

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 4, 2015 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. Absent: None.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

RESIDENCE PRIDE AWARDS

Charity & Thomas Kinnison	903 Clark Avenue
Patricia & Ronald Hardin	1801 New Haven
Jean Maniaci	126 Staunton Street
Fredia & Troy Summers	1616 Washington Avenue
Marilyn & Jan Hissong	911 Broadway

Mayor Fess read the names of the Residence Pride Award Winners while pictures of the homes were shown. Several of the recipients were present and come forward when their names were called. Mayor Fess thanked all of the Residence Pride Award winners for taking pride in their homes. Mayor Fess encouraged citizens to nominate their neighbors for the Residence Pride Award.

PRESENTATION BY: Jacob Pleiman – City Intern

Shawn McElory, Director of Miami Shelby County Development, and The Upper Miami Valley Local Government Management Internship Program came forward and provided a brief overview of the Internship Program. Mr. McElory stated this is the fifth year in a row that Piqua has participated in the Internship Program, further thanking Piqua for their participation.

City Manager Huff provided a brief overview of Jacob's duties with the City of Piqua.

Jacob provided a very informative power point presentation on his work this summer with the Engineering Department. Jacob worked in the Engineering Department and put together a power point presentation on the new Water Treatment Plant that the city will use in the future when providing information on the new plant.

Mayor Fess stated Jacobs presentation was very professional and comprehensive, and was glad that he chose to come to Piqua this summer to do his internship. Piqua was very lucky to have him.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the July 21, 2015 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 8-15 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance amending Section 77.01 –Schedule VI of the Piqua Code, relating to right turn on red prohibited

Amy Havenar, City Engineer provided the Staff report

With the opening of the new Piqua Central Intermediate School on Nicklin Avenue and the closing of some additional schools throughout the community, changes are being proposed to increase pedestrian safety, and to improve the traffic flow through the community. The increased pedestrian traffic at the Intermediate School and at the Broadway and Park Avenue intersection warrants the request to prohibit right turns on red between the hours of 7:00 am and 4:00 pm during school days at the intersection of Park Avenue & Broadway. The ordinance also allows for the removal of the right turn on red during school days restriction at the following intersections where the school will be demolished or in some cases, where the signs have been removed and the code was never updated to reflect these changes, stated Ms. Havenar.

- Ash Street and College Street
- Main Street and Garnsey Street
- Main Street and South Street
- North Street and College Street
- South Street and Brice Avenue
- South Street and Roosevelt Avenue
- Wayne Street and South Street

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance 8-15.

Ordinance No. 8-15 was given a second reading.

ORD. NO. 9-15 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance to make appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2015

Cynthia Holtzapple, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director provided the Staff Report.

Each year about this time the Finance Department submits a supplemental appropriation as it is required to present the 2015 annual budget to the City Commission in early November 2014 before all project times and costs are known. Some of the projects that were expected to be completed last year will sometimes be carried over into the next year. During the fiscal year unexpected expenses sometimes occur, and the supplemental appropriation allows the city to more accurately reflect these changes in the financial statement, stated Ms. Holtzapple.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 9-15 at this time.

Ordinance No. 9-15 was given a second reading.

NEW BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 10-15 (1ST Reading)

An Ordinance to levy Special Assessments to pay for the cost of nuisance abatement assessment

Amy Welker, Health & Sanitation Director provided the Staff Report.

The city abates nuisance conditions such as mowing high grass, removing trash, trimming trees, and demolishing structures according to city code. The assessments take place after the property owner has been notified of the condition and is given a timeframe to comply with the code. Failure to comply results in the abatement, stated Ms. Welker.

The cost of the abatement plus a \$35 administration fee is charged to the property owner, and property owners are also subject to repeat offender charges for multiple violations in a one year period. If the property owner fails to pay the abatement cost then the costs are certified to the County Auditor to be placed on their property taxes.

The Miami County Auditor only accepts these assessments one time per year, and the assessments are due to the Auditor by September 14, 2015.

Commissioner Vogt asked that the Lawn Companies the city hires be asked not to blow the grass out into the street when mowing lawns for the city.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Alexander, S Roosevelt, came forward and asked several questions regarding the fees, the number of property owners/landlord versus the number of tenant rentals listed in the assessments. Mr. Alexander also voiced his opinion on the number of foreclosed properties and vacant properties on the list. Ms. Welker provided additional information regarding the assessments. City Manager Huff stated there is information listed on the City of Piqua Website also.

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, came forward and voiced his opinion on the assessments list, further stating the city should do what the City of Dayton has done by registering foreclosed homes. City Manager Huff explained many of the banks that foreclose on these properties are not local banks and the city has a hard time getting communications to these banks. We do not have issues with local banks, just the out of state banks.

Commissioner Vogt stated the assessments are put on the tax records of these homes, and when the homes are sold the purchaser has to pay the assessments when purchasing the home.

Charity Kinnison, Clark Avenue, came forward stating she has called the City regarding her neighbor's high grass and trash. She loves living in Piqua and is noticing people are not taking care of their properties. City Manager Huff explained the reason why they can only assess the properties once a year.

