

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, March 4, 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 and Martin. Commissioner Vogt was absent due to illness. Commissioner Martin moved to excuse Commissioner Vogt from the meeting and Commissioner Wilson seconded that motion; motion carried unanimously; Mayor Fess declared Commissioner Vogt excused from the meeting.

PROCLAMATION FOR LEUKEMIA AWARENESS MONTH IN SUPPORT OF BRANDON BURNSIDE PRESENTED BY MAYOR FESS

Chip Hare and David Palmer, Athletic Directors from Piqua City Schools and Troy City Schools, respectively, as well as several students from each school who were beneficial in leading the fundraiser, were present. Chip Hare spoke detailing the joint efforts of students from Piqua and Troy in organizing an "orange out" for the Piqua/Troy basketball game in honor of Brandon Burnside. More than 1,600 orange shirts were sold and more than \$14,000.00 was presented to the family of Brandon Burnside. The Proclamation was read by Mayor Fess and the month of March was proclaimed Leukemia Awareness Month in support of Brandon Burnside.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the February 18, 2014 meeting.

RES. NOS. R-19-14 through R-21-14

RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-19-14 through R-21-14 appoint Lisa Blankenship, Mike Gutmann and Evelyn Mahrt to the Civil Service Commission each for three year terms to expire on March 1, 2017 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each.

RES. NOS. R-22-14 and R-23-14

RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-22-14 and R-23-14 appoint Ann DeBrosse Comer and Brenda Vetter to the Downtown District Design Review Board each for a three year term to expire on March 1, 2017 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each.

RES. NOS. R-24-14 and R-25-14

RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-24-14 and R-25-14 appoint Mark Spoltman and Gary Koenig to the Planning Commission each for a five year term to expire on March 1, 2019 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each.

RES. NOS. R-26-14 and R-27-14

RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE HOUSING COUNCIL

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-26-14 and R-27-14 appoint Dan Whitson and Christopher Kolsky to the Housing Council each for a three year term to expire on March 1, 2017 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each.

RES. NO. R-28-14

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE PARK BOARD

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution No. R-28-14 appoints Christopher Kolsky to the Park Board for a term to expire on March 1, 2019 or until his successor is confirmed and qualified.

RES. NOS. R-29-14 and R-30-14

RESOLUTIONS REAPPOINTING A MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-29-14 and R-30-14 reappoint William Vogt as a member and Chris Schmiesing as an alternate member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission each for a one year term to expire March 1, 2015 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each.

RES NOS. R-31-14 through R-37-14

RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ENERGY BOARD

City Manager Gary Huff stated Resolution Nos. R-31-14 through R-37-14 appoint Rodney Young, John Alexander, Earl Lynn Sever, III, D. Pat Jenkins, Jim Froning, Stu Shear and Greg Blankenship to the Energy Board each for a five year term to expire March 1, 2019 or until a successor is confirmed and qualified for each. Greg Blankenship is appointed to the Energy Board to fill the unexpired term of David A. Zimmerman to expire March 1, 2017 or until his successor is confirmed and qualified.

RES. NO. R-38-14

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE LAW DEPARTMENT'S EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AS THE CITY OF PIQUA'S ALTERNATE CITY COMMISSION CLERK

Mayor Fess stated Resolution No. R-38-14 appoints the Law Department's Executive Assistant as the City of Piqua's alternate City Commission Clerk in the event the Clerk is unable to fulfill her duties at any time.

Commissioner Martin moved for the approval of the complete Consent Agenda; motion seconded by Commissioner Terry; motion was carried unanimously and Mayor Fess declared the Consent Agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 2-14 (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 77.01 – TRAFFIC SCHEDULES ADOPTED, SCHEDULE IV OF THE PIQUA CODE, RELATING TO FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS PERTAINING TO THE PARK AVENUE/LAMBERT DRIVE INTERSECTION

Amy Havenar, City Engineer, spoke stating a study had been completed warranting a multi-way stop at this intersection based on the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (OMUTCD) and the transportation committee had previously unanimously recommended that this intersection be made a four-way stop. Commissioner Wilson questioned the ordinance based on no accident history, however, the concern has been made that the area is heavy with pedestrians/students and has an obstructed view.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 2-14.

Ordinance No. 2-14 was given a 1st Reading.

RES. NO. R-39-14 and RES. NO. R-40-14

A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO T.C. HOLZEN FOR THE POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMER STORAGE AREA SITE WORK BID PACKAGE

A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO M & T EXCAVATING FOR THE POWER SYSTEM TRANSFORMER STORAGE AREA CONCRETE BID PACKAGE

Ed Krieger, Power System Director, spoke stating the area where transformers are stored is a gravel area and needs improved to contain and control a potential oil leak. Power System staff has been working with WENCO, who served as designer and construction manager during the construction of the new power system operations center, and between the two have developed a design that will allow environmental requirements to be met. The new area will include asphaltting, concrete pads and storm water control, as well as conduit foundation work for additional lighting in the back area. Multiple bids were received for each package and WENCO is recommending awarding the contracts to T.C. Holzen of Troy, Ohio as the low bidder for the Site Work Bid package and to M & T Excavating of Bradford, Ohio as the low bidder for the Concrete Bid package. Commissioner Wilson addressed whether there is a cheaper option to accomplish the same goals; however, Mr. Krieger stated he believes this to be the cheapest alternative to meet the necessary requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution Nos. R-39-14 and R-40-14.

Motion made by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Wilson; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Fees declared Res. No. R-39-14 and R-40-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-41-14

A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A REFUSE PACKER TRUCK FOR THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT

Amy Welker, Director of Health & Sanitation, spoke stating this truck is a routine replacement of the department's oldest truck. Five bids were received with low bid coming in from Best Equipment at \$122,043.00. There will also be a trade in of \$5,000.00, leaving a \$117,000.00 purchase price out of a budget of \$130,000.00; reserve funds are available for the purchase.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Res. No. R-41-14.

Motion made by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Wilson; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Fess declared Res. No. R-41-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-42-14

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO LEBANON FORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES

Chief Bruce Jamison spoke stating the Police Department had started a fleet replacement plan to increase the total life expectancy of their vehicles to five years. Two vehicles were purchased in the fall of 2013 and the purchase of three more vehicles would place the department in a rotation to replace vehicles before the repair expense is excessive. The sport utility vehicles provide better gas mileage than any other vehicles being issued by the Police Department and they are more beneficial for the officers in that they provide more comfort for the 12-hour shifts the officers work, quick access for all of the equipment the officers carry, as well as more room for the officers to transport prisoners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Res. No. R-42-14.

Motion made by Commissioner Martin; seconded by Commissioner Terry; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Fess declared Res. No. R-42-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-43-14

A RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND TO THE PIQUA JUVENILE EDUCATION FUND, INC.

Chief Jamison spoke stating he would like to transfer \$5,000.00 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the Piqua Juvenile Education Fund, a non profit organization, to be used for drug use prevention programs and other programs related thereto.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Res. No. R-43-14.

Motion made by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Wilson; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Fess declared Res. No. R-43-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-44-14

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO WOLF CREEK COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF VARIOUS PIECES OF GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT FOR ECHO HILLS GOLF COURSE

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director, spoke stating five bids have been received for various pieces of golf course equipment that need to be replaced. The old equipment is costing approximately \$40,000.00 per year to maintain, with two mowers needing new engines costing approximately \$16,000.00. Wolf Creek Company came in with the lowest and best bid overall, which includes offering Tier 4 compliant Jacobsen mowers with a three year warranty.

Commissioner Martin stated he had received complaints about the noise from the mowers running early in the morning and noted that one of those complaints included information with respect to an all electric Jacobsen mower that would not pose the noise problem. Commissioner Martin researched that particular mower and found it to be approximately \$12,000.00 more but over its life cycle less expensive than the others, not including any maintenance for electric mowers. This issue was discussed in some detail among the Commissioners, City Manager Gary Huff and Kirt Huemmer, Golf Course Supervisor, with a resolution that based on the fact that the golf course is in need of immediate attention with the quick approaching golf season and no available budget for any such purchase(s), it would be best to go forward at this point and revisit this issue the next time the golf course is in need of mowers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Res. No. R-44-14.

Motion made by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Wilson; at roll call Commissioners Terry and Wilson and Mayor Fess voted aye; Commissioner Martin voted nay; Mayor Fess declared Res. No. R-44-14 adopted on a vote of three to one.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Ealy of Trotwood, Ohio came forward to introduce himself as a Democratic candidate running for Governor of the State of Ohio. Mr. Ealy is looking to endorse small business loans, health care, especially for the elderly, issues surrounding nonpayment of child support and nursing homes.

Steve Schmidlapp of Wolf Creek Company came forward to introduce himself and thank the city for its business.

Darshawn Romine of Dayton, Ohio, friend of Mr. Ealy, came forward to introduce himself and ask for support of Mr. Ealy in the upcoming primary election in May.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Huff spoke stating there are still openings on boards and committees as follows: one opening for the Downtown District Design Review Board, one opening for the Income Tax Review Board, two openings on the Park Board, four openings on the Stormwater Utility Board and two openings on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Further, on March 8th, the Piqua Kiwanis will be holding their Pancake Day at the Upper Valley Career Center from 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Finally, a reminder to Commission that there will be a Work Session on March 13th. The topic will be the Piqua Bike Fest rather than the Wood Street Work Session due to a request that that be held off until April. A group from the Piqua Bike Fest will be present and advise what they will be

planning for that event to be held September 19th and 20th, 2014, so there will be a full understanding and acknowledgment of requirements for that event.

City Manager Huff then introduced Chief Jamison to give his update on the Drug Use Prevention Program.

CHIEF JAMISON'S COMMENTS ON DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Piqua Juvenile Education Fund has been around since 1994. The fund was specifically incorporated for the DARE Program. The uncompensated Executive Director of the Program is whoever the Chief of Police is at the time so he/she has considerable control and he/she staffs that Board. In the mid 1990s is when the School Resource Officer Program came about. At that time there was one full time school resource officer at the high school, one at the junior high school, one at the Upper Valley JVS and one as the elementary DARE officer. Many times there were more officers assigned inside the school buildings than were on the streets.

Starting in about 2005, with the increase in crime and law enforcement duties, we began removing the full time school resource officers from their positions at the school buildings. By that time, all the federal funding was gone and these positions were being completely supported by the general fund here in the city. All the school resource officers, except the elementary DARE officer, returned to duty to help patrol the streets. Throughout that time the Piqua Juvenile Education Fund continued to raise funds through an annual solicitation to businesses and individuals, seeking grants and we had a booth at the Heritage Festival for a couple of years, basketball concessions, different things to keep the money flowing in.

Effective this year, we were able to place two part-time patrol-based school resource officers, Officers Lee and Fogt, in the schools while they are working a regular patrol schedule.

Among other things, the Chief was pleased to announce there are a lot of "neat" things happening which will allow police officers to interact with children and society to hopefully change the amount of drug abuse that occurs in the City of Piqua.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Wilson was pleased to see the Piqua and Troy high school students present for the Proclamation for Brandon Burnside and thought it a great thing that the students came together to help a fellow student. Also thankful for all volunteers who step up to help the city and encouraged anyone who would like to serve on any committee openings to come forward.

Commissioner Terry wished Becky Cool the best and hopes that she is able to get back to Commission soon.

Commissioner Martin thanked all the volunteers for the Boards and Committees and all the people in the "orange shirts".

Mayor Fess was grateful to the students who showed up for the Proclamation and thanked everyone, especially the students, who participated in the fundraiser for Brandon Burnside, and made a quick reminder about the Kiwanis Pancake Day on March 8th, as well as listing all who benefit from the sales from that day.

Motion made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Wilson to adjourn the Regular Commission Meeting at 9:00 P.M.; motion was carried unanimously.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
KIMBERLY J. HEBB
ACTING CLERK OF COMMISSION