

**MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, December 17, 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 Terry, Wilson, Vogt, and Martin.

**REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Move to Executive Session to prepare for and review negotiations on compensation or other terms and conditions of employment for City personnel

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commission Wilson, to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:34 P.M. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Vogt, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to adjourn from the Executive Session at 8:00 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Fess, Wilson, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the December 3, 2013 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

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

**Old Business**

**ORD. NO. 16-13 (3rd Reading)**

An Ordinance to make appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2014

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple stated the City is required to present and pass the 2014 Annual Budget by the end of the 2013 year. This is the third reading of Ordinance No.16-13. Commission reviewed the Department Budgets on November 14 and November 21, and no changes were made.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 16-13.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Ordinance No. 16-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Fess, Wilson, Martin, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared ordinance No. 16-13 adopted.

**ORD. NO. 17-13 (3rd Reading)**

An Ordinance repealing Schedule A-1 of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A-1 of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple stated this is the third reading of Ordinance No. 17-13. The State of Ohio will increase the minimum wage effective January 1, 2014 from \$7.85 per hour to \$7.95 per hour. The wages on Schedule A-1 have been changed to

reflect this increase. This is the only change that was made to Schedule A-1, said Ms. Holtzapple.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 17-13.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Ordinance No. 17-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye; Vogt, Fess, Wilson, Martin, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 17-13 adopted.

**ORD. NO. 18-13 (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 reason for the increase at this time. Increasing the rates was discussed at the Budget Meetings, and it was determined the rates for Storm Water Utilities would be increased in 2014 from \$5.20 to \$5.70 per ERU, in 2015 from \$5.70 to \$6.20 per ERU, and in 2016 from \$6.20 to \$6.70 per ERU. The rate increase will help cut projected deficits in the Storm Water Budget, with additional revenues of about \$71,000 per year, stated Mr. Alexander. .

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 18-13.

Ordinance No. 18-13 was given a second reading.

**New Business**

**ORD. NO. 19-13 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

An Emergency Ordinance to make Appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2013.

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple gave a brief overview of the fund changes to the 2013 appropriations.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the rule requiring the ordinance be read distinctly and fully on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Vogt, Terry, and Fess. Nay, None.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Ordinance No. 19-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 19-13 adopted.

**ORD. NO. 20-13 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

An Ordinance repealing Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple explained at this time they are in negotiations with the bargaining units. The City has offered all of the unions a 2% increase for 2014. The Fire Officers and Fire Fighters have agreed to this wage increase. This Ordinance would increase the pay steps by 2% for all non-union positions which at this time represents 37 full-time employees, stated Ms. Holtzapple.

Ordinance No. 20-13 was given a first reading.

**RES. NO. R- 145-13**

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for City Membership to American Municipal Power, Inc.

Power System Director Ed Krieger explained AMP has been Piqua's power supplier since 2007 and they have been satisfied with their service. The 2014 AMP dues (Service Fee A) were increased to \$82,500 from the 2013 level of \$75,000. However changes in AMP's due structure requires AMP to pay Piqua's 2014 APPA membership fees, which exceeded \$12,134 in 2013.

The Energy Board unanimously recommended to the Piqua City Commission to continue its membership in American Municipal Power for 2014 at the November 26, 2013 meeting.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-145-13.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-145-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-145-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-146-13**

A Resolution retaining the services of Cooperative Response Center, Inc. to provide Professional Customer Call Answering and Dispatch Services for the Power System

Power System Director Ed Krieger explained the Power System has been utilizing the Cooperative Response Center (CRC) for after-hours call answering and dispatching, and have been totally satisfied with the level of service provided. The cost has been consistent, and texting service is now available, stated Mr. Krieger.

Commissioner Terry inquired if there is any information available on the number of telephone calls received from the Piqua residents. Mr. Krieger stated he would get the information and forward it to the Commissioners.

**Public comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-146-13.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-146-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-146-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-147-13**

A Resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Agent to purchase #2 fuel on the open and spot market

Power System Director Ed Krieger stated the City of Piqua purchases #2 fuel at various times during the year depending on how often the combustion turbine generators are operated.

**Public comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-147-13.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-147-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Vogt, Terry, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-147-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R- 148-13**

A Resolution retaining the services of Sawvel and Associates to provide Professional Consulting Engineering Services for the Power System

Power System Director Ed Krieger stated for over twenty years, Sawvel and Associates has provided the Piqua Power System with cost-of-service and rate design, and advised the City on

electric power supply and transmission arrangements, making recommendations concerning Piqua's potential participation in AMP joint venture generating projects. I would consider the employees of Sawvel and Associates to be an extension of the Power System staff, stated Mr. Krieger.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-148-13.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-148-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-148-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-149-13**

A Resolution authorizing payment to the Dayton Power & Light Company to facilitate the elimination of costly and unreliable lines connecting Piqua Power System to DP & L Electric Transmission Facilities

Power System Director Ed Krieger stated the Piqua Power System has recently completed construction of a new, highly-reliable, self-healing fiber optic network communication system. The new network replaces an outdated, capacity limited, radial system built in the mid-198's. This will save the city approximately \$45,000 a year, stated Mr. Krieger.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-149-13.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-149-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-149-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-150-13**

A Resolution opposing the passage of House Bill 5 by the Ohio General Assembly and encouraging the adoption of the changes recommended by the Ohio Municipal League

City Manager Huff provided information regarding the reason for the letter of opposition of House Bill 5.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-150-13.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-150-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-150-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-151-13**

A Resolution authorizing transfers of cash from the General Fund to the other funds for the Fiscal Year 2013

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple explained the reason for the legislation.

