

ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE COMING TO PIQUA

The technology utilized by the City of Piqua to collect monthly electric, water and wastewater meter readings will be taking a quantum leap forward beginning in early 2017. Spurred by a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure Program Grant from the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development, the Piqua City Commission approved legislation at its November 1, 2016 meeting to move forward with the installation of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system to remotely collect monthly utility readings.

After an extensive review process by City staff of seven prospective AMI vendors, Piqua staff recommended and City Commission awarded a

contract with Aclara Technologies to install a wireless AMI system utilizing licensed FCC radio frequencies. As part of Aclara's contract, all electric meters will be replaced with new AMI capable, solid-state General Electric meters. In addition, contracts for City water meters were awarded to Everett J. Prescott, Inc. to supply Sensus, epoxy-coated, lead-free commercial meters and Mueller Systems, LLC to supply composite, lead-free residential meters.

As required by the Critical Infrastructure Program Grant, the first phase of the AMI build-out will include replacing approximately 2,250 water and 2,250 electric meters in the Southview Neighborhood, with completion no later than August of

2017. Upon successful completion of the initial phase, the remaining Piqua water and electric meters will be converted to the new automated system no later than the end of 2018.

The new automated meter-reading system will provide numerous benefits to Piqua residents and businesses. City employees will no longer be required to enter resident's homes on a monthly basis to read meters. The new AMI system will provide advanced water leak detection and real-time notification of power outages. There will also be a significant reduction in utility bill estimates, as the new AMI system will read meters at nearly a 100% success rate.

PIQUA AWARDED NATUREWORKS GRANT

The City was awarded an Ohio Department of Natural Resources, NatureWorks Round 23 Grant in the amount of \$21,300 to renovate the public restrooms at Mote Park Community Center. The total project cost is \$28,536. The implementation will take place in 2017. The restrooms have not been updated since they were constructed in 1963. *"These renovations have been extremely needed for many years now and we are really excited that the City received the grant funds to move this project forward!"* stated Jim Vetter, President of the Southview Neighborhood Association.

NatureWorks projects are funded through the Ohio Parks and Natural Resources Bond Issue which was approved by Ohio voters in November 1993. The NatureWorks

grant program provides up to 75% reimbursement assistance for local government subdivisions (townships, villages, cities, counties, park districts, joint recreation districts, and conservancy districts) to for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas.



2016 SPRING, SUMMER & FALL RESIDENCE PRIDE RECIPIENTS

The following properties and individuals were nominated and awarded the City of Piqua's Spring, Summer & Fall Residence Pride awards:

Spring Award Recipients:

Jake & Pam Kennedy 1906 Carlyle Drive
 Jim & Jessie Hess 707 Clark Avenue
 Jim & Linda Blais 1223 Marwood Drive
 Michael & Morgan Mohr 724 W. Greene Street
 Lori Nicodemus 1062 North Street

Summer Award Recipients:

Katie & Josh Maxwell 917 Young Street
 Deb Ruemmele & Stacy Stang ... 621 Caldwell Street
 Tonya Bair 428 S. Roosevelt Avenue
 Beverly & Clark Brown 321 Boone Street
 Sarah Johnson 1515 Nicklin Avenue

Fall Award Recipients:

Terry & Brenda Felts 1622 Broadway Street
 James & Melody Shively 321 E. Greene Street
 Mark & Shannon Gambill 531 W. Greene Street
 Terry & Teresa Reynolds 1009 Park Avenue
 Thomas Stahl 457 Staunton Street

The following properties and individuals were selected to receive the Spring award:



Jake & Pam Kennedy
1906 Carlyle Drive



Jim & Jessie Hess
707 Clark Avenue



Jim & Linda Blais
1223 Marwood Drive



Michael & Morgan Mohr
724 W. Greene Street



Lori Nicodemus
1062 North Street

The following properties and individuals were selected to receive the Summer award:

- ★ Property appearance
- ★ Landscape appearance
- ★ Helpful neighbor in regards to landscape or home improvement project
- ★ Home improvements-general clean-up of a property
- ★ Business owner/landlord property



Kate & Josh Maxwell
917 Young Street



Deb Ruemmele & Stacy Stang
621 Caldwell Street

The Residence Pride Committee meets on a regular basis to select the winners and the Committee encourages Piqua Citizens to submit nominations. Nomination forms are available on the City's website at www.piquaoh.org or the Municipal Government Complex in the City Manager's office or in the Utilities Department. Nominations or questions may also be emailed to: residencepride@piquaoh.org.

Congratulations to our Spring, Summer & Fall Residents Pride Recipients!



Tonya Bair
428 S. Roosevelt Avenue



Beverly & Clark Brown
321 Boone Street



Sarah Johnson
1515 Nicklin Avenue

The following properties and individuals were selected to receive the Fall award:



Terry & Brenda Felts
1622 Broadway Street



James & Melody Shively
321 E. Greene Street



Mark & Shannon Gambill
531 W. Greene Street



Terry & Teresa Reynolds
1009 Park Avenue



Thomas Stahl
457 Staunton Street

TAX RETURNS DUE BY TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH

ALL RESIDENTS REQUIRED TO FILE

Due Dates

Returns are due on or before Tuesday, April 18, 2017. If additional time is required to file the Piqua tax return, an extension may be granted provided an extension has been filed for your Federal tax return.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

The four most common mistakes made on tax returns are:

- ☛ City returns are **not** electronically filed with your federal, state, and school returns. **Must mail or drop off returns.**
- ☛ Supporting documentation is **not** attached, such as the required forms below if applicable:
 - Copy of Federal 1040 & required schedules
 - W2's and 1099's for miscellaneous income
 - Self-employment (schedule C)
 - Rental income (schedule E)
 - Employment expenses (schedule A & form 2106)
- ☛ Taxpayers do not indicate their "move-in/move-out" dates on the return so proration of income can be calculated.
- ☛ Taxpayer(s) did not sign the tax return

Assistance & Hours

For assistance with any income tax questions or for help filing a return, please contact the City of Piqua Tax Department at (937) 778-2009, located at 201 W. Water St., Piqua, OH 45356. This is a free service and no appointments are necessary, but please come prepared with all documents. Our regular office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. Forms are available in our office or on our website at www.piquaoh.org.

STATE OF OHIO ADOPTS HB5: HOW WILL THIS AFFECT YOUR CITY TAXES?

As a result of legislation passed by the Ohio General Assembly, penalty and interest rates for Ohio municipal income tax for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016 will be as stated below:

Penalty – Unpaid Tax

A penalty may be imposed on unpaid income tax, including unpaid estimated income tax, equal to 15% of the amount not timely paid.

Late Filing Penalty-Now a monthly fee not to exceed \$150

A late filing penalty may be imposed at the rate of \$25 per month that the return remains unfiled. This late filing penalty applies regardless of the amount due on the return. The late filing penalty shall not exceed \$150 for each failure to timely file.

Interest – Unpaid Tax

For tax year 2016 returns, interest shall be imposed on all unpaid income tax at an annual rate of 5%. The interest rate to be applied each calendar year is the federal short-term rate, rounded to the nearest whole number percent, plus five percent (5%). The rate shall apply for the calendar year next following the July of the year in which the federal short-term rate is determined under Section 1274 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Please note that interest applies to any balance of tax due that is not paid by the due date of a return, even if the return is filed under extension.

To avoid all of the above fees, please **file and pay your tax by the April 18th, 2017 due date.**



HONORING "OUR BLUE"

On August 3, 2016, Greene Street Daycare employees, Debbie Frazier, Director, and Joyce Ellerman along with over 65 of their students, arrived at the City Building to make a presentation to the Chief of Police and Piqua Police Officers.

Joyce called the City Building in July asking for a day where her students might be able to meet with a few Police Officers to say thank-you to them. She said the idea was presented to her by a couple of her students who wanted to do something special for the Police Department.

The lobby was filled with students in colorful tie-dyed shirts as they presented posters, candy and cookies as well as sharing stories and "thank-you's" with the Officers. Following their presentation, the students took a tour of the Police Department with the Officers and the Chief of Police.

Thank you Greene Street Daycare!

MEET AARON MORRISON CODE COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR



Aaron Morrison is the new Code Compliance Coordinator for the City of Piqua, Ohio. Aaron began employment with the City of Piqua in June of 2016.

Aaron previously was employed by Miami County for twelve years working in the Miami County Engineer's office. He brings more than ten years of hands on experience in residential and commercial building and design. Aaron holds

a degree of Civil Engineering & Construction Management and Architectural Technology.

Aaron's responsibilities for the City of Piqua include performing inspections and code enforcement duties. Along with those responsibilities he also works with citizens, business owners and elected officials.

In his spare time, Aaron enjoys traveling with his family, playing golf, and cheering on the Ohio professional sports teams!

We welcome Aaron in his new role as Code Compliance Coordinator for the City of Piqua.

LOCAL BUSINESSES HONOR THEIR ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS

The Office Systems & Administrative Advisory Committee at Edison State Community College will host its 25th Nation Administrative Professionals event. Each year the annual program honors local business administrative assistants and medical office support employees. The event will be held on April 26, 2017.

Event sponsors include: Edison State Community College, City of Piqua, and Greenville National Bank. Individuals and local businesses interested in participating can contact Marva Archibald by calling 937.778.7908 or by emailing marchibald@edisonohio.edu.

CITY COMMISSION

John Martin

Commissioner, 1st Ward
Cell: 570-4062
Ward1comm@piquaoh.org

William Vogt

Commissioner, 2nd Ward
Home: 773-8217
Ward2comm@piquaoh.org

Joseph Wilson

Commissioner, 3rd Ward
Home: 778-0390
Ward3comm@piquaoh.org

Julia (Judy) Terry

Commissioner, 4th Ward
Home: 773-3189
Ward4comm@piquaoh.org

Kathryn (Kazy) Hinds

Mayor & Commissioner
5th Ward
Cell: 570-2758
Ward5comm@piquaoh.org



Piqua Municipal
Government Complex
201 West Water Street
Piqua, OH 45356

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PIQUA, OH 45356
PERMIT NO. 266

Residential Customer
Piqua, OH 45356