

**MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION  
THURSDAY, April 10, 2014  
7:30 P.M.**

Piqua City Commission met in a Work Session at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street. Vice Mayor Vogt called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Terry, Wilson, and Martin. Absent: Mayor Fess.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Terry to excuse Mayor Fess from the April 10, 2014 Piqua City Commission Work Session due to illness. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Terry, Wilson, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**Wood Street Issues**

City Manager Gary Huff provided a brief overview regarding several issues that have been raised by the residents on Wood Street. The Transportation Committee brought the issues to the City Commission for discussion at this time.

Cindy Pearson, stated she went door to door in her neighborhood asking residents their opinions on closing the west end of Wood Street from the point to Gordon Street. The traffic going down Wood Street is not slowing down from the 35 mph on Covington Avenue, to the 25 mph speed limit when coming off Covington Avenue. Ms. Pearson stated she took her I-Pad out and stood on the curb and took video of the traffic coming off Covington Avenue onto Wood Street. Once they saw her standing there they slowed down.

Several questions were raised including: any traffic analysis been done since Wood Street has been made a one-way street, would it be possible to install a speed bump to slow the traffic down, has there been any data recorded on the traffic speed, and does the City still have the speed trailer they used to check speed that sat around in different locations. Also mentioned was the possibility of making the area a 3-way stop. It was noted that having a police car sitting in place without an officer was not effective. All questions were answered.

Russ Fashner, Forest Avenue stated there are no speed limit signs posted on Park Avenue near his home, and there is the same type problem on Park Avenue with cars exceeding the speed limit.

City Manager Huff stated sometime when speed bumps are installed motorists honk their horns when driving over them in neighborhoods to annoy the residents.

Jeanie Jordan Bates, Broadway, and Russ Fashner, Forest Avenue. both inquired if the State could possibly make some changes to the area for the truck traffic. Al Cooper, S Main Street stated he uses Wood Street all the time when coming from the west end of town to his home.

City Manager Huff stated they conduct a traffic study on the area and come up with some other options for the residents, and bring it back in a public meeting.

**Rock Piqua ! Riverfront Concert Series**

City Manager Huff announced the New Special Event Plans for the Riverfront Area, and asked MainStreet Piqua Executive Director Lorna Swisher to provide further information.

Ms. Swisher came forward and outlined the Concert Series that was requested by the public in several open meetings. There are three concert dates scheduled for 2014, June 14, June 28, and July 26. The concerts are free and open to the public, several food vendors along with beer and wine sales available each concert. Each concert will have an opening act and a headliner, stated Ms. Swisher. The concerts will feature Rock, Blues, and Country Rock.

City Planner Chris Schmiesing explained the location of the stage, stating it would be located near the Lock 9 Park with seating on the grass for lawn chairs and blankets. Part of E Water Street will be closed to traffic from Spring Street to Harrison Street, and be a controlled environment. Security will be provided for all concerts. Local residents and the one business located in the area have been contacted and are working with the city. There is a large number of volunteers helping with this project, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

This is a combined effort by MainStreet Piqua and the Piqua Arts Council and both groups have a large number of volunteers already lined up. If anyone would like to volunteer please contact Jeanie Jordan Bates as she is in charge of recruiting volunteers. Brad Boehringer came forward stating he is a Volunteer Park Ranger and will be volunteering to help with the concerts.

**Canoe Kayak Rental**

City Planner Chris Schmiesing stated the River Corridor is one of the Piqua's best assets and plans are to utilize the riverfront area and the river for canoeing and kayaking in the future. Plans are to be able to put a canoe or kayak in near the Lock 9 Park. Mr. Schmiesing introduced Chris Jackson a local business man from Tipp City who plans to rent canoes and kayaks to use in the River.

Chris Jackson came forward and provided a brief overview of his plans to provide canoes and kayaks for rent to be able to enjoy the river. He plans to have several locations to provide the canoes and kayaks along with lifejackets and instructions. Mr. Jackson stated several areas of the river are very shallow and further explained how they would get around.

Mr. Schmiesing stated with the hopes of Lock 9 getting busier in the future they are looking into the possibility of using the old Mo's for a rental location. Several questions were raised about providing docks in the future, the possibility of the use of paddleboards and paddleboats. The river may not be the only water to be utilized as the area at Upper Fountain Park is a great place to canoe or kayak also, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to adjourn from the City Commission Work Session at 8:25 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Terry, and Vogt. Nay, None.

\_\_\_\_\_  
LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

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

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