

**MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, January 7, 2014  
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, Washington Township Trustees McMaken, Hiegel, and Hartley.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

MAYOR - LUCINDA L. FESS

**OATH OF OFFICE**

VICE MAYOR – WILLIAM D. VOGT

**OATH OF OFFICE**

THIRD WARD COMMISSIONER – JOSEPH H. WILSON

**OATH OF OFFICE**

FOURTH WARD COMMISSIONER – JULIA A. (JUDY) TERRY

Law Director Stacy Wall administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Fess, Vice Mayor Vogt, Third Ward Commissioner Wilson, and Fourth Ward Commissioner, Julia A. (Judy) Terry.

**JOINT MEETING WITH WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the January 15, 2013 Joint Meeting of the Washington Township Trustees and Piqua City Commission

Moved by Trustee Hiegel, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that the minutes of the January 15, 2013 Joint Meeting of the Washington Township Trustee and the Piqua City Commission be approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RES. NO. R-1-14**

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

City Manager Huff stated this resolution reappoints Jim Hiegel to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Forest Hill Union Cemetery to expire on December 31, 2016.

Moved by Trustee Hartley, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-1-14 be adopted. Roll call, Trustee McMaken, Trustee Hiegel, Trustee Hartley, Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Vogt, Commissioner Wilson, and Commissioner Martin. Nay: None. Mayor Fess abstained stating she is a member of the Board of Trustee of the Forest Hill Union Cemetery.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Joint Meeting with the Washington Township Trustees and the Piqua City Commission at 7:40 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Hiegel, Hartley, McMaken, Martin, Vogt, Terry, Fess, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution R-1-14 adopted.

## **REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the December 17, 2013 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

#### **RES. NO. R-1-14**

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

City Manager Huff stated Resolution R-1-14 reappoints Julia A (Judy) Terry to the Grow Piqua Now Board for a three year term to expire on December 31, 2016.

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. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-1-14 adopted.

#### **Old Business**

#### **ORD. NO. 18-13 (3rd 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 rates for Storm Water Utilities that will increase 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 \$210,000 over the next three years with the money going to capital expenditures, stated Mr. Alexander.

#### **Public Comment**

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

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Ordinance No. 18-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Terry, Wilson, Martin. Nay: Vogt. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote. Mayor Fess declared Ordinance No. 18-13 adopted.

#### **ORD. NO. 20-13 (2nd 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

Elaine Barton, Human Resource Director asked that the three reading rule be waived at this time. 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% and has been proposed to all other non-union positions, stated Ms. Barton.

#### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 20-13.

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

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Ordinance 20-13 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Martin, Fess, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously, Mayor Fess declared Ordinance No. 20-13 adopted.

## **New Business**

### **ORD. NO. 1-14 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

An Ordinance repealing existing Chapter 33 and enacting a new Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to Employee policy

Elaine Barton, Human Resource Director gave a brief overview of the changes in Chapter 33 for non –union employees. This includes revising the date of the health insurance coverage to reflect the current benefit year, updating the life insurance amount paid for by the City to cover the employee's base salary, and changing the date to receive personal time from May 1<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup> as has been proposed in the union agreement and agreed to in the Fire Contracts.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 1-14.

Ordinance No. 1-14 was given a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

### **RES. NO. R- 3-14**

A Resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Analyst to advertise for bids to make purchases during the year 2014

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director stated the City is required to advertise for bids for any capital or operational purchase the City makes that is over \$25,000 in a newspaper of local circulation. The Piqua Daily Call is used for this purpose. This is requested at the first Commission meeting each year, and this is the formal request to fulfill this commitment.

### **Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-3-14.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-3-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-3-14 adopted.

### **RES. NO. R4-14**

A Resolution retaining the services of the Auditor of State for the 2013 annual audit of the City of Piqua

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director stated annually the City of Piqua undergoes an audit of the City's financial statements. Prior to this year, an Independent Certified Accounting firm has completed the audit. For the fiscal period of January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 the Auditor of State has decided to do the audit themselves. The audit will start shortly and be completed on or before June 30, 2013 at a cost not to exceed \$40,918, stated Ms. Holtzapple.

Mayor Fess stated she understood the City has no choice in who completes the audit this year.

City Manager Huff further explained the reason that was given for the State Auditor providing the audit this year.

### **Public comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-4-14.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-4-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-4-14 adopted.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one came forward to speak at this time.

## **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Huff stated he wanted to thank all of the City employees for their tireless work during the extreme cold weather recently. The Sanitation Department, Public Works, Fire and Police Departments were all exposed to the brutally cold temperatures but provided the necessary service to the citizens of Piqua. I am proud of each and every one of the employees, and I am glad to be part of such a great organization, stated City Manager Huff.

City Manager Huff extended many thanks and gratitude to Peggy and Dan Henthorn and the Miami Valley Centre Mall for offering the mall as a Cold Shelter, and to the Companies who donated food and blankets, Bob Evans, the Mall Food Court restaurants, and Comfort Inn.

City Manager Huff encouraged citizens to contact the City Manager's Office if they are in need of help. The INVOLVE Program is a program set up to help neighbors help each other. Volunteers help with various services including, shoveling snow, running errands, getting prescriptions and groceries.

City Manager Huff stated the City is running the #8 Gas Turbine. With the extreme cold temperatures we have been having there has been a lot of demand for power recently. Running the turbine benefits the entire grid system and helps keep the cost down, stated City Manager Huff.

City Manager Huff stated the Public Works Department has been working around the clock since Sunday January 5, and will continue to work until Wednesday at 3:00 P.M. All of the main arteries, bridges and hills have been continuously maintained. Secondary roads are not completely cleared but they are leaving a crunchy coating to help since the Street Department is running low on supplies. The main supplier is located in Greenville and they are on a Level 3 snow emergency, and cannot deliver at this time. The Public Works Department has done a great job in keeping the city streets clear, stated City Manager Huff.

City Manager Huff announced that this is Economic Development Director/ Assistant City Manager Bill Murphy's last week, and invited everyone to the reception that will be held in the Commission Chambers on Thursday from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M. encouraging citizens to stop by and wish Bill best wishes.

## **Commissioners Comments**

Commissioner Vogt reminded citizens if they go out to bundle up, it is cold outside.

Commissioner Martin also reminded citizens to stay indoors if possible, and stay warm.

Commissioner Terry stated she want to thank all of the City employees for their dedication, including the paper delivery people, delivery services, mailman, and etc. Commissioner Terry commented she appreciates all who have to work and be out in this cold weather.

Commissioner Wilson thanked the Miami Valley Centre Mall for opening the mall up for a Cold Shelter, as well as several local churches. Commissioner Wilson asked if there are any updates on recycling due to the cold weather. City Manager Huff stated the recycling will be running a day behind, but the City refuse crews are running on their regular schedule.

Mayor Fess stated she hoped everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. Mayor Fess congratulated the city employees for all of their hard work during this severe cold weather, further stating the city is very lucky to have such dedicated city employees.

Mayor Fess thanked the Miami Valley Centre Mall, Peggy and Dan Henthorn for opening the mall for a cold shelter, and helping the citizens who were in need of a place to stay warm. Also a big thank you to all who provided food and blankets.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Commission Meeting at 8:00 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