

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday February 19, 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. Absent: None.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Consent Agenda

Approval of the minutes from the January 10, 2013 Commission Work Session and the February 5, 2013 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting

RES. NO. R-23-13

A Resolution appointing a member to the Planning Commission

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 1-13 (2nd Reading)

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

Devon Alexander, Storm Water Coordinator provided a brief overview of the 2013 Storm Water Utility rates, stating they 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. Last year the city received a grant to help with the projects but grants are not guaranteed every year. Currently we are facing a \$300,000 deficit due to the Capital Improvement schedule for the street rebuilds this year. The rate increases will help cut the projected deficits in the Storm Water Budget, stated Mr. Alexander.

There was discussion regarding the projects that were to be done this year. And it was noted that they were able to hire two new employees to help with preventive maintenance this year.

Public Comment

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

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Ordinance No. 1-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Martin, Wilson, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

ORD. NO. 2-13 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance amending Chapter 32, Section 32.016 and 32.061, of the Piqua Municipal Code to reflect meeting requirements

Law Director Stacy Wall explained this is the second reading of Ordinance No. 2-13. The current code requires the Energy and Park Boards to meet even if there is no agenda. This amendment

allows for a meeting to be called upon there being business but also sets a minimum standard of meeting once a quarter.

Law Director Wall noted the numbering of the Ordinances on the agenda face sheet was incorrect as they should read 1-13 and 2-13 instead of 1-3 and 2-3, and the number on Ordinance 2-3 should read as Ordinance 2-13. This does not affect the Ordinance in any way stated Ms. Wall.

Ordinance No. 2-13 was given a second reading.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-24-13

A Resolution to accept the recommended zoning designation concerning the petition for annexation of 0.94+/- acres from Springcreek Township

City Planner Chris Schmiesing explained the petitioner's Robin & Julie Alexander would like to annex the property located at 8090 Looney Road into the City of Piqua to apply for city services. The property owner received information from the Ohio EPA suggesting the best alternative for satisfying the sanitary needs for the property was to hook into the city services. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended an appropriate zoning designation of B General Business District of the subject property upon annexation into the City of Piqua.

Dale Davis, representing the applicants, Robin & Julie Alexander came forward stating the applicant would like to have the Zoning changed as per their request. Mayor Fess asked if Mr. Davis would give a brief explanation of what type of business the applicants intend to locate on the property. Mr. Davis indicated Winan's Coffee will operate a coffee shop in part of the building, and Journey's Beauty Salon will also relocate there in the future.

Public Comment

Jerry Voisinet, Schultz Drive, came forward and asked several questions concerning the covenants of Recker Town, if this would be considered spot zoning, and if the neighbors were notified of the zoning change.

Mr. Schmiesing explained how the B Zoning was assigned, further stating the County Zoning designation for this property is currently I-1 Light Industrial, and the B Zoning would be a downgrade from that. Mr. Schmiesing explained this is not spot zoning, and that the contiguous neighbors were notified.

Law Director Wall asked that Mr. Voisinet follow up with Mr. Schmiesing stating the property owners came to the City asking for the annexation, and that the litigation that is taking place at this time does not involve the City of Piqua in any way. Ms. Wall stated anything that would come before the Planning Commission or concerning an annexation agreement Mr. Schmiesing is very knowledgeable on as he is the first point of contact for the agreements. There is a process that must be followed when requesting any annexation into the city such as public and all items were followed.

Commissioner Vogt stated a few years ago a similar situation occurred further down Looney Road, where the resident asked to annex into the city because of sanitary sewer issues also.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-24-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Martin, Wilson, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-24-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-25-13

A Resolution to accept a petition for annexation of 0.941+/- acres from Springcreek Township

Chris Schmiesing stated the property owners executed an annexation agreement with the City of Piqua to secure permission to tie into the municipal water and sewer systems. The Springcreek Township Trustees have consented to the request for the annexation by formally approving the annexation agreement. The petitioners took the annexation petition to the Miami County Board of Commissioners who accepted the petition and forwarded it to the City of Piqua Clerk of Commission who received the petition and held it for the statutory 60 day waiting period, and it is now before the City Commissioner to accept or reject the annexation petition at this time.

Commissioner Martin asked if all the neighbors listed on Exhibit "D" received notification of the annexation. Mr. Schmiesing stated yes they did, as that is a requirement of the Ohio Revised Code and why the exhibit is included. Commissioner Martin inquired if the other neighbors behind or down the road from the property in question wanted to annex would it be possible. Mr. Schmiesing explained.

Dale Davis, representing the petitioners Robin and Julie Alexander came forward stating the Alexander's asked to have their property annexed in to the City of Piqua. They have gone through the Miami County process, and the Springcreek Township Trustees have approved the annexation. The Alexander's have completed everything required to move the annexation forward at this time, stated Mr. Davis.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-25-13

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-25-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-25-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-26-13

A Resolution authorizing an application to the League of American Bicyclist Bike Friendly Community program

City Planner Chris Schmiesing stated the goal is to apply for the Bicycle Friendly Designation through the League of American Bicyclists They have several different designations that evaluate the current bike friendliness of the community and be recognized for their efforts. They include: Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Honorable Mention. The city will not only receive a designation as to where they are in the process, it also helps identify further steps that need to be taken to reach the next award level and become a leading bicycle friendly city. Feedback is also provided on areas in need of improvement and ties in with the Complete Streets project discussion that has been taking place recently. By going through this process the city will be better informed on what can be done to make the City of Piqua a Bicycle Friendly Community. This Resolution is asking for Commissions authorization to submit the application, and is indicating their support, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

City Manager Huff stated this is something that he has encouraged them to pursue, as it is very important to receive the designations and certifications to market the community. Piqua is quickly becoming the hub for bicycling and trail systems in the area. The city has a new marketing material logo, City of Piqua the Best Trail System in Ohio. City Manager Huff believes we have that and it gives the city more opportunity to market further and to attract more bicycle riders to the community. City Manager Huff commended Mr. Schmiesing and the committee for their efforts in putting together the application.

Commissioner Wilson stated he would like to continue to promote the Piqua Bike Trail and bicycling in the community, as it is a hidden gem. Commissioner Wilson further stated he would like to see different community sponsored bicycle rides in the spring and summer if possible, as it is a great way to promote the Bike Trail.

Commissioner Terry asked if by getting the Designation would it help the City to secure more grants and help to make the bicycle system better. Mr. Schmiesing stated absolutely, and by going through the process it will help us better identify where we can make improvements that will have a significant impact in the community.

Public Comment

Jim Hemmert, Boone Street, came forward stating he has been aware of the application for quite some time now, and is looking forward to achieving the designation. Mr. Hemmert also stated the City of Piqua will be hosting the Bicycle Summit in 2015 with a large number of bicycling enthusiast's and their families coming into the community.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-26-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-26-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-27-13

A Resolution requesting authorizing to enter into an agreement with LBJ Inc. for the Engineering Design Services for the CR 25-A Phase III Reconstruction Project

City Engineer Amy Havenar explained Resolution No. R-27-13 would allow the City of Piqua to enter into an agreement with LBJ Inc. for the design services for the CR 25-A Phase III Reconstruction. The project limits are from Looney Road to just east of Indian Ridge Drive, and will consist of widening the roadway with the installation of sidewalks and/or a multi-use path, and the upgrading of the utilities where necessary.

There was discussion on having sidewalks on both sides of the road, or possibly having sidewalks on one side and a bike path lane on the other side, this is still in the design stages and will be evaluated. Also there was discussion on the effects of the roundabout in the area if that were to come to plan on Looney Road in the future. Ms. Havenar explained.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-27-13

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-27-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Vogt, Terry, Martin and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-27-13 adopted.

RES. NO. R-28-13

A Resolution requesting authorization to apply for Safe Routes to School funding for certain infrastructure improvements

City Planner Chris Schmiesing explained this is the request to submit an application for Safe Routes to School funds. Last year the city received close to a half a million dollars in Safe Routes to Schools dollars for infrastructure improvements that are now entering into the design phase. This round the application designates the public sidewalk, curb repairs, and pedestrian facilities around the Washington School site, and the new Piqua Central Intermediate school site. The SRTS program is designed to cover 100% of the costs associated with implementing the proposed improvement/activities identified in the funding application. We will be submitting an application for up to \$500,000 for design and engineering services, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

Discussion of the items the \$500,000 would be used for and what the requirements are for the use of the funds. There were various questions regarding the funding stated in "Section 10 The Action Plan" from the Piqua Safe Route to School Program on page 61 that was included in the resolution. This included the sidewalks, bump-outs, street repairs, etc. Mr. Schmiesing explained

this is not set in stone, having a safe walking area for students to go to and from the schools is very important, and there is a lot of information required when applying for these grants. This will come back before the Commission for approval as each phase is implemented in the future, we are asking for Commissions support in applying for these funds at this time, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

Public Comment

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, asked a question regarding the installation of the 4-way stop and curb extensions at Wayne and High Streets that is listed on page 61 of the Action Plan. Mr. Schmiesing explained.

It was noted that this is a project that the Piqua City Schools and the City of Piqua are partnering on together and both parties are involved in putting together the information needed to receive the funding. The School Board will also have to pass legislation in the future as well as the City Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-28-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Martin, Wilson and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-28-13 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.

A resident at 319 South Street came forward and inquired about a problem he had with the wires from his home being taken down by a passing city truck. Law Director Wall explained the process, and further stated she would follow up on his request for further information.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Huff stated the City received the Hermes Silver Addy Award for the Fort Piqua Plaza Corporate Event that was produced.

Commissioners Comment

Commissioner Terry announced the Ribbon Cutting for Mulligan's Pub is scheduled for February 21st at 10:00 A.M.

Commissioner Vogt announced Golf Course Memberships are now available for purchase.

Commissioner Vogt also announced the Annual City Car Show will be held on Saturday, July 20th at Fountain Park, and reminded citizens to mark their calendars.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting at 8:25 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Terry, Fess, Wilson, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION