Piqua City Commission met at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission
Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street. Mayor Fess called the meeting to order. Also present
were Commissioners Martin, Vogt, Terry, and Wilson. Absent: None.

**PROCLAMATION: COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH**

Mayor Fess read and presented the Proclamation to City Planner Chris Schmiesing

**PROCLAMATION: WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK**

Mayor Fess read and presented the Proclamation to City Planner Chris Schmiesing.
Mr. Schmiesing invited Cindy Pearson and Marcia Garret members of the Walk to Work Week
group, and Jake Amlin, Principal of Washington Intermediate School to come up to accept the
Proclamation also. Mr. Amlin passed out wristbands and pedometers to the Commissioners
that the schools are handing out to the students.

**PROCLAMATION: PIQUA ROTARY – 100 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Mayor Fess read and presented the Proclamation to Law Director Stacy Wall the current President
of the Piqua Rotary. Ms. Wall thanked the Mayor and provided a brief history of the Rotary Club in
Piqua.

**RESIDENCE PRIDE AWARDS:**

- John Burnett
- Dick & Connie Feightner
- John & Barbara Haning
- Robert & Krystal Stephenson
- Danielle Isaacs

901 Camp Street
909 Candlewood Boulevard
636 W. Greene Street
325 Riverside Drive
308 Third Street

Mayor Fess read the names of the Residence Pride Awards winners while photos of each
residence were shown. Dick & Connie Feightner came forward and thanked the City for their
award.

Mayor Fess thanked all of the Residence Pride Award winners for maintaining their properties.

**REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

**Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the September 11, 2014 Piqua City Commission Work session, and
the September 16, 2014 Regular City Commission Meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, to approve the Consent
unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORD. NO. 13-14 (1st Reading)**
An Ordinance amending sections 154.141 of the City of Piqua Code of Ordinances to allow a zoning designation change to be enacted by a Resolution.

Chris Schmiesing, City Planner provided the Staff Report.

In response to a request from the City Commission the Planning Commission studied a proposed amendment to the zoning code that pertains to the handling of a change in the zoning designation of a property or properties. Two options were presented to the Planning Commission for review. Option 1 would allow for a change in a zoning designation to be addressed at the Planning Commission level with no additional action required by the City Commission and would reduce the length of the process to approximately 30-45 days. Option 2 would require the Planning Commission to study the request and provide a recommendation to the City Commission for final action in the form of a Resolution as opposed to the current requirement that it be considered in the form of an Ordinance. The 2nd option would reduce the approval process to be approximately 45-60 days. After review by the Planning Commission they concluded that the second option would be the best option, allowing the City Commission to act on such matters by resolution, and recommended the amendment to the code to reflect this option, said Mr. Schmiesing.

Ordinance No. 13-14 was given a first reading.

RES. NO. R-100-14

A Resolution approving a maintenance agreement for the city-wide fiber optic network

Dean Burch, Information Technology Director provided the Staff Report.

Resolution No. R-157-12 was approved on February 5, 2013, and Resolution No. R-123-13 was approved on September 17, 2013 by the City Commission to retain the services of Efakes/ACS as a professional firm to design and install a fiber optic network for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Connectivity to electric substations and other municipal sites for the Power System and the City.

The ongoing connectivity and support of the entire fiber optic network is paramount to the electric system operation. This item was presented to the Energy Board and was unanimously approved by that body. Efakes/ACS has worked with the City of Piqua for over 27 years and is uniquely qualified to support the fiber network, stated Mr. Burch.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-100-14.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that Resolution No. R-100-14 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Vogt, Wilson, Terry, Martin, and Fess. Nay, None. Mayor Fess then declared Resolution No. R-100-14 adopted.

RES. NO. R-101-14

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with AT&T for the relocation of existing aerial facilities to a buried environment at 9801 North State Route 66 for the building of the new Water Treatment Plant

Don Freisthler, Water Plant Superintendent provided the Staff Report.

Before construction can begin on the new Water treatment Plant, existing AT&T aerial phone lines need to be relocated. The current lines run in conjunction with Hardin Alternate Road. The new Treatment Plant will span across Hardin Road Alternate thus the reason for moving the lines, stated Mr. Freisthler.
Commissioner Martin asked if new poles were going to be installed why not put the lines back on the poles? Mr. Freisthler explained the reason for moving the lines.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-101--14.


