

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday January 15, 2013
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 Martin, Vogt, Terry, and Wilson. Also in attendance Trustee Hiegel, Trustee McMaken, and Trustee Holfinger. Absent: None.

PRESENTATION: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY-COMMUNITY EVENT
Ms. Leesa Baker, YWCA Executive Director

Ms. Baker gave a brief overview of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day program and invited everyone to attend. Ms., Baker thanked the City of Piqua for promoting the program on the City web site.

PROCLAMATION: CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK IN PIQUA

Mayor Fess read the proclamation and presented it to Sister Mary Alice.

Sister Mary Alice thanked the City of Piqua for the proclamation, and invited citizens to stop in at any of the Catholic School campus for a visit.

GOVERNMENT ACADEMY GRADUATES

City Manager Huff read the names of the Government Academy Graduates as they came forward to receive a certificate and an academy shirt. Graduates include:

Peggy Brading	Joe Simmons
Myrna Cantrell	Lloyd Smith
Jessica Dunn	Virginia Smith
Regina Favorite	Edna Stiefel
Dick Feightener	Steve Stiefel
Marcia Garrett	Jonathan Wessel
Carol Hogston	Lorie Wion
David Humerickhouse	Pete Wolf
Jim Mauk	Sandy Wolfe
Cindy Pearson	Joe Wright
Kathy Sherman	Ken Wright
Jennifer Siders	Rodney Young

City Manager Huff stated this is the second class of the Government Academy students who have come forward to learn how the City Government works. This class has been a very inquisitive group, stated City Manager Huff.

Development Program Manager Bill Lutz lead the class through the 13 week course and announced the next Government Academy Class will begin on March 7, 2013 and invited citizens to sign up.

Mayor Fess congratulated the members of the Government Academy stating they were all very excited about participating in the Academy, and she is looking forward to having them serve in various capacities within the city in the future.

JOINT MEETING WITH WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes from the January 3, 2012 Joint Meeting of the Washington Township Trustees and Piqua City Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt to approve the minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Washington Township Trustees and the Piqua City Commission. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, Fees, Hiegel, McMaken, and Holfinger. Nay, None. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-1-13

A Resolution reappointing a member to the Board of Trustees of Forest Hill Union Cemetery

City Manager Huff stated Resolution No. R-1-13 reappoints Harlen Smoot to the Board of Trustee of Forest Hill Union Cemetery for a three year term to expire on December 31, 2015.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Trustee Holfinger, that Resolution No, R-1-13 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Fess, Terry, Martin, Wilson, Vogt, Holfinger, McMaken, and Hiegel. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-1-13 adopted.

Mayor Fess stated she has served with Mr. Smoot on the board, and he takes his position very seriously. Mayor Fess further stated she appreciates his work on the Board of Trustees of the Forest Hill Union Cemetery.

Moved by Trustee.Hiegel, seconded by Commissioner Vogt to adjourn from the Joint Meeting with the Washington Township Trustees and the Piqua City Commission. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Terry, Fess, Wilson, Holfinger, Hiegel, and McMaken. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move to Executive Session to consider pending or imminent litigation and to consider the purchase or sale of property for public purposes

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:47 P.M. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Vogt, Wilson, and Terry. Nay, None.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to adjourn from Executive Session at 8:05 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Fess, Terry, and Vogt. Nay: None.

Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes from the December 18, 2012 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to approve the Consent Agenda. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 30-12 (2nd READING)

An Ordinance to vacate a portion of public right-of-way

City Planner Chris Schmiesing explained this property is a platted portion of Downing Street right of way located south of Meteor Street, and is not essential to public transportation. The Planning Commission has reviewed this and unanimously approved the vacation of this portion of public right-of-way, stated Mr. Schmiesing

Ordinance No. 30-12 was given a second reading.

NEW BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 1-13 (1ST READING)

An Ordinance amending Chapter 55.31 – Storm Water Fees, established of the Piqua Municipal Storm Water Management

Devon Alexander, Storm Water Coordinator explained the 2013 Storm Water Utility rate would be raised from \$4.70 to \$5.20 (\$0.50) per ERU and the 2014 Storm Water Utility rate would be raised from \$5.20 to \$5.45 (\$0.25) per ERU. The rate increases will help cut the projected deficits in the Storm Water Budget. Just from the increase that goes into effect in March 2013, the additional revenue would be about \$71,000, stated Mr. Alexander.

There was discussion concerning some of the older areas of town, and the problem catch basins that need to be replaced. Mr. Alexander commented they have been sharing employees with other departments and have not been able to do any of the preventative maintenance. They hope to be able to do more this year, stated Mr. Alexander.

Commissioner Vogt stated he mentioned raising the fees in a Commission Work Session previously, stating that it would only cost residents about \$6 a year, and that it is far better to increase the rates a little at a time versus increasing them at one time at a higher rate.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 1-13.

Ordinance No. 1-13 was given a first reading.

RES. NO. R-2-13

A Resolution authorizing the acceptance and transfer of Parcel No. N44-090375, Piqua, Ohio

City Manager Huff asked Law Director Stacy Wall to provide a brief overview of the transfer of parcels, and that the overview would also cover Resolutions R-3-13, R-4-13, and R-5-13.

Ms. Wall gave a brief explanation on each of the parcel transfers that are part of the old Piqua Memorial Hospital site. R-2-13 is the parking lot by the Medical Building, R-3-13 is currently a vacant lot, R-4-13 is 2 parcels with a residential home, and R-5-13 is the current parcel where the Medical Building is. The Hospital authorized the transfers to the City of Piqua and now the city needs to deed them over to the Piqua City School District. There are still five remaining parcels not owned by the city and that will still need to be released by the owner, stated Ms. Wall.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-2-13

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-2-13 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-2-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-3-13

A Resolution authorizing the acceptance and transfer of Parcel No. N44-011217, Piqua, Ohio

Ms. Wall previously explained.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-3-13

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-3-13 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-3-13 adopted

RES. NO. R-4-13

A Resolution authorizing the acceptance and transfer of Parcel No. N44-0018810, and N44-011218, 919 Broadway, Piqua, Ohio

Ms. Wall previously explained.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-4-13

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-4-13 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-4-13 adopted

RES. NO. R-5-13

A Resolution authorizing the acceptance and transfer of Parcel No. N44-090370, 821 Nicklin Avenue, Piqua, Ohio

Ms. Wall previously explained.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-5-13

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-5-13 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-5-13 adopted

RES. NO. R-6-13

A Resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Analyst to advertise for bids to make certain purchases during the year 2013

Finance Director Cynthia Holtzapple explained the City is required to advertise for any capital or operation purchases over \$25,000 in the local newspaper. The Piqua Daily Call will be used for this purpose and the Commission is being asked for approval for the Purchasing Analyst to be authorized to advertise for the purchases at this time.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-6-13.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-6-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Fess, Martin, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution R-6-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-7-13

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Housing Revolving Loan Fund Agreement with the State of Ohio Development Services Agency for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015

Development Program Director Bill Lutz gave a brief overview of the Housing Revolving Loan Fund Agreement. Yearly the City of Piqua receives about \$10,000 per year in program income from the previously funded housing programs. The City is required to have an agreement with the State of Ohio in order to receive the funding.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-7-13.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R- 7-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Fess, Martin, Vogt, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-7-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-8-13

A Resolution for the demolition of the existing lime slaker and installation of the new Chemco Feeder, Slaker, Control Panel and Rotameter Panel

Water System Superintendent Don Freisthler gave a brief overview on the installation of the new equipment, further explaining how the equipment is used and the need for the equipment. The new Slaker will replace the current 1985 one that has been having problems recently when needed. The new equipment will be able to be transferred to the new water plant when it is completed without any problems, stated Mr. Freisthler.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-8-13

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to approve Resolution No. R-8-13. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Vogt, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-8-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-9-13

A Resolution adopting a Complete Street Policy

City Planner Chris Schmiesing gave a brief explanation on the Complete Street Policy stating it is the result of a lot hard work and effort by the Piqua community, utilizing the 2007 Comprehensive Plan, with the end result of enhancing the quality of life in the Piqua community.

Mr. Schmiesing stated there is no cost to adopt this policy; the Capital Improvement Plan will be adjusted to reflect a higher prioritization given to those projects that advance the vision and goals of the Complete Streets Policy. The policy is also intended to encourage walking and biking, produce the health benefits that result from these types of activities, help to reduce the demand for fossil fuel, ease traffic congestion, reduce wear on roadways, improve air quality, make streets and public and private spaces more attractive for business and customers, and increase economic activity.

There was discussion of the use of CDBG Funds in the future for sidewalk improvements throughout the community.

Mayor Fess stated, Mr. Schmiesing's presentation at the work session was very comprehensive as well as exciting, and it looks like he has the City on the cutting edge.

Public Comment

Dan French, representing Positively Promoting Piqua came forward and voiced his support for the adoption of the Complete Street Policy. The Bike Path is a wonderful asset to the City of Piqua, and having the Complete Street Policy in effect will help with progress, and will be a great tool for future Economic Development, stated Mr. French.

Artie Parker of Parkers Bike Shop, Harrison Street came forward stating a large number of people from all over the United States come to Piqua just to ride on the Bike Path. Mr. Parker stated he has two separate families that called ahead to make sure he had 15-16 bicycles for them to ride when they come to Piqua. These families came from the New England states and Minnesota and come to Piqua to ride on the Bike Path. Mr. Parker further stated he walks the Bike Path early every morning and is amazed at the number of people he meets each morning. The Bike Path is a great asset to the Piqua community, stated Mr. Parker.

Jim Hemmert, Boone Street stated he has taken the Bike Path from Piqua to Milford. He has been able to ride all the way except for one small section where he had to get off and back on. In 2000 when the Bike Path was built he stated in just two days, a Wednesday and a Sunday, there were 750 people that went by French Park either walking or riding. In the fall of 2012 one day he counted 22 cars parked in the parking lot on Route 66, they were either walking or riding on the Bike Path, and over 3000 people rode the Bike Path when the GOBA came through Piqua. Mr. Hemmert stated he tries to ride his bicycle to as many different locations as possible as he goes around the community. The Complete Street Policy will be a great help to community, and will enable bicycles and cars to share the road with pedestrians, stated Mr. Hemmert.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-9-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Vogt, Fess, Terry, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-9-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-10-13

A Resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement

City Planner Chris Schmiesing stated in 2011 the Development Department secured a grant for technical assistance and funding from the Ohio Development Services Agency, through the Brownfield Action Plan Pilot Program. Piqua was one of six communities in the state to receive funding through this program.

The Brownfield Action Plan Pilot Program grant received from the Ohio Development Services Agency includes \$50,000 in seed dollars for the planning and implementation of the project, and no local match is required, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

There was discussion of the various projects the money could be used for and the concerns for the areas in question. There are a lot of things the community would like to see done, and the consultant will define the area, stated Mayor Fess.

Mr. Schmiesing stated adoption of the resolution will authorize the execution of a professional services contract for the next phase of the Riverfront District Redevelopment Project. The project timeline included:

April 2012-Community Engagement-Public Workshop
May 2012 –Planning Commission-regular Meeting
July 2012- Community Engagement-Public Workshop
Nov.2012-City Commission-Work Session
Jan 2013-City Commission-Regular Meeting

Public Comment

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street came forward and voiced his opinion on what he would like to see done with the Riverfront District area, such as providing a play area and green space.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-10-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Terry, Fess, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-10-13 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.

No one came forward to speak at this time.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Huff stated there are several Board and Committee openings. For more information and applications contact the City Manager's office with the deadline being February 15, 2013 to apply.

Board of Zoning Appeals	1	Income Tax	1
Park Board	1	Planning Commission	1
Downtown Design Review	1	Tree Committee	1
Civil Service	1	Golf Advisory	2

City Manager Huff stated the City Office will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2013 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

City Manager Huff stated in 2012 the City wrapped up about \$1.9 million in grant funds. We are off to a great start in 2013 as the city has already received \$70,000 in grant funds since January , 2013 and plan on being very aggressive in going after the grant money that is available. We have a variety of programs we are working on now, and are expecting another great and productive year in 2013, stated City Manager Huff.

Mayor Fess stated she has had a lot of comments about all of the projects and activities that have taken place in 2012 and they are looking forward to see what develops in 2013.

Commissioners Comment

Commissioner Wilson stated he wanted to reminded citizens there is a Cold Shelter available thru the Compassion Network Program and is open from 9:00 P.M. -6:00 A.M. and for information contact Reverend Hinds at Westminster Presbyterian Church 773-0564.

Commissioner Wilson voiced his concern over Pan Handling on the interstate ramps. Commissioner Wilson asked if it would be possible to revise the current rules and regulations on pan handling, and also what can be done about the trash they are leaving behind?

City Manager Huff stated they have noticed an increased number of people along the interstate ramps, and have been looking at scheduling a work session sometime in February to take a look at the current rules and regulations.

Police Chief Bruce Jamison gave a brief overview of the current Pan Handling rules and regulations, and the process they must follow. Chief Jamison stated the Police Department has advised several of them of the rules and regulations that they must follow in the City of Piqua. As far as the trash issue it is very hard to prove if no one sees them drop it, stated Chief Jamison.

City Manager Huff stated we are looking at additional rules and regulations as the Chief has voiced his concerns.

There was discussion on some of the current rules and regulations and the issuing of permits, permit time length, and if the permits have to be visible when they are pan handling.

Commissioner Martin asked citizens to get involved in the community as they are numerous boards and committees that they can serve on, and help to make a difference in the community.

Commissioner Vogt thanked the Government Academy graduates and invited citizens to sign up for the next Government Academy Class which begins in March, 2013.

Commissioner Vogt also wanted to remind citizens that the YWCA will be hosting the Martin Luther King, Jr. Program on Monday January 21, 2013 at the Piqua YWCA.

Commissioner Vogt stated another Car Show is planned to be held on July, 20, 2013 at Fountain Park, and the Van-Dells will be on hand to perform at the evening concert.

Mayor Fess invited citizens to drive by and look at the new Piqua Skate Park, there have been quite a number of young people up there as they have been waiting a long time for it to be completed. A special thank you to Rich Donnelly for providing the funding, as it is one of the best skate parks in the region, said Mayor Fess. City Manager Huff stated they will schedule another ribbon cutting as soon as the weather permits.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 9:10 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Fess, Terry, Wilson, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION