City of Piqua, but no decision has been made to go with their offer.

City Manager Enderle suggested Ms. Brandon contact Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Cynthia Holtzapple for further information and to make sure she is getting the correct figures on the project she is questioning.

Mayor Fess stated she appreciated Ms. Brandon coming forward with her interest in the city's water supply and water treatment plant.

Peggy Henthorn, Miami Valley Centre Mall, came forward to remind citizens the annual Kiwanis Pancake Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 26 at the Upper Valley JVS, and tickets are still available.

Jeff Lange, N. St. Rt. 66, came forward to voice his opinion on the recall of the four City Commissioners. Mr. Lange reminded citizens to come out and vote on March 1, and to vote against the recall of the four City Commissioners. Mr. Lange further stated he feels the City Commissioners and all the department heads+ do a great job, and he is proud to live in the City of Piqua.

Dean Ward, Lambert Drive, came forward and stated he was there to lend his support to the four City Commissioners who are being recalled and to the Proudly Promoting Piqua group. Mr. Ward encouraged citizens to vote on March 1, 2011 and further stated he feels the Piqua City Commission does a great job for the citizens of Piqua.

Commissioner Wilson congratulated Piqua Catholic School on winning the Pepsi Challenge for their new gym floor, stating it is great how the whole community came together for this common goal. Commissioner Wilson stated he hates to talk about the recall, but he believes the activities surrounding the recall have turned into a positive thing for the community, and hopes positive things will continue after the election is over. "We can't let negativity creep back into our meetings," said Commissioner Wilson.

Commissioner Terry read a statement concerning her vote for the city's computer system previously, stating the comments she made when the vote was taken were misunderstood. In conclusion Commissioner Terry stated, "I understand all the information offered by the experts, and we have to trust the experts to do the job".

Commissioner Terry also thanked the citizens who voted for Piqua Catholic Schools in the Pepsi Challenge, and also for voting for the San Filippo Pepsi Challenge, who ultimately won also.

Commissioner Terry stated the Piqua Water Treatment Plan held an Open House on February 10, which was not very well attended, and hopes they have another one in the future. It showed why the city is in need of a new water treatment plant, stating the current water treatment plant is over eighty years old. The people who work at the water treatment plant are second to none in their work ethics on being able to keep the plant running.

Commissioner Terry stated citizens can vote at the Board of Elections by absentee ballot if they are not going to be able to vote on March 1, 2011. Further information can be obtained by calling the Board of Elections at 937-440-3900. On Wednesday, February 23, the YWCA will host a Special Election Forum at the YWCA at 7:30 P.M. and the public is invited to attend.

Commissioner Terry thanked all the citizens for their patience during the recent ice and snow emergency.

Commissioner Terry also stated there was an article in the Piqua Daily Call regarding a Police Officer taking a lady to the bank. The lady is an employee in the City of Piqua Finance Department and the Police Officer was taking her to the bank to make a deposit. Several citizens commented on this and Commissioner Terry asked citizens to look at things with an optimistic approach rather than a pessimistic one when making a statement on something without having all of the facts.

Commissioner Vogt spoke on his reason for running for Commissioner. He stated before he became a Commissioner he thought he had all the answers. But after being elected and receiving all the background information pertaining to how the city government must follow certain guidelines, he came to the realization that maybe he did not have all the answers like he thought. Commissioner Vogt stated we are not bobble heads, we depend on the City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Department Heads to supply us with the pertinent information for us to make good decisions, and I feel we have always made good educated decisions for the city. Commissioner Vogt reminded citizens to get out and vote on March 1, 2011.

Commissioner Martin stated it is hard to make good decisions without having all the information. Thus the need to have the City Manager and City Department Heads provide the necessary information for the Commission to make the best decision.

Commissioner Martin complimented the City employees on doing a good job through the ice and snow emergency we had recently.

Commissioner Martin stated he would like to have as many citizens as possible participate in the local city government, call your commissioner and voice your opinion. Get involved and help move the City of Piqua forward, said Commissioner Martin.

Commissioner Martin read a prepared statement on his thoughts on the recall of the four City Commissioners. Commissioner Martin stated that for the three and a half years he has been on the City Commission he believes he has listened and provided help for all residents that have asked for his assistance. Commissioner Martin further stated that he feels all commissioners voted the same as he did on the issues ninety-nine percent of the time.

City Manager Enderle gave a brief overview of the State Issues the City of Piqua is facing at this time, including House Bill 3 the elimination of the Estate Tax, the Kilowatt Hour Tax, and Local Income Tax and the effect these will have on the City.

Now more than ever there are more unfunded mandates being placed on local government at this time. The City is very active in the Ohio Municipal League, Ohio City Managers Association, and Regional Associations, said City Manager Enderle. The City of Piqua is looking at the Fund Balance and asking the State to go slow with their mandates.

Mayor Fess stated she hopes the State looks at the whole picture before cutting funds, and it is important for the City of Piqua to stay on top of this.

Commissioner Martin asked if it would be possible to put the information and names of the State Representatives on the web site for residents to contact on the local and state level.

City Manager Enderle further stated that everyone wants the level of service to continue but in order to do so we have to have increases, there needs to be changes our costs now are unsustainable.

Mayor Fess stated the City might lose the kilowatt-hour tax, which would be a loss of over 1million dollars, and just wanted citizens to know what is happening at the State level.

Mayor Fess recognized Piqua Catholic School on winning the Pepsi Challenge, and thanked all who help to support their efforts to win.

Mayor Fess commented on the recall stating everything to be done has been done except the vote. Right now the future of city government in the City of Piqua is up to the citizens of Piqua. Make sure you get out and vote, there is only one item on the ballot, and it is probably the most important one you have ever voted for. We need to have a big vote, and a good vote to show people what Piqua is and what we are all about, said Mayor Fess.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

To consider pending or imminent litigation

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn into Executive Session at 9:40 P.M. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Terry, to adjourn from the Executive Session at 10:45 P.M. Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Terry to also adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 10:45 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION