

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 20, 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, Vogt, Terry, and Martin. Absent: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Cruse, Piqua Bike Fest came forward and provided a brief overview of the weekend events.

Mr. Cruse thanked the sponsors, Board Members, all of the volunteers, City of Piqua, Chris Schmiesing, and all of the City Departments and employees who helped with the preparation and the Bike Fest

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting of September 6, 2016.

RES. NO. 108-16

A Resolution of Appreciation for the Public Service of Roger Wehrman as a City Employee

Mayor Hinds read the Resolution of Appreciation and presented it to Roger Wehrman thanking him for his 30 years of service to the citizens of Piqua.

Mr. Wehrman thanked the City and all of the employees, and especially the Power System.

Mr. Wehrman stated he has worked under several different Power System Directors over his 30 years and has gained a lot of knowledge from them. Mr. Wehrman further stated when he first started with the city, they were working on the Future Piqua Plan. Now as he is retiring he has seen most of the projects in the plan be completed.

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 13-16 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance amending Chapter 110 of the Piqua Municipal Code-Taxicabs

Law Director Stacy Wall provided the Staff Report.

The current ordinance needs to have updates to the language to reflect changes in the State Law that addresses companies like Uber and Lyft. The state is regulating brands like Uber separately from other taxicab companies, stated Ms. Wall. We did not have an incident, further explaining why the changes were being brought forward at this time. The current legislation that the city has is outdated. This ordinance updates definitions of what qualifies as a taxicab or transportation network company. A license will also be required to operate a taxicab or similar entity, and the city will issue the license. These changes are also being made to protect the residents, said Ms. Wall.

Public Comment

Benjamin Shurbert, came forward stating he is currently operating a taxi service in the City of Piqua, and is glad they are updating the Code Section. Mr. Shurbert gave a brief overview of his services.

Ordinance No. 13-16 was given a second reading.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-109-16

A Resolution authorizing a contract with Gamble Associates Architecture + Urban Planning to perform Professional Design Services for a downtown public park space

City Planner, Chris Schmiesing, provided the Staff Report.

The redesign of the Lock Nine park area to be a signature public space is identified as a key catalytic action in the Piqua Riverfront District Development Strategy.

Gamble Associates Architecture + Urban Planning completed the initial phase of the design development process for the redevelopment of the downtown riverfront park are and has extensive knowledge and understanding of the proposed downtown public park space improvements.

Gamble Associates has provided a proposal that will build on the successes of the design development phase and move the project design into the construction document phase, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

City manager Huff also provided additional information on the future of the Riverfront Area and Lock Nine Park.

Commissioner Vogt stated he has received several telephone calls concerning the amount of money being spent at Lock Nine Park.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the ownership of the monument building, and the old Feed Mill, the cost of the project and future costs, how much of the area is included in this project, will there be green space in the park, will there be grants available to help fund the project, and how much money is currently budgeted for the project.

David Gamble of Gamble Associates Architecture + Urban Planning came forward and provided a brief overview of the project at this time, and answered questions. Also Mr. Schmiesing, City Manager Huff, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Cindy Holtzapple also provided answers and additional information regarding the project.

Mayor Hinds stated she is very much in favor of moving forward with the project, further stating we will start the process by completing the Lock Nine Park area.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-109-16 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-109-16 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Wilson, Hinds, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hinds then declared Resolution No. R-109-16 adopted.

RES. NO. 110-16

A Resolution approving the tax rates for the City as determined by the Miami County Budget Commission

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

Each year about this time, the Finance Department requests approval of the certified tax rates which will be used to levy property tax on all genera; duplicates for 2016 to be collected in 2017. These certified rates require the approval of the City Commission and certification to be sent to Miami County before October 1, 2016.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution R-110-16 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Resolution No. R-110-16 be adopted. Voice vote, Aye: Hinds, Wilson, Terry, Vogt, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hinds then declared Resolution No. R-110-16 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Huff commended the City Commissioners for taking action on the downtown design of the Riverfront Project.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioner Terry stated the Piqua Bikefest was very successful despite a few rain drops, and commended them on their donations to the various non-profit organizations who will benefit from the proceeds.

Commissioner Vogt congratulated Roger Wehrman on his 30 year of service to the City and the community. Commissioner Vogt also congratulated the Piqua Bikefest Committee on another successful event.

Commissioner Martin also congratulated Roger Wehrman on his retirement and wished him well. Commissioner Martin congratulated the Piqua Bikefest on a job well done.

Mayor Hinds also congratulated the Piqua Bikefest Committee on a great job despite the rain, further stating there were a large number of attendees this year.

Mayor Hinds announced the final Walk with the Mayor will be held on September 27, from 6:00 – 7:30 P.M. in the 5th Ward. Meet at Washington School Parking lot at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Hinds encouraged citizens to come and walk with her even if they don't live in the 5th Ward.

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

KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION