MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009
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 Hudson called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Martin, Vogt, Fess, and Terry. Absent: None.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES


RES. No. R-15-09

A Resolution awarding contracts for the purchase of transformers for the Power System

There was discussion on the number of transfers required, the need for the various sizes, warranties on the transformers, and the time frame for delivery. Ed Krieger, Assistant Power System Director gave a brief explanation on all the questions.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. 15-09.


Res. No. R-16-09

A Resolution awarding a contract to Pohlkat Incorporated in the amount not to exceed $100,000 for removal and disposal of line residual from the lime lagoon at the Water Plant

There were several questions concerning the current lime lagoon status, what type of business can use the lime from the lagoon, and the number of bids that were received. City Manager Enderle stated the lime lagoon was cleaned up last year, and there are many different options for the use of the lime, but a special truck is needed to get the lime out and most companies do not have that type of truck. Finance Director Cynthia Holtzapple explained the bid process, and stated three bids were received out of the ten packets sent out.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. 16-09.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, that Resolution No. R-16-09 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Terry, Hudson, Fess, and Vogt, Nay, None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hudson then declared Resolution No. R-16-09 adopted.
RES. No. R-17-09

A Resolution to allow only the City of Piqua aggregate demand response of retail customers in accordance with FERC Order 719 and taking other actions in connection therewith

Ed Krieger, Assistant Power System Director gave a brief overview of the reason for this resolution, and explained what a demand response is, and how it would affect the retail customers.

Commissioner Martin voiced concern over Section 6 in the Resolution that states: “That the City Manager is authorized to adopt any necessary regulations to implement this Resolution.” Commissioner Martin asked if it should not be the responsibility of the Power System Director instead. Mr. Enderle explained the reason for the City Manager to have the power to implement the resolution.

There was discussion on what effects opting out of the program would have on customers, and also the benefits it would have. Mr. Krieger explained how opting out of the program would affect customers, and also what the benefit would be.

Mayor Hudson stated citizens why the City of Piqua no longer produces their own power, and why we can’t go back to doing so have asked him. Mr. Krieger explained the cost of the cooling towers was going to be very expensive to replace, which was required by the EPA, and that it was cheaper in the long run to purchase power. Mr. Krieger gave a brief overview of process to purchase the power, and the advantages of purchasing the power at this time.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-17-09.


RES. No. R-18-09

A Resolution authorizing the renaming of the Fort Piqua Plaza to the “Piqua Plaza”

All of the Commissioners were in agreement that they had received the most telephone calls and emails ever on this resolution to change the name of the Fort Piqua Plaza to the Piqua Plaza. All the calls received stated they would like to keep the current name, Fort Piqua Plaza.

Public Comment

Bill Shinell, New Haven Road, voiced his opinion on the name change of the Fort Piqua Plaza, and asked the Commission to consider keeping the current name of Fort Piqua Plaza.

Ruth Koon, Park Avenue, explained the reason she had asked for the name change of the Fort Piqua Plaza by dropping the word “Fort”. Mrs. Koon stated she was glad to see so much citizen input.


RES. No. R-19-09

A Resolution requesting authorization to issue a purchase order to Rawdon Myers, Inc. for SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) System Hardware Upgrade, Programming and Integration at the Wastewater Plant
Dave Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Wastewater explained how the SCADA System performs for the City of Piqua.

Commissioner Vogt stated he thought bids should have been sent out for this upgrade package.

There was discussion on the need for the upgrade, and the reason that bids were not taken at this time. Dave Burtner, Wastewater Superintendent stated they have spoken to other vendors and they are all overloaded with customers and could not take on anymore at this time. Also RMI is a qualified company who is familiar with our particular system, and can provide the service we need without jeopardizing the stability of our SCADA System.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-19-09.


OTHER

Monthly Reports – December 2008

Monthly Reports for December 2008 were accepted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Luke Bolin, Ann Street, voiced his concern over the shoveling of the snow from the sidewalks and if it is a City Ordinance. City Manager Enderle explained what the City of Piqua’s policy is on the removal of snow from the sidewalks.

Jim Cline, Clark Avenue, voiced his concern over the four properties purchased by the Piqua Improvement Corporation, and where the money came from to purchase these properties. Mr. Enderle explained how the properties were purchased.

Steve Stiefel, Brentwood Avenue, voiced his concern over the City of Piqua possibly purchasing water from another city, the effect it would have on industry present and in the future, and possible future rate increases. Mr. Enderle explained they will look at several alternatives before making any decisions, but will do the best for the long term for the city.

Mr. Stiefel also voiced his concern about a “Blackball List” he feels the city has against businesses in the city. All of the commissioners agreed that part of their jobs, as Commissioners is being a buffer between the citizens and the city departments to help resolve problems. The City Commission does not have control over the day-to-day operations of the city.

Roy Howard, Spiker Road, voiced his opinion on snow removal on residential and city sidewalks. Law Director Stacy Wall explained the city’s position on snow removal.

Commissioner Fess stated there are people and organizations that can help citizens who need help in clearing their sidewalks, they just have to call and ask.

Commissioner Vogt stated he was given a tour of the Water Plant several years ago and voiced his opinion on the status of the water plant at this time.

Commissioner Vogt had several announcements, one a new Senior Center is set to open on February 10, 2009 in the YMCA Youth Center on High Street, and the 5th Annual Park Car Show is scheduled for August 1, 2009.
Commissioner Martin inquired about snow plowing trucks, and the repairs made to the trucks. City Manager Enderle explained all of the snowplows are back in service and running again at this time, they were only down for a short period of time. Mr. Enderle stated the Police Department's four-wheel drive was also utilized to plow the back parking lot of the Municipal Government Complex area.

Commissioner Fess complimented the City Street crews on the wonderful job they have been doing with the large amount of snow we received in such a short period of time. Mrs. Fess further stated if the elderly or handicapped needed help in getting shoveled out they should contact the city, and they can be referred to a list of volunteers that can assist them.

Commissioner Terry stated she noticed the recycling was up this month, the most it has been since 1994, and urged citizens to continue to recycle.

Commissioner Terry thanked all citizens who called to voice their opinion on the name change for the Fort Piqua Plaza. Mrs. Terry also complimented the City Street crews on getting the streets cleared in a timely manner.

City Manager Enderle stated it has only been within the last 2-3 years the Water Plant has received pressure from the EPA to comply with the upgrades, and he gives credit to all the Water Plant employees for keeping the plant up.

Mayor Hudson inquired about the Water Study that was compiled for the Franz Pond area, and when it would be finalized. City Manager Enderle stated Engineering Department is planning to have a work-study session in the near future.

Mayor Hudson thanked Commissioner Vogt and Frank Barhorst for their efforts on helping to establish the Senior Center, it is something Piqua has needed for a long time.

Mayor Hudson also congratulated Ruth Koon on receiving the Order of George Civic Achievement Award.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Piqua City Commission Meeting at 9:05 P.M. and to move into Executive Session to prepare for and review negotiations on compensation or other terms and conditions of employment for City personnel. Roll call, Aye: Hudson, Fess, Vogt, Martin, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Fess to adjourn Executive Session at 9:35 P.M.

THOMAS D. HUDSON, MAYOR

PASSED: ____________________________

ATTEST: ____________________________
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION