

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, January 21, 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.

GOVERNMENT ACADEMY GRADUATES

Richard Ault	Christopher Kolsky
Fred Lee	Karen McNeil
Deb Ruemelle	Randi Simon-Serey
Stacy Stang	

City Manager Huff read the names of the graduates as they came forward and accepted a Certificate, City of Piqua pin, and a Citizens Academy shirt.

Bill Lutz stated this has been an amazing group and congratulated the seven Academy graduates. This is not the end of the road really it is just the beginning, as they are now some of the most informed and educated citizens in the community. Mr. Lutz encouraged them to serve on one of the boards or on the City Commission in the future.

City Manager Huff thanked Bill Lutz for his dedication and work on putting together the 4th Government Academy Class.

Mayor Fess thanked all of the participants, stating she understands their time is valuable. Mayor Fess further stated she encourages them to serve the community either by being on a Board or a Committee, and hopes they have a better understanding of how the City operates.

Stacy Stang thanked Mr. Lutz, City Manager Huff, City Commissioners, and all the city employees for their commitment and dedication to the city and this program. Ms. Stang stated she has spoken with friends and family and has encouraged them to get involved in the Government Academy.

Mayor Fess stated three other states have contacted Mr. Lutz about the Government Academy Program asking for his help in getting a Government Academy Program started in their community.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt to adjourn into Executive Session to prepare for and review negotiations on compensation or other terms and conditions of employment for City personal at 7:40 P.M. Roll call: Aye, Terry, Wilson, Martin, Fess and Vogt. Nay, None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Martin to adjourn from Executive Session at 8:08 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Vogt, Fess, and Terry. Nay: None.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the January 7, 2014 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

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

Old Business

ORD. NO. 1-14 (2nd 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 provided a brief overview of the changes in Chapter 33 for the 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 1st to January 1st 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.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry that the rule requiring Ordinance No 1-14 be read fully and distinctly on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Terry Fess, Martin, Wilson, Vogt. Nay: None.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Ordinance No. 1-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Fess, Terry, Wilson, Martin. Nay: Vogt. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 1-14 adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-5-14

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Miami Valley Risk Management Association for purchase of insurance

Law Director Stacy Wall provided information on the continuation of participation in the risk management pool in the calendar year 2014 through the Miami Valley Risk Management Association for property and liability insurance. Ms. Wall further explained why the coverage for the turbines is different from the rest of the city insurance policies, stating there is a greater risk of problems with the turbines due to their age. It was also noted that MVRMA does not cover any turbines for any city.

Several questions were asking regarding the coverage of the turbines, the age of the turbines, and what happens if there is a claim like the city had last year. Ms. Wall answered all questions.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Res. No. R-5-14

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-5-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Fess, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution R-5-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R- 6-14

A Resolution granting a roadway easement for Hardin Road Alternate turnaround

City Manager Huff provided a brief overview of the roadway easement as a turnaround with improvements that will be made to accommodate the turnaround movements of school buses, maintenance vehicles and other traffic.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-6-14.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-6-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Terry, Martin and Fess. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-6-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-7-14

A Resolution awarding a contract to Pohlkat for the emergency quarry pumping costs

Don Freisthler, Water System Superintendent provided a brief overview of the reason for the emergency pumping costs. The December flood event that included 5.5 inches of rain and 0.5 inches of snow melt caused the Great Miami River to go from less than 2' to almost 16' in 24 hours. This caused the river to back up across farm fields and into the quarry raising the level in the quarry to a 100 year high, washing out part of the embankment of the quarry and flooding the pumping vault 18 inches up on the motor. Utilizing the river water was not an option, due to the river running so high. This left us dependent on the water from the hydraulic system to furnish the City's potable water.

The City of Piqua relies heavily on the water from the quarry as a major part of the drinking water source. The city did not have the necessary pumping equipment to pump down the water level in the quarry and had to have an outside contractor perform the emergency pumping.

The rebuilding of the quarry pump station at a higher elevation will be included within the construction of the new Water Treatment Plant, said Mr. Friesthler. Commissioner Terry asked if the quarry had ever flooded before. Mr. Friesther stated not like this.

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Friesthler and his staff for their work in keeping the water safe for the citizens of Piqua.

Public comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-7-14.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-7-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Wilson, Terry, Martin, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-7-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-8-14

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police (Officers), Ohio Labor Council, Inc.

Law Director Stacy Wall explained the City of Piqua and the Fraternal Order of Police (Officers), Inc. have negotiated a tentative collective bargaining agreement effective January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. This includes a 2% increase for the years 2014, 2015, and 2016. Health insurance increase for employees to pay 75% funding by the city, in 2014, 50% in 2015, and 50% in 2016 with reimbursement activities in all three years. The Police Officers have been paying 13% premium on their health cost, and it is going up to 15% premium at this time, as everyone else in the city has been paying the 15% premium. The Police Officers will also receive 2 ½ hours of court overtime when they are off duty. Under training the Police officers offered to qualify every year on three different firearms, in exchange for that qualification on the first attempt, they would receive additional personal time.

The Union has already ratified this contract with an overwhelming vote. We were very pleased with the City and the Unions cooperation with a give and take atmosphere, stated Law Director Wall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-8-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Martin, Fess, Vogt, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-8-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-9-14

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police (Civilians), Ohio Labor Council, Inc.

Law Director Wall stated this addresses the same Union in terms as it is an FOP Union, but is the Civilians, which is the clerical staff in the Police Department. The only changes are in the wages and the health changes that were included in the Police Officers contract, this is also a three year contract, stated Ms. Wall..

Mayor Fess thanked Law Director Wall, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Cindy Holtzapple, Human Resource Director Elaine Barton and the Unions for cooperation in the negotiations of the Police Contracts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-9-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Fess, Vogt, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess declared Resolution No. R-9-14 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak at this time.

Monthly Reports were accepted.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Huff stated the city was notified they were recipients of a \$400,000 grant from the Ohio Public Works for the County Road 25-A Phase III Reconstruction Project. The city previously received \$3.5 million from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for this project that is scheduled for 2015.

City Manager Huff announced the City of Piqua was honored by the website [GovFresh](#) as their "Small City of the Year". City Manager Huff explained why the Small City category was added; further stating this was awarded on the involvement of the citizens and civic awareness of the community. City Manager Huff commended Bill Lutz and the Government Academy for their participation in helping to achieve this award.

City Manager Huff announced it has been a demanding winter so far and have used 50% or 1000 tons of salt in this short period of time, with about 1200 tons remaining. Many cities have taken a big hit, but the City of Piqua has done a few unique things this year by using more of a liquid product, and further commending the Public Works Department for coming up with these alternative uses.

City Manager Huff announced a new online program entitled "Piqua O-Zone". The Piqua O-Zone is an online tool where residents can answer questions, propose and rate ideas, be able to interact with the residents and city hall in a more convenient way.

City Manager Huff announced there are still quite a few seats available on several board, and read the list of openings. Applications are available on line or can be picked up in the City Manager's office. The deadline for the applications is February 10th. City Manager Huff encouraged citizens to get involved with one of the city boards.

Mayor Fess reminded the Government Academy graduates to think about applying for one of the board seats and get involved with all of the knowledge they have gained of the city.

Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Wilson congratulated the Government Academy graduates and encouraged them to apply for one of the board sets.

Commissioner Wilson stated the Piqua High School Show Choir Invitational was held January 18th, with eleven schools participating. Commissioner Wilson thanked all who participated and helped put together the outstanding event.

Commissioner Terry stated she attended the Martin Luther King program held on Monday January 20, at the Piqua YMCA stating it was a very interesting and inspiring program.

Commissioner Terry stated the week of January 25th through February 1st is Catholic School Week.

Commissioner Terry congratulated Grace Ryan a student at Piqua Catholic School on winning the Piqua Spelling Bee recently.

Commissioner Terry attended a meeting recently on there were quite a few attendees from out of town who complemented the City Public Works Department on how much better the city streets were in Piqua compared to Troy and Dayton.

Mayor Fess stated the weather has done a lot of damage to the streets, but will be taken care of in the spring as soon as the weather breaks.

Commissioner Martin congratulated the Government Academy graduates and asked them to get involved with the City as a volunteer or as a board member.

Commissioner Vogt congratulated the Government Academy graduates, stating it shows they have an interest in what is happening in their community, and hopes they will continue by volunteering in the future.

Mayor Fess thanked Bill Lutz, City Manager Huff, Bill Murphy, and all of the employees who have worked so hard these last couple of years getting the City of Piqua recognition on the State and National level. Mayor Fess stated she appreciates what they are doing.

Mayor Fess congratulated the Government Academy graduates and encouraged citizens to participate in the future classes. The next Government Academy will begin on February 6, 2014.

Bill Lutz, Development Program Director gave a brief overview of the next Government Academy stating they will be conducting the classes a little differently and explained. Mr. Lutz stated anyone having any questions can contact him at 937-778-2062.

Mayor Fess stated if anyone has ever wanted to drive a snowplow, drive a Fire Truck, or go up in the ladder truck they should take the opportunity and sign up for the Government Academy.

Mayor Fess congratulated the ladies at the YWCA for another outstanding Martin Luther King program, as it was a very interesting program.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular Commission Meeting at 8:55 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Fess. Nay, None.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION