

**MINUTES
REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 3, 2022**

Piqua City Commission met at 6:00 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street.

Roll Call as follows: Present: Mayor Pearson, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Hinds, and Commissioner Grissom.

Mayor Pearson recited the Proclamations for PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY and BIKE MONTH.

Mayor Pearson presented Joyce Ellerman with the Provider Appreciation Day Proclamation.

Law Director Patrizio presented the Oath of Office to Mayor Cindy Pearson.

Mayor Pearson moved to appoint James Vetter to fill the 1st ward commission seat. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Roll call was unanimous. The Commissioners appointed James Vetter as 1st Ward Commissioner.

RESOLUTION NO. R-58-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A 1ST WARD COMMISSIONER FOR THE CITY OF PIQUA

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adopt the Resolution; motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Roll was called. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-58-22 adopted.

Law Director Patrizio presented the Oath of Officer to Mr. Vetter. Mr. Vetter then took his place on the bench.

Commissioner Hinds moved to appoint Kris Lee as Vice Mayor. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Roll was called. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared Kris Lee Vice Mayor.

Law Director Patrizio presented the Oath of Office to Vice Mayor, Kris Lee.

Paul Oberdorfer, City Manager presented the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Todd Voskuhl. Commissioner Hinds commented about the sacrifices made by his family for what he does for the city and citizens and thanked the entire family for their support.l.ki

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the April 5, 2022 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting

RESOLUTION NO. R-39-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION – STUART SHEAR

RESOLUTION NO. R-40-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE ENERGY BOARD – GREG BLANKENSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. R-41-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE ENERGY BOARD – KURTIS SAWYER

RESOLUTION NO. R-42-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD – RONALD PILKINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. R-43-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD – GREG MONTE

RESOLUTION NO. R-44-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD – DAVID SCOTT

RESOLUTION NO. R-45-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD – JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON

RESOLUTION NO. R-46-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD – STEVE TROSTEL

RESOLUTION NO. R-47-22

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE UTILITY BOARD - JAMES VETTER

Commissioner Lee moved for approval of the Consent Agenda; motion was seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Consent Agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. O-5-22 (1st READING)

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 39.01 AND 39.03 AND REPLACING SECTIONS 39.01 AND 39.03 OF THE PIQUA CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES MUNICIPAL TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSES

Ben Goodin, Acting Finance Director presented the staff report

Commissioner Grissom asked when the legislation passed with regard to this Ordinance. Mr. Goodin stated 2019. Commissioner Grissom asked if the city has had the same rate since 2010. Mr. Goodin responded that the last time this issue was brought before the Commission was 2014.

Mayor Lee asked if the county has added any additional fees. Mr. Goodin replied no.

There were no further questions or comments.

The Ordinance will move to the second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. O-6-22

AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING THE STORMWATER UTILITY BOARD

Kevin Krejny, Director of Utilities presented the staff report. Mr. Krejny asked for waiver of the three reading rule.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Hinds moved to waive the three reading rule, motion was seconded by Commission Lee. Mayor Pearson declared the three reading rule waived.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt the Ordinance, motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Roll was called. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared ORDINANCE NO. O-2-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-48-22

A RESOLUTION FOR CROP SHARE FARM LEASE AGREEMENT AT R.M. DAVIS WATER TOWER

Kevin Krejny, Director of Utilities presented the staff report.

Mayor Lee asked if there was ever a formalized agreement. Mr. Krejny stated that we have no records to show that the agreement had ever been formalized.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-48-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-49-22

A RESOLUTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO STRAND ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR EVALUATION OF FRANZ POND STORMWATER IN CORRELATION TO ODNR SAFETY EVALUATION

Kevin Krejny, Director of Utilities presented the staff report.

Commissioner Hinds asked if the original creek work we had planned on doing was not going to happen. Mr. Krejny confirmed.

Commissioner Hinds stated that this was the next step to combine the two consultants together to figure out for the creek and the pond as well. Mr. Krejny confirmed yes, for the Franz Pond water shed and how to get storm waters out of there.

Commissioner Hinds then asked about the time schedule and if this would set us back. Mr. Krejny replied probably not on the Franz Pond issue. The project will be broken down into phases of the ODNR project with Swift Run going first and basically will not affect any land owners. Swift Run solutions are we are going to keep the water the same height, it's basically declassifying those spillways down to the 25% of passing the flood events.

Commissioner Hinds stated the rumor around town being it will flood and do away with Hanz Pavilion and Fountain Park.

Mr. Krejny replied that would be phases 2 and 3. Echo and Franz are much later on. We will be doing what we know ODNR will approve to show good faith that we are working toward ultimate solutions.

Commissioner Hinds stated that we are not flooding Fountain Park nor tearing down Hanz Pavilion.

There was further conversation with regard to the process and timeline of the project.

Mayor Pearson asked about the swale. Mr. Krejny stated that the swale has been put on hold for right now.

There were no further questions or comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-49-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-50-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO THE SMALL GOVERNMENT TERM ENTERPRISE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH ESRI (ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.) AND AUTHORIZATION OF A PURCHASE ORDER (YEAR 1)

Kelley Allen, GIS Project Manager presented the staff report.

Commissioner Grissom stated that the 100 users would be internal and that part of the goal was that the public be able to see the GIS information, so the public would still be able to see that information but not included as a "user". Ms. Allen stated that the authenticated users allow for security and then confirmed to Commissioner Grissom there was unlimited data storage.

There was then discussion about the budget amount and that this is an annual agreement and a staggered approach to the Small Government Agreement.

There were no further questions or comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-50-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-51-22

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FINAL LEGISLATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR THE GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL BRIDGE PROJECT

Amy Havenar, City Engineer presented the staff report.

The discussion included that Southview Neighborhood Association has followed the project and is very much in favor of it, that it would be the same parking, however, it would be resurfaced and restriped. The project was budgeted as part of the CIP. Roundabout funds will go toward any overages. This project has been going on since 2015. The old bridge will be demolished once this project is done. The path will extend from behind the power plant, there will be a new box culvert and a new path going all the way to Goodrich Giles.

Motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-51-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-52-22

A RESOLUTION RETAINING THE SERVICES OF GREENE FORENSIC ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS LLP TO PROVIDE SPECIAL AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF PIQUA

Ben Goodin, Acting Finance Director presented the staff report

There were no questions or comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-52-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-53-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO GARLAND/DBS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW ROOF WITH REPAIRS OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING

Bob Graeser, Project Manager presented the staff report.

The discussion included that the old roof shingles have been in place about 22 years. The quote was under budget and the extra funds would be used to compensate for the price of shingles. Garland is located in Cincinnati, Ohio but that local area businesses did have the chance to quote. The possibility of having to close off Water Street only if absolutely necessary. There may be sidewalk closure and/or traffic maintenance .

There were no further questions or comments.

Motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-53-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-54-22

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF PIQUA PURCHASING POLICY

Janelle Collier, Contract and Purchasing Manager presented the staff report.

The discussion included purchasing limits, monthly review of credit card usage and that this is a pretty extensive and thorough policy.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-54-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-55-22

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ANNEXATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PIQUA AND THE BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPRINGCREEK TOWNSHIP FOR PARCEL J27-055062 ON LOONEY ROAD IN PIQUA, OHIO

Kyrsten French, City Planner presented the staff report.

There were no questions or comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-55-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-56-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A HOUSING REVOLVING LOAD FUND ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT WITH OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Ben Goodin, Acting Finance Director presented the staff report.

Commissioner Grissom asked if there was an agreement already in place. Mr. Goodin stated he believed that it was through the end of 2021; this one is dated to be active from 2022 through 2026.

Commissioner Hinds asked if this was the money where citizens can apply for funds for home repairs. Mr. Goodin stated that this Resolution was just for the application to be put into the agreement so we can utilize these funds, but the CDBG and HOME fund are related to the CHIP Program which we do have right now, which is for owner home repair and owner rehab projects. Applications can be obtained through the Community Development Department.

Commissioner Hinds asked how a citizen would know where to go and how to apply for funds. Mr. Goodin stated to go to the Community Development Department – Chris Schmiesing. We currently have a vacancy for the Community Development Program Manager. The administrative assistant in Planning and Zoning can help out to begin the application process for this program.

Commissioner Hinds asked who makes the decisions when the applications are put in. Mr. Goodin stated he thinks it is a collective agreement because we do partner with the county, but Chris Schmiesing would most likely have the final approval.

Commissioner Hinds stated that she just wants to make sure the citizens have information with regard to the programs. and to find a way to make sure everybody is aware.

Commissioner Vetter stated this project involves repairs as opposed to first time home buyers projects.

City Manager Oberdorfer stated that when the city's new website goes up this fall it will be a lot easier for the public to find the information they need. It is anticipated to get a lot more participation once the website is up and running.

Commissioner Hinds asked if there could be program information put in the utility office for the convenience of citizens who come in to pay their bills.

City Manager Oberdorfer stated we would put together an assistance fact sheet and do that.

Commissioner Grissom asked since this was a revolving fund, was this just a loan?

Mr. Goodin reiterated that this resolution was just for the resolution to get the agreement in place.

Commissioner Grissom noted that this year there have been quite a few citizens stepping up to do home improvements, is it possible that instead of going through Chris and the county that some other organizations are standing up to help some of our local citizens to help these programs get off the ground.

Commissioner Hinds noted that Commissioner Grissom made a good point and it would be nice to get all these entities together to have a conversation to see how they can help and support one another.

Commissioner Lee stated that these are great questions, but we need to focus on the resolution to get the agreement in place. Maybe this topic could be the focus of a work session. He thinks a lot of people will come and ask questions as well.

Debbie Stein commented the one of her concerns was that the public was aware. Her next concern was transparency and oversight as to who is receiving the funds, that the City Manager or a Commissioner might get involved in the process so that there is oversight and transparency.

The Commissioners agreed and said this raises a good point. Commissioner Grissom stated we want to make sure the funds are shared equally to those most in need, that those qualifications could be a bit subjective to those making the decision. We need checks and balances.

Commissioner Hinds agreed that there should be a committee to make the decisions.

Ms. Stein then inquired of Mr. Goodin if this CHIP was a no pay back kind of program.

Mr. Goodin reiterated this is not an approval for a CHIP program but it references the funds. This is just so we can continue to get these funds. In reference to the CHIP program, with his limited knowledge, there are 4 different programs which have different methods of pay back or deferment, which is all controlled by the legislation of the funding source.

There were no further questions or comments.

Motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-56-22 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-57-22

A RESOLUTION TO GRANT AN EASEMENT IN THE RIGHT OF WAY OF W. ASH STREET

Kyrsten French, City Planner presented the staff report.

Commissioner Hinds stated this was done because the building was purchased,

There were no further questions or comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt the Resolution, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared RESOLUTION NO. R-57-22 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(This is an opportunity for citizens to address the City Commission regarding agenda items, issues, or to provide information. Comments are requested to be limited to five (5) minutes and specific questions should be addressed to the City Manager's office.)

Larry Hamilton provided information regarding legislation passed with regard to Juneteenth and that the city will be holding an event on June 18th. Mr. Hamilton also reported that 2022 is the centennial celebration of the music group the Mills Brothers. He is requesting a Proclamation to recognize this event.

Ruth Koon stated she was glad to see Jim Vetter on the bench. Ms. Koon talked about the High and Main Street changes and asked if this information was on our website, or only Facebook, to which Commissioner Grissom stated he has seen it on Facebook. Ms. Koon asked if this information was something that should be shared with the community. Ms. Koon would like to see stop signs (4-way) at those intersections. Ms. Koon asked about new park signs and recommended Brian Quinter of Quint Signs to prepare the signs, stating he is already doing the signs for the Troy and Tipp City.

Commissioner Grissom stated that the city has had multiple work sessions with citizens providing possible renderings, that information is posted on Facebook, and there are a lot of assumptions being made. We are still in the phase of getting citizen input.

Commissioner Hinds stated that no decision has been made about the street changes.

City Manager Oberdorfer stated that no decision has been made and that Mr. Quinter published those plans on Facebook. The city did not put that information out. He also stated that there will be a meeting with Mr. Quinter next week.

Dave Fishback stated that he is excited about things the city has done. That the city has a great staff and does a great job.

Commissioner Hinds thanked Mr. Fishback for volunteering on boards and a variety of things.

Carol Thomas inquired as to what is going on on Looney Road, as it is really bad on Facebook. Is it going to be taken down to two lanes.

City Manager Oberdorfer stated that the option of taking the road down to two lanes with a turn lane is being taken into consideration and has just been put out with the first interaction with the public. The City also engaging with the schools and the Safe Routes to Schools. That phase is going to be done first when the resurfacing is done in 2024 if that is what is acceptable to the commission.

There was further conversation regarding engineering considerations, traffic study for safety, reason for having two bike lanes, grant money to be used for resurfacing and that the bike path across the river that has been repaired and is open.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Oberdorfer had the following comments:

There will be a Town Hall on May 18th at 7:00 p.m.

It is mowing season. Please keep lawns cut below 8 inches.

Lots of activity on Water Street, Bruns is doing demolition on the former Bayman's car lot to prepare for construction of the town homes, and across the street at Crooked Handle.

Looking forward to seeing Lock 9 start up this summer as we get that project out to bid and a contract awarded. We will be coming out shortly with an update from our Planning Department.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioner Hinds had the following comments:

Welcome Cindy Pearson to the position of Mayor.
Thanks to Kris Lee for accepting the Vice Mayor position.
Thanks to Jim Vetter our new commissioner. It is wonderful to have you up here.
Town Hall – May 18th. Commissioner Hinds asked to be excused due to her son’s senior year activities.
Community cleanup is this coming Saturday – call Lorna Swisher at Main Street Piqua if you want to be part of that.
Maybe help neighbors with any type of clean-up they may have.
Taste of the Arts is May 13th.
Bike Piqua Spring Social is May 19th.
High school activities- final show choir is May 21st at 7:30 P.M.
High School graduation is May 27.

Commissioner Grissom had the following comments:

Spring is here and all kinds of changes happening.
Congratulations to Mayor Pearson, Vice Mayor Lee, Commissioner Vetter and Police Lieutenant Todd Voskuhl.
Covid rates have dropped and people are getting out.
Town Hall – hoping to get some citizens there and lots of citizen feedback.

Commissioner Lee had the following comments:

Thank you to everybody for allowing him to serve as Vice Mayor.
Pleased to see Jim Vetter on the commission, He was Kris’s boss at his first job. He will do a great job.
Congratulations Cindy – she will do a great job as well.
Worked with Todd Voskuhl – he is a force to be reckoned with and does his job well. It was good to see his family, as well as his extended family, the police department, in attendance at the meeting.
Top 100 Banquet last night was a great event – 157 students from area schools.
Lots going on – get involved – come to the Town Hall. Would like citizen participation and input.
Good turnout tonight.
The city will recognize the Mills Brother by partnering with Mr. Hamilton as well as a proclamation.
Juneteenth flag – he will fly his flag on that day.

Commissioner Vetter had the following comments:

Thankyou everyone for his appointment – he will work very hard for Ward 1. He is a member of the Piqua Neighborhood Improvement Corp. (PNIC) and will be giving suggestion.
Lock your car when you get out
He is a founding member of the PHS Music Hall of Fame and we are in the process of opening the window for nominations for people to serve.

Mayor Pearson commented on the following:


Farmer’s Market held on Market Street starts May 26th
Come out to the Town Hall – May 18th at 7:00 p.m.
Had a great time at the Arbor Day celebration at Piqua Catholic School.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Motion carried unanimously. The Regular Commission meeting was adjourned


CINDY PEARSON, MAYOR

PASSED: 6/7/22

ATTEST: 
KAREN S. JENKINS
CLERK OF COMMISSION