RES. NO. R-102-14

A Resolution requesting authorization to increase the initial purchase order amount for the City of Dayton for the purchase of quicklime

Bob Jennings, Assistant Water Plant Superintendent provided the Staff Report.

In the past years, Dayton has not had lime regularly available for purchase. The city did not foresee needing more than the initial amount. Dayton has now informed the city they can supply the city with lime for the remainder of the year. We have currently exceeded the initial purchase order by $1730 and would like to increase the current purchase order by an additional $20,000 to cover the rest of the year, stated Mr. Jennings.

Several questions were raised concerning the storage of the lime and why we are purchasing the lime from Dayton. Mr. Jennings explained.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-102-14.


RES. NO. 103-14

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into a contract with Utility Service Company for the installation of a TRIHALOMETHANE Removal System, (TRS) and a ten-year service contract that will include inspection and required maintenance of the East Ash St. Street Water Tower

Don Freisthler, Water Plant Superintendent, provided the Staff Report.

The Water Treatment Plant has had issues with high levels of Trihalomethanes in the distribution system, and studies have shown that the installation of a removal system will help alleviate some of the higher levels. There are also many other issues currently with the condition of interior and the exterior of the E. Ash Street Water Tower. The contract with Utility Services will allow for the necessary repairs to be made to the tank. This project was presented to the City Commission at a Work Session held on June 12, 2014, stated Mr. Freisthler.

Several questions were asked about the age of the East Ash Street Tower and the age of the tower on RM Davis Parkway, and if it would be feasible to combine and contract for both of them at this time. Mr. Freisthler explained. City Manager Huff stated this process was presented in great detail at a previous City Commission Work session.

Mayor Fess thanked the Utility Service Company representatives present for their very comprehensive presentation they provided at the previous Commission work session.
PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-103-14.


RES. NO. R-104-14

A Resolution authorizing the Miami County Park District to file an Application to the State of Ohio, to participate in the Local Government Innovation Fund Program

Chris Schmiesing, City planner presented the Staff Report.

The State of Ohio Development Service agency provides financial assistant to local governments for the purpose of addressing local needs. The City of Piqua desire to participate as a collaborative partner to receive financial assistant under the Ohio Development Services Agency Local Government Innovation Fund Program, create a regional development/tourism plan for an east-west corridor between Dark County through Miami County and tying into Champaign County multiuse trails.

The cost for such activities shall not exceed $55,0000 including an in-kind or monetary match of no more than $1,000 to be provided by the City of Piqua. The Miami County Parks District has the authority to apply for financial assistance, and has agreed to serve as the primary or lead applicant for the project, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

Several questions were raised on the various areas the bike path would be extended t, and how the money will be used. Mr. Schmiesing answered all questions. City Manager Huff stated this is a great opportunity for the City of Piqua.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-104-14.


RES. NO. R-105-14

A resolution authorizing the Power System to proceed with expenditures incidental to the elimination of the DP&L Substation on South Main Street

Chris Schmiesing, City Planner provided the Staff Report.

The City of Piqua negotiated terms to provide for the demolition of the DP&L Substation located at 104 S. Main Street, just south of the recreational trail. The terms provide for the City of Piqua Power System to cover the expense of installing a new DP&L facility on Piqua-Troy Road that is necessary to allow for the S. Main Street substation facility, and eventually all of the DP&L infrastructure along the river near Lock Nine Park to be vacated. Once the new facility on Piqua-Troy Road is completed DP&L will turn over the ownership of the substation on S. Main to the City and the Piqua Power System will demolish the vacated substation structure and incidental equipment, stated Mr. Schmiesing. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) will be completed prior to taking possession and subsequent Phase II ESA will be necessary to determine the scope of the cleanup work required to abate any undesirable environmental
conditions found on the property. The Energy Board unanimously recommended the Commission authorize reimbursing DP&L for costs associated with the elimination of the DP&L Main Street substation at a cost not to exceed $60,000, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-105-14.


RES. NO. R-106-14

A Resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement

Chris Schmiesing, City Planner provided the Staff Report.