Ordinance No.10-15 was given a first reading.

RES. NO. R-111-15

A Resolution acquiring the services of American Electric Power to Provide Professional Development Training for Personal of the Power System

Nick Berger, Assistant Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

It is essential to provide proper equipment and training to the Electrical Lineman to be able to perform their duties safely and effectively, stated Mr. Berger. To be a qualified lineman there is a federally approved four-year apprenticeship program that must be followed. In addition, each apprentice must document 8,000 hours of on-site job training.

The Power System currently has five apprentices, and have two apprentices starting their first year, two apprentices in their third year, and one apprentice in his fourth year. The total training cost to send all five apprentices to AEP's Line Training in 2015 will be \$30,700, stated Mr. Berger.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution R-111-15 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-111-15 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Terry, Wilson, Vogt, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Res. No. R-111-15 adopted.

RES. NO. R-112-15

A Resolution amending the agreement with OTC Services Inc. to provide professional Field Services, unit inspection, and refurbishment for the Main Power Transformer for Substation #3

Nick Berger, Assistant Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

The City Commission passed Resolution R-8215 which allowed OTC Services, Inc. to inspect and refurbish the main power transformer for substation #3 up to \$350,000. OTC's investigation found melted copper "BB's" on the core section of A-Phase. This is a byproduct of the high voltage or low voltage windings breaking down and the transformer will need a complete rewind, stated Mr. Berger.

The Power System requested OTC to analyze the possibility of increasing the transformer's capacity utilizing the original core and tank. OTC determined the transformer's capacity could be increase by 20% at an additional cost of \$50,700. The Power System looking into purchasing a new transformer and received prices from Delta Star and OTC. The total cost to purchase a new transformer with the same nameplate capacity including OTC's costs would be \$498,900, and the total cost to refurbish the existing transformer and increase capacity is \$390,172. The Power System would like to amend the agreement with OTC to increase the project cost to \$425,000 which includes the \$35,000 contingency, stated Mr. Berger.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the refurbishment of the main Power Transformer for Substation #3. Mr. Berger answered all questions.

Public Comment

Nick Alexander, S. Roosevelt, came forward and asked if this is the same transformer that was previously shipped out and shipped back after being repaired? Mr. Berger stated yes.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that Resolution No. R-112-15 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Terry, Wilson, Fess, and Vogt. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Koenig, Peregrine Drive, came forward and introduced himself as a candidate for the 5th Ward Commission Seat, and Mayor. Mr. Koenig stated he recently had a profile article in the Piqua Daily Call, and that his campaign slogan is "Keep Raising the Bar". Mr. Koenig stated he is looking forward to the citizens support and their vote in the November election.

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Koenig for his interest in running for City office.

Nick Alexander, S. Roosevelt came forward and announced he is running for First Ward Commissioner. Mr. Alexander stated he was able to enjoy the National Night Out block Party that was held in his neighborhood before coming to the meeting, and hoped some of the Commissioners were able to attend one of the other ones before coming to the meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Huff announced the State Fire Marshal's Office notified the City of Piqua that two firefighters will receive the 2015 Ohio Fire Service Valor Award for their actions on June 24, 2014. Josh Sullenberger and Bradley Weer performed a rescue of a trapped female on the second floor of a burning structure.

City Manager Huff further stated with these two firefighters being awarded the 2015 Ohio Fire Service Valor Award the City of Piqua Fire Department now has six firefighters that have received this Valor award in their careers

City Manager Huff stated the State of Ohio has announced a Sales Tax Holiday beginning on August 7, 8, 9, 2015. This applies only to certain items such as clothing and school supplies. Further information regarding this can be found on the State website.

City Manager Huff announced the City of Piqua is participating in the National Night Out. There were five neighborhoods that were holding block parties.

City Manager Huff also announced several Board openings on the Energy Board and the Stormwater Utility Board, if anyone is interested they can go to the website or can contact the City Manager's Office.

Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Wilson announced Music Warehouse will be holding their 20th year anniversary of Music Warehouse program on Friday August 7, and Saturday August 8 at 8:00 P.M. in the Hance Pavilion. There will be performers past and present, with some coming from out of state to perform. Please plan to attend and bring your lawn chairs. Commissioner Wilson thanked Tom Westfall for promoting music for the youth in the community,

Commissioner Terry congratulated the residence Pride Award winners and encouraged citizens to take pride in their properties. Commissioner Terry also congratulated summer intern Jacob Pleiman on his presentation.

Commissioner Vogt also congratulated the Residence Pride Award winners, and congratulated his neighbors that live on Young and Linden Avenues for keeping his neighborhood so nice.

Commissioner Vogt also reminded citizens to not blow their grass out into the streets, and he would still like to see legislation written to stop residents from blowing the grass out into the streets.

Mayor Fess congratulated the Residence Pride Award winners.

Mayor Fess also congratulated the first place winner of the recent Duck Drop for having the fastest Duck in Piqua.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 8:30 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Fess, Martin, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None.

LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION