

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday February 21, 2012
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.

Presentation

Kiwanis Pancake Day – Ms. Gretchen Roeth

Ms. Roeth gave a brief overview of the Kiwanis Organization, which has celebrated over 57 years in the Community. Proceeds from the Pancake Day will benefit the youth of Miami County. Ms. Roeth stated Kiwanis Pancake Day is March 3, 2012 this year and will be held at the Upper Valley Career Center from 6:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. and encouraged citizens to attend.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Approval of the minutes from the February 7, 2012 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting and the Work Session minutes from February 9, 2012. Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that the minutes of the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting of February 7, 2012 and the Work Session minutes of February 9, 2012 be approved. Voice vote, Aye: Fess, Wilson, Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

ORD. No. 2-12 (3rd Reading)

An Ordinance to vacate a public right of way

City Manager Huff stated this is the third reading of Ordinance No. 2-12 vacating a public right of way.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 2-12.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Ordinance 2-12 be adopted. Roll call Vogt, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 2-12 adopted.

ORD. NO. 4-12 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance amending Section 77.01 – Traffic Schedules Adopted, Schedule I of the Piqua Code, relating to Speed Limits

City Engineer Amy Havenar stated Ordinance No. 4-12 would allow the modification of the speed limit to 25 MPH on the following sections of roadway: Park Avenue between Marymont and Broadway, Broadway between Park Avenue and W. Ash Street, and W. Ash Street between Broadway and N. Downing Street.

Mayor Fess stated she received several telephone calls from residents stating it is difficult to get out on Park Avenue from the side streets with the 35 MPH speed limit.

Commissioner Wilson stated he received more telephone calls asking to keep it at 35 MPH, further stating there is no on street parking in that area, and believes the visibility is adequate from the side streets to move out onto Park Avenue.

Mayor Fess stated she has heard several comments on the change of the speed limit coming up the hill from several of the older residents in the area.

Commissioner Martin stated he has received more telephone calls making the speed limit 25 MPH all the way from Broadway to Sunset instead of the split speed limit.

Commissioner Terry stated she would like to have the 25 MPH speed limit continue all the way on Park Avenue from Broadway to Sunset Drive.

Commissioner Martin, made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 4-12 to make all of Park Avenue from Sunset Drive to Broadway 25 MPH, seconded by Commissioner Vogt. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: Wilson. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote to amend Ordinance No. 4-12.

Commissioner Martin also stated he would like to amend another portion of Section 77.01 in the Code Book Section 77.01 (B) changing the wording in the third and fourth line to remove the "Public Works Director" and insert "City Manager or his designee" as there is no longer a Public Works Director.

Law Director Wall stated she did not think this could be done at this time, as it is not part of Ordinance 4-12, further stating it can be changed at a later time.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 4-12.

Amended Ordinance No. 4-12 was given a second reading, as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 5-12 (1st Reading)

An Ordinance repealing existing Chapter 33.08 –Insurance and enacting a new Chapter 33.08 – Insurance of the Piqua Code, relating to Employee Policy

Human Resources Director Elaine Barton gave a brief overview of the changes. The City has been funding 75% of the non-union employee's health savings or health reimbursement accounts. Recently both the Police and Fire Departments agreed to reduce their funding to 75% from 85% funding. Both departments will be able to "earn" back funds to their accounts by participating in several wellness initiatives approved by United Health Care by participating in the "Bend the Trend" program. Employees may be reimbursed up to \$400 if they have a family plan, and up to \$200 for a individual plan by choosing from a number of wellness self-selected programs, stated Ms. Barton.

City Manager Gary Huff stated by doing this the City can reduce the cost for next years premium.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 5-12

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry that the rule requiring Ordinance No. 5-12 be read on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Terry Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Ordinance No. 5-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 5-12 adopted.

ORD. NO. 6-12 (1st Reading)

An Ordinance to change the street name of White Tail Drive

Economic Development Director Bill Murphy give a brief overview of the reason for the change at this time, stating this was to correct an error from 2006 when the plat was filed with the County. The street name shown on the construction documents and other maps indicate White Tail Lane. The name White Tail Lane also appeared on the street sign for the first several years of the street's existence. Recently the street sign was replaced, and the new street sign reflects the name as White Tail Drive per the subdivision plat. A petition was submitted by the five residents that live on the street asking the City to return the street name on the sign to White Tail Lane to be consistent with the address information on their legal documents. The Planning Commission unanimously approved the change at their February 14, 2012 meeting and recommended the proposed correction be made. It was noted that all of the residents on White Tail Lane are in agreement for the correction of the street name.

Public Comment

Hal Heiner, Lambert Drive came forward stating he lives on the corner of Lambert Drive and White Tail Lane and appreciates the City making the correction at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that the rule requiring Ordinance No. 6-12 be read on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Ordinance No. 6-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Fess, Martin, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 6-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-17-12

A Resolution authorization to apply for Safe Routes to School Funding for certain infrastructure and non-infrastructure improvements

City Engineer Amy Havenar gave a brief overview of the project. The Safe Routes to School Program is a federally funded program focused on removing obstacles or barriers to children making it safe for them to walk or bicycle to or from school. Communities can apply for funding through the Department of Transportation by forming local SRTS Committees and completing the necessary steps to satisfy the program requirements. The Piqua SRTS Committee submitted a School Travel Plan document to ODOT for review and acceptance in 2011. The committee identified the highest priority items and prepared to submit an application in the 2012 funding cycle.

The SRTS program is designed to cover 100% of the cost associated with implementing the proposed improvement/activities identified in the funding application. The program allows for design service expenses incidental to the projects included in application, but these services are not always funded. The Piqua SRTS funding request includes \$41,301 in expenses related to design services, and if the funding request is approved the City would need to obligate local funds to cover the design services.

There was discussion on the type of work that would be done with the funds, including how it would affect the schools that are not going to be used in the future. Ms. Havenar explained the types of work that would be done, which included handicap ramps, repairing of sidewalks, and painting of crosswalks.

A question was raised if the grant dollars were to come in less than expected who would chose which projects would get funded? Ms. Havenar explained who would be responsible for making that decision.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-17-12.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-17-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-17-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-18-12

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc.

Law Director Stacy Wall gave brief overview of the agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police. The City and the IAFF entered into a collective bargaining agreement requesting the Union give concessions on wages and health insurance. The Union was asked to agree to a 75% funding level rather than the 85% level of the HAS/HRA accounts, which is also what the non-union and three other bargaining units currently receive. Employees may be reimbursed up to \$400 if they have a family plan, and up to \$200 for an individual plan by choosing from a number of wellness self-selected programs, stated Ms. Barton. Additionally the Union offered to extend their current contract for one year providing for a second year of the 75% rather than at the higher rate, and this puts every City employee on the same funding level. Mayor Fess asked Ms. Wall to explain what concessions were. Ms. Wall explained.

The Union will receive a 3% wage increase effective March 1, 2012 as negotiated in the collective bargaining agreement, and the Union also offered to extend their contract through February 28, 2014 with a 0% wage increase for 2013. This contract extension ensured there would not be any further wage increase for the contract period, stated Ms. Wall.

It was noted that by offering the wellness programs it is possible to find hidden health issues before they become serious which is the ultimate goal to help keep employees healthy.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-18-12

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-18-12 adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-18-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-19-12

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with Local Union 252, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC (Firefighters)

Law Director Stacy Wall gave a brief overview of the agreement stating this contract is based on the calendar year and asked for the same concessions on wages and health insurance. This will also apply to the next Resolution as the Fire Union has two contracts one for Firefighters, and one for Fire Officers. The Union was asked to agree to a 75% funding level rather than the 85% level of the HAS/HRA accounts and they agreed.

The Fire Unions offered to extend their contract for one more year providing for a second year of the 75% funding rather than the 85% rate along with the reimbursement plan, stated Ms. Wall.

Public Comment

Bob Bloom, representing the Piqua Firefighters came forward stating they had just went through a nasty battle with State Issue 2 and Senate Bill 5 repealing a lot of the negotiating rights. Further stating that the system they had was working as the City and The Fire Unions were able to come to agreeable concessions that saved the City money. The Safety Services are doing that they can to keep the costs down and provide the services necessary, said Mr. Bloom.

Mayor Fess stated she appreciated the firefighters making the concessions.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-19-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-19-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-20-12

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with Local Union 252, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC (Fire Officers)

Same as previously stated by Law Director Wall.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-20-12

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-20-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Fess, Martin, Wilson and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-20-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-21-12

A Resolution authorizing the purchase of 315 Manning Street, Parcel No. N44-039620

Law Director Wall stated there was a structure fire at 315 Manning Street on November 29, 2011, and the property owner is required to demolish or repair the structure. At this time the property owner would like to sell the property to the City for \$1.00 in exchange for the City demolishing the structure. This property is adjacent to the Armory Park and the East Ash Street Project and would provide green space to the park. This is a win-win for the City as the demolition services have been secured at no cost to the City, and the City will have acquired green space and satisfies the requirement under the law to remedy the existing nuisance in a timely manner.

Commissioner Terry stated she was happy to see things fall into place for the City and the property owner.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-21-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-21-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Vogt, Fess, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-21-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-22-12

A Resolution authorizing the lease of tract numbers 1732 and 1730, on State Route 66 for purposes of continued farming

Law Director Wall stated this is a different type of lease entitled a Farm Cash Rent Lease and gave a brief description of the lease. The City recently purchased two parcels of land in anticipation of needing the land for a new water plant. The Toland family owns one of the parcels, and the Lange family owns the other. The Anderson family has been farming the Toland land for approximately 53 years, and farming the Lange land for approximately 23 years. The Anderson family would like to continue to farm the land now owned by the City. The farming of this land will not interfere with any future development or study of the land, and will provide an economic benefit to the City. This lease is for a one-year term with renewable clauses and also provides for the safety and protection of the water sources.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-22-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-22-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-22-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-23-12

A Resolution authorizing the purchase and sale of the canal land located at 110 E. Ash Street, Piqua, Ohio, Parcel No. N44-000895

Law Director Wall stated this Resolution is for the purchase of the canal land located at 110 E. Ash Street known as the Beard property. Previously the Commission adopted several Resolutions to amend the Master Lease with the State of Ohio. The City entered into a Master Lease Agreement for all of the canal land in 1926 with a 99-year lease. This has presented many problems due to the age of the leases and this particular lease is one of them. The State has the option of selling the land to the City, and in return the City can sell the land to a property owner. Fifth Third Bank would like to purchase the property, and with that the City of Piqua would purchase the property from the State and sell it to Fifth Third Bank. The City would close on the same day for the purchase and sale of the land. By doing this it would allow Mrs. Beard to sell the property, and would allow Fifth Third Bank to redevelop an unoccupied piece of land in the downtown district and releases the State and the City from the burden of administering canal leases while assisting in economic development, stated Ms. Wall. There will not be any cost to the City as Fifth Third will be paying any fees as this would speed up the process for the purchase of the lease.

Mayor Fess asked what the normal process was. Law Director explained the process and is a very timely issue usually taking 6 months.

Commissioner Martin asked if it would make sense to acquire all of the Canal property so that the City could control the leases? Ms. Wall explained that City Planner Chris Schmiesing has mapped out all the land and the uses. They are currently in discussions with ODNR at this time on the leases.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-23-12

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-23-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-23-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-24-12

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Valley Asphalt as the primary suppliers, and Barrett Paving Materials, Inc. as the secondary supplier of hot mix for the 2012 Street Maintenance Program

City Engineer Amy Havenar state Resolution No. R-24-12 would allow the Street Department to issue a purchase order to Valley Asphalt and Barrett Paving Materials, Inc. to allow them to complete their in house street resurfacing and patching program for 2012. The total cost of both would be not to exceed \$150,000, and was approved in the 2012 Budget.

Commissioner Wilson inquired why Barrett Paving is not the primary supplier and Valley Asphalt the secondary since Barrett Paving is cheaper? Street Superintendent Doug Harter explained over the past few years the City has had issues with obtaining the type and amount of asphalt needed for a project from the Barrett plant. Barrett only has one hopper and can only produce one type of asphalt at a time, where Valley Asphalt has three hoppers and can produce various types at one time. The City is a small purchaser of asphalt and Valley produces what the larger contractors need first. In the past the city has purchased asphalt from both Valley Asphalt and Barrett Paving Materials, Inc. depending on who had the mix available at the time it was needed at any given time.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to amend Resolution No. R-24-12 in the title and in Sections 1 and 2 to read: A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to ~~Valley Asphalt~~ **Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.** as the primary suppliers, and ~~Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.~~ **Valley Asphalt** as the secondary supplier of hot mix for the 2012 Street Maintenance Program. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Wilson, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-24-12

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-24-12 be adopted, as amended. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Vogt, Fess, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-24-12 adopted, as amended.

RES. NO. R-25-12

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Valley Asphalt as the primary supplier of stone and cold patch for the 2012 street and alley maintenance program

City Engineer Amy Havenar stated Resolution No. R-25-12 would allow the Street Department to issue a purchase order to Piqua Materials for all the stone needed for roadway improvement projects in 2012, in addition to cold patch materials for an amount not to exceed \$52,000.

Commissioner Martin inquired why they were using Piqua Materials for the cold patch when they were more expensive? Street Superintendent Harter explained the closest plant for Barrett is in Moraine and it would be more expensive to drive down there to get the cold patch when needed and is not cost effective.

Commissioner Terry stated she like the fact the City was using local companies.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-25-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-25-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-25-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-26-12

A Resolution reappointing one member to the Tree Committee

City Manager Huff stated Resolution No. R-26-12 reappoints Judy Terry as a member of the Tree Committee for a four (4) year term to expire on March 1, 2016.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-26-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-26-12 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-26-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-27-12

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

City Manager Huff stated Resolution No. R-27-12 reappoints William Vogt as a member of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire on March 1, 2013.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-27-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-27-12 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-27-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-28-12

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

City Manager Huff stated Resolution No. R-28-12 reappoints William P. Murphy as an alternate member of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire on March 1, 2013.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-28-12

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-28-12 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-28-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-29-12

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

City Manager Huff stated Resolution No. R-29-12 reappoints Christopher Schmiesing as an alternate member of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for a one-year term to expire on March 1, 2013.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-29-12

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-29-12 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-29-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-30-12

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Evans Landscaping, Inc. for the environmental remediation and demolition of the Piqua Memorial Medical Center site at a cost not to exceed \$1,789,000 and authorizing Evans Landscaping, Inc. to proceed with the project

Economic Development Director Bill Murphy stated on August 5, 2011 the City received a Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund for the environmental remediation and demolition of the Piqua Hospital site from the Ohio Department of Development. The City retained the firm of Burgess and Niple, Inc. to review all the submitted proposals and Evans Landscaping, Inc. was the lowest and most responsive bid. The project should come together within the next 180 days, stated Mr. Murphy.

There was discussion of the need for bonds for the project, why a landscaping company was chosen for the demolition, and what happens if all of the grant money is not used. Mr. Murphy explained the reason for the bonds, and how Evans Landscaping Inc. was chosen. Mr. Murphy further stated there are plans to install a web cam so citizens can get on line and watch the progress of the project. It was stated the timeline for the project is to get started as soon as possible, and to have a completion date by July 31, 2012.

Public Comment

Regina Favorite, came forward asked if there are plans to take down the Nurses Building next to the hospital. Mayor Fess stated yes, the plans are for all of the buildings to come down.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-30-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Vogt, Fess, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-30-12 adopted.

RES. NO. R-31-12

A Resolution authorizing a Roadway Maintenance Agreement with Miami County

Law Director Wall stated the proposed Roadway Maintenance Agreement serves to formalize the city/county relationship related to maintenance responsibilities on roadways split between the City and the County. During recent annexation proceedings the courts refused to accept the less formal agreements as legal documents thus the need for a formal agreement. The agreement basically states what both agencies are already doing as far as roadway maintenance on behalf of one and another. This is just the formal agreement and will go to the Miami County Board of Commissioners for them to act on at their March 2012 meeting.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-31-12

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-31-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Fess, Martin, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-31-12 adopted.

Other

Monthly Reports – December 2011

Monthly Reports were accepted.

Public Comment

This is an opportunity for citizens to address the City Commission regarding issues or to provide information. Comments are requested to be limited to five (5) minutes and specific questions should be addressed to the City Manager's office."

No one came forward to speak at this time.

Mayor Fess stated there were a number of Boy Scouts in the audience and asked them to come forward and state their name, age, school and Troop Number and what badge they were working on. The five Boy Scouts and their Leader were from Boy Scout Troop 344. Mayor Fess thanked them for coming.

City Manager Huff stated the East Ash Street Project is scheduled to begin on February 27, 2012 and the City has decided to relax and extend the sign standards during the reconstruction period on the Temporary Sign code so businesses can let their customers know they are still open. This would allow businesses to have more signage in the right of way letting customers know they are still open. It was also noted that the City would be doing signage to help the local businesses let their customers know they are still accessible and how to get to them.

City Manager Huff reminded citizens the Piqua Government Academy begins on Wednesday April 4th, 2012, which will run for eleven weeks, and encouraged citizens to sign up.

