

PIQUA CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
Thursday, February 11, 2016
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 Hinds called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Wilson, Martin, Terry, and Vogt. Absent: None.

Piqua City Commission Work Session

Discussion of Potential Election Charter Changes

Law Director Stacy Wall stated since the recent election for Mayor and Commissioner the public has expressed confusion on the voting process. It was suggested that each Commission chose someone from their ward to set on a Special Charter Review Committee, and Ms. Wall would head up the committee and oversee the process and answer questions. Any Charter changes would have to be voted on by the electorate and would have to be given to the Board of Elections in August.

Ms. Wall provided a brief overview of Charter Section 3: Commission, Powers, Election, Term, Vacancies. Ms. Wall provided information on the filing of petitions for candidates to the Board of Elections and provided information on the Piqua City Charter requirements. Ms. Wall stated she polled several other cities around Piqua to get information on how they elected or appointed their commission.

Commissioners discussed whether or not the Mayor seat should be held by Commissioner for at least two years before holding the office of Mayor. Commissioners also discussed whether or not there should be term limits to holding a Commission or Mayor position. It was also discussed whether or not to change the number of Commissioners, and change the number of Wards. Changing the ballot language was also discussed, and Ms. Wall provided additional information on the language..

Ms. Wall provided a brief overview of Charter Section 5: President of Commission, Mayor. There was discussion on whether the language could be included to state the Mayor must be a Commissioner first.

Dan French, N. Sunset Drive, asked if it is a requirement to elect the Mayor and Commissioner at the same election. Ms. Wall stated the Piqua Charter would have to be amended to allow that.

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, voiced his opinion on the issues.

There was also discussion of a possible term of office for the Vice Mayor.

Ms. Wall provided a brief overview of Charter Section 4: Meetings of the Commission. Ms. Wall stated she would like to include the State Legislative Language, and follow the State Code.

After a lengthy discussion Commissioners decided to have each Commissioner provide a member from their ward to be appointed to a Special Charter Review Committee to review all of the issues on the Charter at this time. All Commissioners were in agreement with this and will provide a name to Ms. Wall.

Agenda Format Discussion

Ms. Wall stated the format for the Commission Meeting was changed for the February 2, 2016 meeting with Public Comment being heard from 7:30 P.M. until 7:45 P.M. and the Business Meeting beginning at 7:45 P.M. Concerns were raised that this format does not comply with the Code. Ms. Wall stated Code Section 30.15 Rules of Conduct for Meetings would need to be changed under Section B. Ms. Wall explained the reason for not having public comment at the end of each ordinance or resolution, and also reviewed Code Section 10: Guidelines for Minutes of Public Meetings.

Ms. Wall provided a draft Ordinance for changes to Code Section 30.15: Rules of Conduct for Meetings, and explained the various changes to Section 30.15.

There was discussion on how the future meetings would be conducted until the new Ordinance was passed. After discussion of the changes Commissioners were all in favor of the changes included in the Ordinance at this time. It was decided by the Commission to go back to the original agenda format until the new Ordinance has passed through the three readings and is adopted.

Brad Boehringer, voiced his opinion on when public comment should be heard.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Piqua City Commission Work Session at 8:30 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Terry, Vogt, and Hinds. Nay, None. Motion carried unanimously.

KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION