

**MINUTES
REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 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: Mayor Pearson, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Hinds, Commissioner Vetter and Commissioner Grissom

PRESENTATION – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami Valley

Christopher Mackey, Community Impact & Engagement Manager of Big Brothers Big Sisters Miami Valley made a presentation on the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. He stated there are approximately 100 youth involved in Miami County, 30 being youth in Piqua with a goal of 60 youth involved in Piqua for next year. The goal of the program is to help all youth achieve their full potential. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami Valley have two (2) primary programs to accomplish this goal. They have a community-based program for youth ages 6-14 and a school-based program for students. Mr. Mackey state there is currently 31 youth on wait list including seven (7) in Piqua. The program needs support from volunteers and mentors to help “littles” achieve their potential.

Commissioner Lee thanked Mr. Mackey for his dedication to the program. Commissioner Hinds thanked Mr. Mackey, expressed that she loves the program and stated she had a “little”. Commissioner Hinds stated the program enriches their life and your life as well.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 19, 2022 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-88-22 (tabled)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ANNEXATION OF 662.035 ACRES AND 1.605 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF PIQUA

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director, requested this Resolution be tabled till the second meeting in September. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution would remain tabled until the September 20th Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-89-22

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MICHAEL G. BELISLE AS A CITY EMPLOYEE

Mayor Pearson read the resolution.

Commissioner Lee moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-90-22

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF VONDA J. YACKOWSKY AS A CITY EMPLOYEE

Mayor Pearson read the resolution.

Commissioner Lee moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-91-22

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCCHASE OF TRANSFORMERS FOR THE POWER SYSTEM

Ed Krieger, Power System Director, presented the staff report.

The discussion included the Power System soliciting bids to replenish distribution transformer inventory. Mr. Krieger stated he was very disappointed with all bids and lead times for the transformers. Prior to bids being open, a long time supplier of transformers to the City would no longer be providing transformers. However, two (2) transformers were purchased and have been received. Mr. Krieger asked to extend legislation to the full \$150,000 budgeted amount for distribution transformers. Mayor Pearson asked if the budget will get all the needed transformers. Mr. Krieger indicated it was unknown but he is hopeful.

Commissioner Hinds moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-92-22

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY (RITA)

Jennifer Kahle, Finance Director, presented the staff report.

The discussion included moving the income tax to the Regional Income Tax Association. Ms. Kahle indicated the Resolution has been reviewed with the law director.

Commissioner Vetter moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-93-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION AND AN AGREEMENT(S) TO SECURE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S)

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director, presented the staff report.

The discussion included authorization from City Commission to submit an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission Program. This request is for a resurfacing project is Looney Road between U.S. Route 36 to County Road 25A. Mr. Schmiesing stated the grant portion of the funding will support the engineering and construction services necessary to the Looney Road Resurfacing Project. The project design and bid document preparation will take place in 2022 through 2023 with bidding and construction taking place in 2024. Commissioner Hinds clarified this is the beginning phase and resurfacing will not take place this year. Commissioner Lee asked about the restructuring of Looney Road. Mr. Schmiesing indicated this is just to apply for funding to support the project.

Mayor Pearson moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-94-22

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE LOONEY ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director, presented the staff report.

The discussion included this Resolution is to secure engineering services to be able to fulfill the Looney Road Resurfacing project. The project will require engineering services to conduct a corridor safety study and prepare the bidding and construction documents necessary to execute the resurfacing project. The study is an evaluation of existing conditions and accident history to determine the best path forward with the project. Commissioner Hinds clarified that no decision has been made yet to reduce lanes or put in bike lanes. Mr. Schmiesing confirmed and stated the process is very intentional and there will be public engagement before decisions are finalized. Commissioner Grissom asked if the cost would be reimbursed if we get the grant from Ohio Public Works Commission Program. Mr. Schmiesing stated the City has to move forward with beginning stages and the OPW grant money will reimburse costs if the grant is received. Mayor Pearson asked if the study would include safety and topography. Mr. Schmiesing stated the study will be of traffic patterns, accident patterns, topography and demographic. The study will also take into consideration the school system, concerts and sporting events.

Mayor Pearson moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-95-22

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RULES AS TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING NOTICES

Frank Patrizio, Law Director, presented the staff report.

The discussion included discussion of the Sunshine Law which states the City has to post notice of meetings but nothing more than the notices of the meetings. There are three (3) types of meetings under the Sunshine Law which are the regular meeting, the special meeting and an emergency meeting. The special meetings are called by the commissioners which are for a specific purpose. Emergency meetings arise during emergencies in town. The provisions in this Resolution are from the attorney general's handbook. The agendas do not have to be published but the City has a policy to get agenda out by Friday which will continue. Commissioner Lee asked if it could be locked in the day before the meeting. Mr. Patrizio stated he has been on many boards and some things could come up and changes need to be able to be made. Commissioner Lee has concern of being accused of not being transparent by citizens. Mr. Patrizio stated the City can't be any more transparent than it is and the City is in compliance with Sunshine law. Commissioner Hinds asked if there is anything in the city charter. Mr. Patrizio stated there is nothing regarding notices in the charter. Commissioner Hinds stated she wants to be able to read through the agenda packet to make proper decisions. Commissioner Grissom asked if the Resolution is just clarification of the law and if the Resolution has to be passed. Mr. Patrizio stated the Resolution is just to be in compliance with the Sunshine law and stated there is case law that states the rules of publication be adopted by the Commission. Commissioner Hinds stated she has an issue with section six (6) of the Resolution. Mr. Patrizio stated he has no problem with the removal of section six (6) but he doesn't want it to be a requirement to lock in a time that the entire packet must be published. He stated the commission sets its own policy for publication of the agenda packet but it doesn't need to be in the Resolution.

Commissioner Grissom made a motion to table the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Roll was called. Motion failed.

Commissioner Lee made a motion to amend Resolution to state he or she and to remove section six (6), seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Motion carried. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution amended.

Russ Fashner of Piqua stated he agrees with Frank on section six (6) of the Resolution. However, section three (3) of resolution regarding special emergency meetings is in section four (4) of the City Charter and states the purpose of those meetings must be published and are the only things that can be discussed at those meetings.

Dave Fishback of Piqua stated he sees both sides of the argument. He agrees with Mr. Patrizio and doesn't think commission should pin themselves down with the deadline. Mr. Fishback also agrees that the agenda packets are great

for transparency. It would be the Commission's responsibility to hold the City Manager to the policy to get the agenda packet out.

Commissioner Lee moved to adopt the Amended Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Vetter. Roll was called. Motion carried. Mayor Pearson declared the Resolution 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.)

Paige Damon of Piqua stated citizens are more aware of food shortages and they are being more health conscious about what they are eating. Ms. Damon heard the Commission was looking at approval for some families to have backyard chickens to help with shortages. She also stated the chickens would help youth with responsibility and 4H projects. Commissioner Lee stated former Commissioner Fogt proposed backyard chickens and would like to get a proposed ordinance with three (3) readings for citizens to be able to discuss the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Hinds stated citizens in her Ward do not want chickens next door.

Randolph Richard II of Piqua stated he disagrees with Commissioner Hinds. He stated his neighbors are for the backyard chickens. Mr. Richard stated Aaron Morrison, Piqua Code Enforcement Officer, gave a Code Compliance for a violation of having backyard chickens.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Oberdorfer indicated there was a special audit performed and asked Jennifer, Financial Director, to give the report.

Ms. Kahle reported there is a special audit done whenever there is a new finance director to double check work and to hold the department accountable. The report came back from Green Forensics Accounting Services and stated there are no findings with the transition. The report will be put on the website when the minutes from this meeting are posted.

Mr. Oberdorfer thanked Piqua Power and Public Works for their quick work during the July 23rd storm. Piqua had 60-70 MPH straight line winds but no tornado touched down in Piqua. The cost for Public Works was \$13,305 in labor, material and equipment to perform the cleanup. The cost for Piqua Power was \$22,150 for labor and materials. They were able to get power back up quickly for Kettering Health while dealing with a large tree that was downed on Looney Road.

Lock 9 Park was put out to bid with no respondents. The bid package was modified and will be going out at the end of September. The City will complete the work required in interface with The Crooked Handle so they are able to open on time.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioner Hinds thanked Michael Belisle and Vonda Yackowsky for their service to the City. She also thanked Piqua Power for their quick response during the wind storm. Commissioner Hinds reminded citizens of the Down the River Down a Beer event coming up. She reminded citizens about soccer season starting up as summer ends and a Piqua Show Choir event coming up in September.

Commissioner Grissom thanked Michael Belisle and Vonda Yackowsky for their service. He also thanked Piqua Power during the storm. Commissioner Grissom shared a quote from a group called Leadership First which states "the way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world but if they don't play together, they won't be worth a dime." Commissioner Grissom stated this is more than just for sports, but can be applied to business as well. He is trying to get younger citizens more involved in groups so things can be a success in the City.

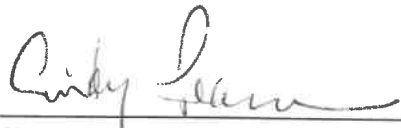
Commissioner Lee thanked Michael Belisle and Vonda Yackowsky for their service. He stated anyone interested in residential chickens to please contact commission. Commissioner Lee reminded citizens of National Night Out this evening with Lt. Todd Voskul present. He reminded all of school starting soon and to enjoy the rest of summer.

Commissioner Vette thanked Ed Krieger for his Energy Board meeting presentation. He found it very informative and was impressed with the professionalism. He reminded citizens the Piqua Civic Band has its final concert coming up Thursday at Piqua Central Intermediate School. Commissioner Vetter thanked citizens regarding bike path information sent to him after his comments from the last meeting. His PNIC tip of the week – lock your doors.

Mayor Pearson congratulated Michael Belisle and Vonda Yackowsky on their retirement. She reminded citizens of the Farmer's Market on Thursdays. She also thanked citizens for volunteering to serve on the city boards.


ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adjourn at 7:25 P.M. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.



CINDY PEARSON, MAYOR

PASSED: August 16, 2022

ATTEST: 
JESSICA STEIN
CLERK OF COMMISSION