**Public comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-151-13.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-151-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Martin, Vogt, Terry, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-151-13 adopted.

**Res. No. R-152-13**

A Resolution authorizing transfers of cash from the General Fund to the other funds for the Fiscal Year 2014

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple explained this is companion to Resolution No. 151-13.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-152-13.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-152-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-152-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-153-13**

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 negotiations and the changes that were agreed on with the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Union 252, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC Firefighters. Ms. Wall stated they have agreed to the 2% increase in wages for the next 3 years beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016.

**Public Comment**

Bob Bloom. President of Local Union 252 came forward and thanked the City Staff, City Manager Huff, Fire Chief Mike Rindler, Finance Director Holtzapple, Law Director Wall, and Human Resource Director Elaine Barton for working with the Union on the wage increase. This was the easiest negotiations he has ever been involved in, stated Mr. Bloom.

Mayor Fess asked Mr. Bloom to pass on the Commissions appreciation to the Firefighters and Fire Officers for their cooperation in getting this completed in a timely manner.

Law Director Wall stated she concurred with Mayor Fess's comments as there was good cooperation at the table in the negotiations, and the City is very appreciative of the ability to get the contract completed.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-153-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Vogt, Terry, Martin. and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-153-13 adopted.

**RES. NO. R-154-13**

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)

Law Director Stacy Wall gave a brief overview of the negotiations with the Collective bargaining Agreement with Union 252 International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO-CLC Firefighters. Ms. Wall stated they have agreed to the 2% increase in wages for 3 years beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-154-13.

Mayor Fess stated the Commission appreciated the Firefighters and Officers working with the City on the negotiations.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-154-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Martin, Wilson and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-154-13 adopted.

### **OTHER**

Monthly Reports – October 2013

Monthly Reports were accepted.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one came forward to speak at this time.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Huff stated the City was nominated in three different categories for the Gov Fresh Awards and provided background on the awards and they included: City of the Year, Public Servant of the Year, and Mayor of the Year. Citizens got the chance to vote and a panel of Judges will make the appointments. Mayor Fess stated the citizens are really the ones who earned these awards and the Citizens Government Academy has played a big part in this.

City Manager Huff announced City Offices will be closed on Tuesday December 24, and Wednesday December 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

City Manager Huff stated he had some sad news to report, Economic Development Director Bill Murphy has given his notice of resignation as of January 10, 2014. Mr. Murphy has taken a position in Columbus, Georgia. City Manager Huff stated personally Bill has done an outstanding job for the City of Piqua, and it has been a pleasure to work with him, as he has a tremendous attitude and has been extremely helpful to him coming in as a new manager. Mr. Murphy will surely be missed by many others as he has been promoting Piqua nationwide and worldwide.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the Commission had any authority to vote down the offer and keep Mr. Murphy here?

Mayor Fess stated we all feel sad that Bill is leaving. But he has set the City of Piqua on an Economic Development path putting a lot of bricks in place, and when the strategic plan is completed we are going to have a roadmap to follow in the future and he has been very instrumental in getting this accomplished.

Mayor Fess stated Bill is going to be the Vice President of Economic Development with the Chamber of Commerce in Columbus, Georgia, and wished him the best.

### **Commissioners Comments**

Commissioner Vogt wished Mr. Murphy the best of luck in his new position further stating he will be missed. Commissioner Vogt wished everyone Happy Holidays, further stating he wanted citizens to remember our country, as it is one of the few that we have the freedom to do that.

Commissioner Martin also congratulated Mr. Murphy stating he is sorry to see him leave. Commissioner Martin wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Commissioner Terry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Wilson wished Mr. Murphy good luck, further stating he will be missed by many.

Commissioner Wilson announced several new businesses that have opened in downtown Piqua Recently, and they include: 311 Drafthouse; Can't Stop Running; Cabinets & More; and CJ's Pizza.

Commissioner Wilson asked citizens to consider doing something to help someone in their neighborhood this holiday season, and in the future such as making a meal, shoveling snow, or running errands. Just remember to be a good neighbor, stated Commissioner Wilson.

Mayor Fess stated she attended the Open House at the Adult Care Center, and they really appreciated everyone stopping in.

Mayor Fess wished Bill Murphy the best of luck in Columbus, Georgia, stating he will be missed.

Mayor Fess wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Commission Meeting at 8:50 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay, None.

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LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

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

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