In 2013 the Development Department secured a grant for technical assistance and funding from the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) for a planning process that evaluated the challenges and identified opportunities for the Historic East Piqua area. In 2014 the Development Department received additional funding from ATSDR to complete the next step in the initial planning document which includes completing a feasibility study and a master plan. The planning project will include community engagement and stakeholder meeting to produce a plan for redeveloping the corridor into the community and the surrounding neighborhoods, stated Mr. Schmiesing. The ATSDR grant provides 100% of the funding necessary for complete this project, and there is no local match required and will complement the River Front and Downtown plans.

City Manager Huff stated this is a great opportunity to revitalize the Downtown and River Front area as this is very important to our economic development.

Mayor Fess inquired if the Piqua School Board has made a decision if they are going to move into another building yet? City Manager Huff stated they are not moving for at least two years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-106-14.


RES. NO. R-107-14

A resolution authorizing preliminary legislation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the replacement of the traffic signals on US Route 36 at Looney Road, Scott Drive/Centre Court and the two I-75 entrance/exit ramps

Doug Harter, Public Works Director provided the Staff Report.

Mr. Harter stated this project was originally set by ODOT back in 2013 as a traffic signal upgrade to the two traffic Signals on US 36 at the I-75 exit/entrance ramps with no involvement by the City of Piqua. The City Commission passed legislation at that time for the project. Since that time, ODOT approached the City to see if we would be interested in replacing the traffic signals at Looney Road and Scott Drive/Centre Court at the same time. ODOT offered to provide all of the design services necessary for the design of the City traffic signals and they would bid the project
also. The existing traffic signals will be replaced with decorative mast arms and will include emergency preemption and video detection.

The City will be responsible for paying the entire cost of the traffic signal construction at Scott Dr./Centre Court and Looney Road. The city will also be responsible for paying the difference in the cost to upgrade to the decorative mast arms at the two signalized ramp intersections.

City Manager Huff stated ODOT is very impressed with the City’s improvements at Rt. 36, and this is a great opportunity to complete the work.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-107-14.


RES. NO. R-108-14

A Resolution authorizing participation in Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) cooperative purchasing program

Doug Harter, Public Works Director provided the Staff Report.

Mr. Harter stated in order for the City to participate in the ODOT cooperative bid process the City must pass a resolution and submit it to the ODOT Administrator in the Office of Contract for approval. One this is approved it will remain in effect for two years for use by any City Department. This resolution will allow for purchase of machinery materials, supplies or articles, stated Mr. Harter.

Several questions were raised concerning the bids and asked if the salt was included.

Mr. Harter answered all questions. City Manager Huff explained that salt is a critical issue, and provided a brief overview. We will hold a City Commission Work Session in the near future and will cover the salt issue, stated City Manager Huff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-108-14.


RES. NO. R-109-14

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Asphalt Systems, Inc. (ASI) for the purchase of crack sealing services for the Street Department

Doug Harter, Public Works Director provided the Staff Report.

Mr. Harter stated the city would like to hire ASI to provide crack sealing on the streets listed in Exhibit A. This will help restore and preserve the asphalt on these streets. We also obtained a proposal from ASI taking advantage of the ODOT contract available to local governments. All ODOT contracts are competitively bid and this particular contract runs through 1/31/15. We also went on step further to show this is a good price by obtaining a quote from American Pavements Inc. which was considerably higher, stated Mr. Harter.
Amy Havenar, City Engineer provided further information on the street projects that will be taking place in the near future. Further stating the city was waiting on Vectren to complete their repairs before starting the street projects.

**PUBLICCOMMENT**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-109-14.


**RES. NO. R-110-14**

A Resolution of authorization to submit an application for Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required for the N. Main Streetscape Project

Amy Havenar, City Engineer provided the Staff Report.

Ms. Havenar stated this resolution would allow the City Manager for file an application with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for funding in the amount of $200,000.00 for the N. Main Street Streetscape Project. The project will consist of installation of new streetscape features between Greene Street and North Street including new curbing, brick pavers, new sidewalk, light poles and streetscape furniture. The project is currently under design and is scheduled to start construction in the spring of 2016, stated Ms. Havenar.

Several questions were raised about the use of American Flags in the area, if stamped concrete would be used, Ms. Havenar answered all questions. City Manager Huff provided further information on the streetscape project.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-110-14.


**Monthly Reports**

Monthly Reports for August 2014 were accepted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Jenkins, Westview Drive, came forward and thanked the city for the notice of the modification and removal of the traffic signal at College and High, Mr. Jenkins asked if this had to come before the City Commission In the form of a resolution to remove the traffic signals. City Manager Huff stated no, it goes before the Planning Commission.

Mr. Jenkins inquired about the other signals on College Street at Ash, Greene, and North. City Planner Chris Schmiesing explained.

Mr. Jenkins also voiced his concern over the traffic modification on County Road 25-A, and asked how many other streets in Piqua would be getting bike lanes in the future?
City Manager Huff explained, further stating he appreciates Mr. Jenkins concerns, but stands behind the decision to make the modifications. Mr. Huff stated the city has had site selectors come in and they cited the city for not having bike lanes, and encourage the riverfront development. The sole purposed is to help our community grow, stated City Manager Huff.

Brad Boehringer, Mound Street came forward and voiced his concern over the modification of County Road 25-A.

Mayor Fess stated Columbus have a large number of bike lanes installed for individuals to ride to work, and etc. Mayor Fess stated she feels bad that the City Manager is being attacked for trying to help Piqua grow.

City Manager Huff stated he just returned from the International City Manager Association and one of the things that help communities grow are the Bike Paths and the use of bike lanes to connect the community.

Mayor Fess stated she wants the city to continue to grow and the City Manager is working to make this happen.

Mayor Fess stated she appreciates Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Boehringer’s comments.

Mike Sloan, Delaware came forward and stated he is very much in favor of the changes that are being made for the safety of the bicyclists in the community. Mr. Schmiesing stated that Mr. Sloan is a member of the Downtown Design Review Board.

Jim Hemmert, Boone Street, came forward voiced his opinion on changing the traffic pattern at College and Wood streets, and it is working well. Mr. Hemmert stated his son lives in Indiana and rides his bike to work as they have quite a few bike lanes in their community. Further voicing his support of the bike lanes in Piqua.

Mr. Hemmert stated the Bob Shook Bridge is open now connecting Piqua and Troy so you can now ride your bike all the way to Columbus.

Mr. Hemmert announced the MainStreet Grovey Gourd Ride is scheduled for October 11, and encouraged citizens to come out and ride the bike path. People will be coming from all around our community to ride our bike path.

City Planner Chris Schmiesing announced the Buckeye Trail Association and North Country Trail Association has designated Piqua as a Trail Town. Piqua is only the fourth community in Ohio to attain Trail Town status, a designation that recognizes those communities situated along the Buckeye Trail and North Country Trail that support hikers with services, promote the Trail to its citizens and embrace the Trail as a resource to be protected and celebrated. A dedication ceremony will be held at French Park on October 23, at 12:00 noon. Mr. Schmiesing further stated a Community Hike on the Piqua Trail is scheduled for October 25, meeting at Johnston Farm at 8:30 A.M. Mr. Schmiesing invited citizens to join the dedication ceremony and to join in hiking the trail.

Russ Fashner, Forrest Avenue, came forward to thank the City of Piqua, the staff, and the City Commission for holding the Commission Work Session for help with the Piqua Bike Fest. Mr. Fashner thanked Police Chief Jamison and Law Director Stacy Wall for all their support and help on putting together the Bike Fest. Mr. Fashner also thanked the Downtown Merchants and the citizens of Piqua for their support. The Piqua Bike Fest was a huge success do the support of the City of Piqua, the city staff, the Downtown merchants, and the citizens of Piqua, stated Mr. Fashner.

City Manager Huff stated the Bike Fest had tremendous weather, a great crowd with little issues,
and the one they had was local resident, and have not had one complaint. Mayor Fess stated she was unable to attend but only heard good comments and no complaints, also asking if they were going to do it again next year. Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Fashner and his committee for doing an outstanding job on the Piqua Bike Fest.

Mike Gutmann, Marymont Drive came forward and congratulated the Bike Fest Committee for doing an outstanding job.

Mr. Gutmann announced the Miami Valley Bicycling Summit will be held in Piqua in May of 2015, and provided a little background on the summit. Mr. Gutmann stated more information will be coming closer to the time of the Summit.

Mr. Gutmann voiced his support for the modification of the new bike lanes on County Road 25A. Mr. Gutmann feels it regulates traffic better coming into the city, and commends the city for taking the action to make the modifications.

Mayor Fess stated there were quite a large number of people that attended the previous summit and knows it will be a great success.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

City Manager Huff announced the Power Plant Riverfront Project is complete and an official reopening ceremony is set for October 16, 2014, and commended all of the staff that worked on the project.

The City of Piqua received a Trail Town designation and the dedication ceremony will take place on October 23, 2014 at 12:00 noon at French Park. The City of Piqua is only the fourth community in Ohio to receive this designation, stated City Manager Huff.

The Positively Promoting Piqua group is sponsoring an education film the Public Safety Levy on the November Ballot on October 16 from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., at the Ft. Piqua Plaza to provide information on the up-coming levy issue.

Habitat for Humanity will have a house dedication and blessing on the house located at 638 Boone Street on October 12 at 12:00 P.M.

The Fire Department and Police Department will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 11th from 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week and invited citizens to stop in and meet the personal.

On October 9th, the Ohio’s Great Corridor meeting will be held in Downtown Piqua to tour the Riverfront Redevelopment area. The walking tour begins at 5:30 P.M. at the Don Gentile statue on the square and invited citizens to attend.

City Manager Huff announced there will not be a City Commission Work Session on Thursday, October the 9th as there are agenda items at this time.

Commissioner Wilson stated someone asked him if the Safety Levy passed would the money only be used for safety services. City Manager Huff stated yes only for safety services, and explained.

Mayor Fess commented on the Committee that is being headed by Kazy Hinds of getting the information out to the citizens on why the Safety Levy is so important at this time.

City Manager Huff stated the Police and Fire Department do an outstanding job and provided several statistics on crime and fire runs. Our fire and rescue services are going up about 20% each year.
COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Wilson thanked all who helped with the Piqua Bike Fest and Down the River Down - Down a Beer, activities further stating you would not know both of these events were first year events.

Commissioner Wilson stated he had a question on traffic flow issues, and would like to see these come before the City Commission for approval in the future. Commissioner Wilson further stated he feels it would help publicize the changes that will be taking place a little more, such as the recent issue on Co. Rd. 25-A.

Mayor Fess stated this will be better discussed in a future work session.

City Engineer Amy Havenar stated this went through the Planning Commission and had their endorsement and further explained the process.

Commissioner Terry stated she has received several comments regarding the changes on the County Road 25-A changes. Constant garage sales are a problem; there are Zoning Bulletins on the City of Piqua website outlining the rules and regulations for having garage sales. Remember when having a garage sale to be a good neighbor and consider them when having a garage sale, stated Commissioner Terry.

Commissioner Terry showed a picture of a home on Lindsey Street that has a lot of trash and debris out front, and asked citizens not to put their trash out until the night before pickup. Commissioner Terry stated she is so pleased to know there are so many residents that take pride in their properties. Also there is a house across the street form 901 Camp Street that has vegetation growing up all around the property and is such blight in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Terry also congratulated the Rotarians for their 100 years of service to the Community.

Commissioner Terry said she was happy to see the Walk to School/Work Proclamation and encouraged the students to walk to school.

Commissioner Terry congratulated the Piqua Bike Fest Committee on a very successful event, and of course the weather was beautiful. Down the River - Down A Beer fund raiser was a great success and thanked all for the support.

Commissioner Martin thanked and congratulated all the citizens that help and do things for the City of Piqua from planning the events and attending these events.

Commissioner Vogt asked citizens to pay attention and drive carefully on the city streets. The changes that were made on County Rd. 25-A has ded the race track that it had become.

Economic Development will grow with having bike lanes in the community as they attract young families to the community, stated Commissioner Vogt.

Commissioner Vogt stated he does not like the negative comments that were voiced, and asked citizens to stop second guessing City Manager Huff, and City Commission and City staff.

Mayor Fess stated she and her husband have been quite ill recently thanking all the citizens and the community for all of their thoughts and prayers during their illness. Piqua is a great place to work and live, and she is very proud to serve the community, stated Mayor Fess.

______________________________
LUCINDA L. FESS. MAYOR

PASSED: ______________________

ATTEST: ______________________
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION