

**MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday May 1, 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.

**REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

Approval of the minutes from the April 17, 2012 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, to approve the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting of April 17, 2012. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Fess, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**RES. NO. R-81-12**

A Resolution approving the renewal application for placement of farmland in an agricultural district filed by Ellen J. Allenbaugh for Parcel #44-100640 in the City of Piqua

City Manager Huff stated the Public Hearing for this item was held on April 17, 2012 and at that time there were no objections to the application to place the farmland in the City of Piqua.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-81-12.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-81-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-81-12 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-82-12**

A Resolution to approve the form and authorize the execution of Blue Creek Wind Energy Schedule with American Municipal Power, Inc. and taking of other actions in connection therewith regarding wind generated energy purchases

Power Systems Director Ed Krieger stated the City requested that Sawvel and Associates, Inc. review the Iberdola Blue Creek Wind Farm (Wind Project) Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) being offered by American Municipal Power (AMP). Mr. Krieger presented a power point presentation explaining the purchase agreement.

Since the 1996 closure of Piqua's coal-fired generating plant, Piqua has utilized market purchases for the majority of the City's power supply needs. The Piqua Energy Board has recommended and the City Commission has adopted a long-term power supply plan based on diversity of supply and joint ownership of power supply resources through the City's membership in American Municipal Power (AMP), Inc. Piqua is also partial owner of the Prairie State mine-mouth coal-fired generating station, Fremont Energy Center natural gas combined-cycle generating plant, renewable project, which includes the Cannelton, Smithland, Willow Island, Meldahl and Green-up runoff-the-Ohio River hydro generating facilities.

Piqua has the opportunity to participate in the recently completed Iberdola Blue Creek Wind Energy Project located in Paulding and Van Wert counties in Northwest Ohio. AMP has negotiated a very favorable ten-year power purchase agreement for up to 54 megawatts (MW) of the 304 MW project. Piqua will be participating at a level up to 5,000 kilowatts, which translates to 5% of the

City's energy needs. When added to the hydro project renewable carbon-free resources will provide 20% of the City's energy needs by 2015.

The Power System included \$18,727,000 in the 2012 budget for Power Supply Costs. Piqua would begin taking up to 5,000 kilowatts of the Blue Creek Wind Energy Power Purchase Agreement beginning July 1, 2012 and terminating June 30, 2022.

The Piqua Energy Board recommended at their April 24, 2012 meeting that the Piqua City Commission adopt Sawvel and Associates recommendation.

There was discussion of the projected market prices, the location of the wind farm, and it was also noted that gas is 30- 40% below the City of Dayton at this time.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-82-12.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-82-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-82-12 adopted.

### **RES. NO. R-83-12**

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with Edsall & Associates, LLC for the Engineering/Landscape design services for the US Route 36 Corridor Beautification project

City Engineer Amy Havenar explained the work limits for this project extend along the US Route 36 corridor from the overhead railroad bridge to the west and Looney Road on the east. The project includes removing and/or replacing portions of the utilitarian right of way fence and light posts with decorative fence and light post types; installing curbing around the existing grass median area to the west of the interstate bridge, excavating the painted median east of the bridge adding curb and topsoil to the area to create a planting area, and planting the medians and shoulder embankment area with native trees and bushes. The improvements will be designed to complement the US Route 36/I-76 Beautification Project completed last year, stated Ms. Havenar.

The City received \$288,945 in grant funding from MVRPC for construction of this project, with the total cost estimated to be around \$525,000. As with all federally funded projects, the engineering costs associated with the project are funded with 100% local funds. The project is scheduled to begin construction in the summer of 2013.

City Manager Huff stated the Comfort Inn indicated to him they have had an increase in their business since the new landscaping project at Rt. 36 and I-75 has been completed.

Mayor Fess stated that first impressions are the best advertisement for our city, and the new landscaping and lettering improvements certainly make a great first impression.

Commissioner Wilson stated a meeting would be held with a combined committee made up of citizens and other committee members to gather input on what they would like to see in this next phase.

Ms. Havenar explained a rendering would be made to show the community the plans as they develop for the project.

### **Public Comment**

Ruth Koon, Park Avenue came forward and stated she is very excited about the project, and asked several questions concerning the type of plantings on the slopes. Ms. Havenar explained

the type of plantings that would be planted on the slopes, further stating they would be low maintenance plants.

Ms. Koon added “there are a lot of great things happening in Piqua right now.”

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-83-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Fess, Vogt, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-83-12 adopted.

### **RES. NO. R-84-12**

A Resolution authorizing the purchase of property 212-214 W. Ash Street, Parcel N44-002220

Law Director Stacy Wall explained this resolution would authorize the City to purchase the property known as 212-214- W. Ash Street. This property is a blighting influence on the neighborhood and has been a nuisance to the neighboring property owners. The current owner does not have the necessary resources to respond to raze or repair orders previously issued by the City of Piqua Health Department. The owner has agreed to donate the property to the City to facilitate the remediation of the current conditions. The City has also contacted the mortgagee of the property who is agreeable to releasing all interest in the property to the City.

The purchase of the property will be contingent upon securing a buyer for the property who agrees to demolish the existing structure and restore the site at no expense to the city. An adjacent property owner has expressed an interest in filling the role of the buyer and the City is currently negotiating with this party to achieve the goal of demolition and restoration of the site.

Several commissioners stated this property has been an eyesore for years, and they have had a lot of complaints concerning the property, and would be glad to see something done with it.

City Manager Huff stated a lot of work was done by the city staff to accomplish this, including City Planner Chris Schmiesing, and Law Director Stacy Wall, and he appreciates their efforts.

Mayor Fess also commented that the City has a great staff.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-84-12.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-84-12 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-84-12 adopted.

### **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.

Ruth Koon, Park Avenue came forward and stated Mainstreet Piqua would be planting the planters in the downtown area again this summer. Mainstreet Piqua will be participating in the City Clean Up to be held on Saturday May 4, 2012, and encouraged residents to participate. Taste of the Arts is scheduled in Downtown Piqua on Friday, May 18 and invited citizens to attend, stated Ms. Koon.

Mayor Fess stated she appreciates all that Mainstreet Piqua does for the community.

## **City Manager's Report**

### **Economic Development Update**

Economic Development Director Bill Murphy stated the State of Economic Development was held recently and shared information from the Report. This gives us the opportunity to celebrate the successes of our local businesses and organizations, stated Mr. Murphy. The keynote speaker was David Avdakov, Senior Portfolio Advisor at US Bank. Four businesses were highlighted and they include: Apex Aluminum for their Atlas Machine relocation, Upper Valley Career Center for their renovation project, Coilplus Berwick for their expansion project, and Hartzell Air Movement high bay expansion project.

Mr. Murphy stated the city would be launching an "I Love Piqua Campaign" where students in the 45356 zip code have the opportunity to produce videos on what they love about living in Piqua.

Mr. Murphy announced Marias Technology was featured in the Dayton Business Journal, and Piqua Steel Crane & Rigging was highlighted in the Dayton B 2 B Magazine. Again this is great positive news that goes a long way in helping our efforts in promoting the City of Piqua as a place to do business, stated Mr. Murphy.

### **Department Update – Dean Burch, Information Technology**

Information Technology Director Dean Burch presented a power point presentation highlighting the responsibilities of the IT Department. They include taking care of all the computer hardware, city network and software throughout the city, all telephone and voice mail systems, web site and other social media, department systems & applications such as the Fire, Police, SCADA, GIS, and the EGOV Services. Technical assistance is provided to the Fort Piqua Plaza, Grow Piqua Now, Chamber of Commerce, Mainstreet Piqua, and WOTVC as needed. Mr. Burch shared several maps showing all the various areas in the United States and other countries that have visited our website page.

Mr. Burch gave a brief history on the implementation of the City's Information Technology System, stating it began in the early 1980's when the first IBM System 34 was purchased, and how it has grown from the first IBM System to the up to date technology that they have today. Statistics show 174 Workstations, 12 Servers, 17 Network printers & copies, 6 Networks, 3 SCADA Systems that the IT Department is responsible for on a daily basis. Some of the numbers include archived emails: 1,557,751 incoming, 533,926 internal and 300,994 outgoing. More than 89% of incoming emails to the piquaoh.org domain are blocked by our software (junk email, viruses, etc.), stated Mr. Burch.

Mr. Burch provided information on how the City of Piqua compares to other ICMA cities. In conclusion several upcoming projects were introduced and include: Intranet (Internal "Internet"), High speed fiber & connection project for Power, City Facilities, and Local Businesses, cell phone upgrades, online & mobile applications, and Web site/social media (Branding). These are just some of the responsibilities of the IT Department, stated Mr. Burch.

City Manager Huff stated on May 2 from 6:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M. Bob Evans will be donating 15% of their sales of the City Coupons presented to them by citizens for their meals to the "GIVE" Committee.

City Manager Huff reminded citizens that May 5, 2012 is the citywide cleanup day. This is being referred to as "Piqua Pick it Up and Clean it Day" This is a citywide volunteer effort to clean up the parks, paths, and any public areas and will begin at 8:30 A.M. and conclude at 12:00 P.M. Anyone wishing to participate is encouraged to go online at [www.piquaoh.org](http://www.piquaoh.org) and register, or contact the City Manager's office to sign up. The Southview Neighborhood Association will be providing lunch at Mote Park for anyone participating in the clean up at 12:00 P.M..

City Manager Huff stated the Rotary Club will be helping Mainstreet Piqua in the downtown area, and he personally would be going over to the Post Office to sweep the steps as they are in great need of a cleaning.

**Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Wilson encouraged citizens to participate in the Clean Up on May 4, and reminded citizens of the change in the speed limit on Park Avenue, stating it is now officially 25 MPH.

Commissioner Terry also encouraged citizens to participate in the Clean Up in their neighborhoods or just around their own homes. Again this year, Cakes for a Cause sponsored by the Piqua Community Foundation was a great success with a variety of cakes being auctioned off for a great cause. Arbor Day activities were held in Kiwanis Park and a tree was planted in honor of Colleen Noonan by the Kindergarten class from Nicklin Avenue School, stated Commissioner Terry.

Commissioner Vogt stated with the nice weather the Municipal Golf Course is open and is in great shape. Memberships are available at the Golf Course and he would like to see more participation. Also the Municipal Swimming Pool will be opening Memorial Day Weekend and memberships are available at the Street Department. There are so many nice things in things in Piqua for residents to take advantage of at a minimal cost, and encouraged citizens to visit the Golf Course, Pool, and the many Parks this summer.

Mayor Fess stated the River Summit is scheduled for Thursday, May 3, at the Fort Piqua Plaza and encouraged residents to attend. The Senior Center Annual Swing Dance will be held on May 12 at the Fort Piqua Plaza and encouraged all dancers to come out and enjoy the music. Friday, May 4 the Veterans will be leaving for Washington, D.C. at 8:30 from the Miami Valley Centre Mall and encouraged citizens to come out for the send off. These are all very exciting happenings in the City of Piqua, said Mayor Fess.

Mayor Fess stated with the announcement of the three new expansions recently they will be providing about 140 new jobs in the City of Piqua, which is very exciting news.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 8:30 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

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

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