City Manager's Report

Economic Development Update – Mr. Bill Murphy

Mr. Murphy gave a brief power point presentation highlighting some of the various activities that have occurred recently. In 2011 Construction activity was \$27.9 million with three expansion projects completed and includes: Atlas Precision, Palmer Bolt, and Berwick Steel. A retail store Roses opened in February 2012 on Covington Avenue. Leads were also received from the ROI, Dayton Development Coalition, and Miami County. International (German Business) Recruitment, Domestic Business Recruitment, Consultant Engagement, and Retail Recruitment continues. Several graphs were shown outlining permit activity and permit valuation in the last 11 years.

Several projects are in the works and they include: the former Piqua Memorial Hospital Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund (CORF) Grant Award of \$2 million, the Piqua Power Plant Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Sustainable Redevelopment Track Grant Award of \$1.4 million, and the Ohio Department of Development's Brownfield Action Plan Pilot Program Grant of \$50,000 as well as technical assistance for the Riverfront Mill District.

Plans are to refocus on Consultant Engagement Programs, Tradeshow Representation, Foreign Direct Investment Opportunities-European Companies, the State of Economic Development Program/Report, and the Economic Development Strategic Planning Session.

Mr. Murphy also covered the Work Plan Attraction, Retention & Expansion, Growth, and Advocacy plans for the year 2012.

Department Update – Law Department – Ms. Stacy Wall

Ms. Wall presented a brief power point presentation on some of the responsibilities of the Law Department.

Prosecution: All prosecution is within Miami County Municipal Court; Piqua consistently represents approximately 24-26% of the County's criminal cases ,and approximately 12% of the traffic cases. A graph was shown depicting the number of criminal prosecution cases for the year 2011 in comparison to Miami County. 2011Traffic Prosecution total cases were 1,217, and Criminal Prosecution total cases were 1,398.

Bankruptcies are also part of the Law Directors position and there were four larger cases which included: Copperweld/LTV Steel in 2002 owing City Utilities \$64,118, Goody's Department Store in 2008 owing City utilities \$1,538, Rick James Chevrolet in 2010 owing \$15,631 in utilities, and a Personal filing that owes approximately \$9,200.

Felony Prosecution in 2011included 1,398 criminal cases of which 142 were felony cases. Ms. Wall explained what a felony case is. Civil and Criminal charges were both filed against the One More Chance Rescue and Adoption owner on Clark Avenue in 2011. Other claims such as MVRMA were filed for property damages, and Small Claims which are up to \$5000 limit included 15 claims for Utilities in 2011, and1 claim was filed for the Forest Hill Cemetery.

Ms Wall files Common Pleas Cases, which included 7 foreclosures, the Bryant litigation on a right of-way for the Ash Street Project, and negotiation on a contract on the Berger property for the Ash Street Project.

Ms. Wall is very involved with the Piqua community as she reads at Nicklin Avenue School, is the 2011 Professional Division Chair for the United Way, and also a 2012 Board Member, works with Pioneering Healthier Communities, is a Director for the Miami County YMCA and a Piqua Rotarian. These are just some of the duties that Ms. Wall performs as the Law Director for the City of Piqua.

Mayor Fess thanked Ms. Wall for her very informative presentation.

Commissioner Comment

Commissioner Wilson stated he was amazed at how much Ms. Wall and the Law Department does for the City. With the Ash Street Reconstruction Project beginning on February 27, it is important that we continue to support these business as they will be facing many issues with the street closure, stated Commissioner Wilson.

Commissioner Terry reminded everyone to attend the Kiwanis Pancake Day, as she knows they are good citizens who come out and support the children and schools in Piqua.

Commissioner Vogt thanked Ms. Wall for all the hard work she does, and further stating "what would we do without her". Commissioner Vogt also thanked Boy Scout Troop 344 for attending the Commission Meeting, stating these young men are our future leaders.

Commissioner Martin asked what the actual closing date is for the Ash Street Project? City Engineer Havenar stated Monday, February 27 weather permitting is the scheduled closing date for the Ash Street Project.

Mayor Fess thanked the Boy Scouts for attending such a long Commission Meeting. Mayor Fess stated she attended several events including the National Prayer Breakfast at Wright Patterson with over 500 attendees, and will attend the Riverside Mental Health Breakfast week.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 9:15 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Lucinda L. Fess, Mayor

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION