MINUTES  
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, OCTOBER 6, 2015 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 Fess called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Terry, Wilson, Vogt, Martin. Absent: None.

Residence Pride Awards

Faye Shaw  724 Broadway  
John & Linda Lange  400 Gill Street  
Brent & Chanda Victor  1010 Hancock Street  
Charlyne Jamieson  25 Marymont Drive  
Josh & Elaine Worley  925 Washington Avenue

Mayor Fess read the names of the Residence Pride winners while pictures of their homes were shown. Mayor Fess congratulated all of the Residence Pride Award winners, further stating she appreciates all the time and effort they put into maintaining their properties.

Anyone interested in nominating a home for the Residence Pride Award can contact the City Manager’s Office at 937-778-2051, or go on line to the Piqua website for an application.

PROCLAMATIONS

Walk to School Day – Accepting: Chris Schmiesing, City Planner

Mayor Fess read the proclamation and presented it to Chris Schmiesing, Cindy Pearson, and Jim Hemmert.

Mr. Schmiesing provided a brief overview of the Walk to School Program.

Community Planning Month – Accepting: Chris Schmiesing, City Planner

Mayor Fess read the proclamation and presented it to Chris Schmiesing, Stu Shear, Gary Koening, and Cindy Pearson.

Mr. Schmiesing thanked all of the Board Members of the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Downtown District Design Review Board for their work on these boards.

City Manager Huff recognized City Planner Chris Schmiesing for his leadership skills.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the September 15, 2015 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

RES. NO. R-133-15

A Resolution of Appreciation for the Public Service of Michael J. Fischbach as a City Employee

Mayor Fess read the Resolution of Appreciation and presented it to Cindy Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager to give to Mr. Fischbach who was unable to attend.

Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, to approve the Consent Agenda. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Fess, Wilson, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared the Consent Agenda approved.
OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 11-15 (2nd Reading)
An Ordinance granting to Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. and Indiana Gas Company, as tenants in common, their successors and assigns, a gas franchise in the City of Piqua, State of Ohio, for a period of five (5) years, automatically renewing for additional periods of five (5) years unless notice is given, commencing on the effective date of this Ordinance.

Stacy Wall, Law Director, provided the Staff Report.

The original franchise agreement was dated November 15, 1887. No other changes have been made to it other than a name change, and have had no changes to the terms and conditions. Vectren has been in the process of attempting to standardize franchise agreements with all municipalities for operational purposes, and submitted a proposed draft of the new terms and conditions. After review of the draft by City Engineer Amy Havenar and Law Director Wall they are both in favor of the proposed franchise agreement to update the terms and bring it into compliance with the current relationship and process between the City of Piqua and Vectren. In addition to the changes, Vectren continues to be required to follow any other City, State or Federal requirement or regulations. Vectren was more than willing to consider the City’s proposed changes and recommendations, and the parties mutually agreed upon the proposed terms, stated Ms. Wall.

Ordinance No. 11-15 was given a second reading.

RES. NO. R-128-15 (TABLED 9-16-15)
A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with Korda/Nemeth Engineering, Inc. for the Engineering Design Services for the East Ash Street Bikeway project

Motion was made by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Mayor Fess, to bring Resolution No. 128-15 off the table. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Fess. Nay: Martin, Vogt, and Wilson. Motion was defeated by a 3-2 vote to bring Resolution No. R-128-15 off the table. City Manager Huff stated there will be a Work Session held to discuss the Resolution next week.

Resolution No. R-128-15 remained tabled at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-134-15
A Resolution of intent to vacate public right of way

Chris Schmiesing, City Planner provided the Staff Report.

The applicant desires to vacate a platted portion of an alley right of way between Main Street and Wayne Street. The subject right of way is not currently being used for public purposes. This is the first step in the process to vacate the platted alley right of way, stated Mr. Schmiesing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-134-15.

RES. NO. R-135-15
A Resolution authorizing preliminary legislation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the programming of the US Route 36 (East Ash Street) Bikeway/Pedestrian Facility Project

City Manager Huff stated this is an accessory resolution to Resolution No. R-128-15 and should be tabled at this time.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-135-15.


RES. NO. R-136-15
A Resolution of authorization to submit applications for Federal Map-21 Funds through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

Amy Havenar, City Manager provided the Staff Report.

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission is in the process of soliciting for new transportation projects using MVRPC regionally controlled federal funds. The project identified for submission is the resurfacing of Covington Avenue (US Route 36) from Sunset Drive to College Street. (STP Resurfacing Program). The STP Resurfacing Program is a program that sets aside a certain amount of STP Funds to fund Federally eligible simple resurfacing projects.

The City has committed the necessary resources to support the local cost portion of the project with the local match being $170,689, of the total cost of $682,757. The project will consist of milling and overlaying of the roadway, from west of Sunset Drive to College Street, with new asphalt surface, installation of ADA compliant handicap ramps where applicable, adjustment of manholes, pavement repair, and placement of all new pavement marking within the project limits, said Ms. Havenar.

The Resolution includes a statement requesting an exemption to the Complete Streets Policy due to the fact that this project is resurfacing on an existing cross section, only, and not a new project, stated Ms. Havenar.

City Manager Huff provided additional information regarding the resurfacing project.

Commissioner Vogt stated this is the 13th year since the street has been rebuilt and it is deteriorating.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-135-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-137-15
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 New Central Zone Water Tower Project

Amy Havenar, City Engineer, provided the Staff Report.

This resolution would allow the City Manager to file an application with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for funding in the amount of $1,075,000 for the New Central Zone Water Tower Project.
The project will consist of the construction of a new 1 million gallon Water Storage Tank (WST) at the south end of the City, and will replace 2 250,000 gallon deteriorated water storage tanks. The project will also include the demolition of the two existing tanks as well as the installation of a new water main to tie the proposed tank in to the existing water system. The project us currently under design and is scheduled to start construction in the summer of 2016, stated Ms. Havenar.

Commissioner Vogt inquired as to the location of the two water towers that were to be taken down.

Don Friesther, Water Plant Superintendent stated the water tower on Spring Street, and the Water Tower on South Main by the Power Plant. Mr. Friesther also provided additional information regarding the new tower.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-137-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-138-15
A Resolution awarding a contract to Grissom Construction, LLC for the Garnsey Street Sidewalk Replacement Project

Justin Sommer, Economic Development Director/Assistant City Manager, provided the Staff Report.

Last year the City Commission authorized the City Manager for approval of an application for Community Development Block Grant funding to be used for sidewalk and curb replacements on Garnsey Street. The initial application called for the 300 and 400 blocks of Garnsey Street. Upon further review of the sidewalk condition it was determined that only a portion of the sidewalks needed replaced. Grissom Construction LLC was awarded the contract in July of 2015 for $39,958.45 for the work in the 300 and 400 blocks of Garnsey Street. The grant amount was $60,000, so there are funds available to extend the project into the 200 block of Garnsey Street. The project was bid out again for the additional work, and Grissom Construction LLC was the lowest and best bidder. This Resolution will allow the City to fulfill the terms of the grant agreement. We are asking for the additional $3,500 to cover the additional work and allow for contingencies to complete the project. The amount on the Resolution should be $63,500 not $60,000, and will need to be amended at this time, stated Mr. Sommer.


Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-138-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-139-15
A Resolution authorizing a contract with Gamble Associates Architecture + Urban Planning to perform Professional Urban Design Services for the Downtown Riverfront Park and Placemaking Improvements Design Development

Chris Schmiesing, City Planner, provided the Staff Report.
This contract will provide services necessary to complete the Downtown Riverfront Park and Placemaking Improvements Design Development. This task was identified as one of the three catalytic actions recommended by the Riverfront District Development Strategy. Completion of this design phase will ready the project for the preparation of construction and bidding documents. RFP’s were sent out and after interviews with three different companies, Gamble Associates was chosen as the best choice for the project.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the Riverfront Park area and Lock 9 Park. Mr. Schmiesing answered all the questions.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-139-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-140-15 Amended 10-1-2015
A Resolution authorizing the purchase of 110 E. Ash Street, Parcel No. N44-000895

Stacy Wall, Law Director, provided information regarding the need and reason for the amendment to the Resolution at this time.

Justin Sommer, Economic Development Director provided the Staff Report.

The property is a key parcel in regards to the redevelopment envisioned for the former Miami & Erie Canal corridor. This property sits on canal land and will be used for public purpose to support the surrounding development. Negotiations with the property have produced terms and conditions acceptable to both parties and resulted in a purchase agreement that expire in October of 2015. The City Manager is authorized to purchase Parcel No. N44-000895 for an amount not to exceed $55,000, stated Mr. Sommer.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the additional fees, and if the property is part of the Conservancy property. Ms. Wall and Mr. Sommer provided answers to the questions.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-140-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-141-15
An Emergency Resolution to amend the agreement with J & J Schlaegel, Inc. for the off-site pipeline project

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

The off-site pipeline portion of the new Water Treatment Plan Project will allow for the construction of a new raw water lines, finished water lines, and a new sludge line along SR 66. This project is needed to tie pipeline for the new Water Treatment Plant into our existing system, stated Mr. Friesthler.

After the start of the project, discoveries were made that require changes to the construction plans. These changes require additional material and labor to complete the work as needed. This resolution is an emergency resolution due to material lead time and construction time lines. The Agreement with
J&J Schlaegel, Inc. for the Off-Site Pipeline Project needs to be amended in the amount of $54,719.43, stated Mr. Friesthler.

Commissioner Terry asked if there would be other extra items that may come up in the future. Mr. Friesthler explained.

City Manager Huff there may be some other change orders but we have also had some credits and this usually balances out.

**Public Comment**

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-141-15 at this time.


**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Fess stated the public comment section of the meeting is not to ask specific questions, but to make comments and concerns.

Russ Fashner, Forest Avenue, came forward stating there is a lot action going on out along State Route 66 with the new Water Plant construction.

Mr. Fashner also provided a brief overview of the Piqua BikeFest that took place September 19 7 20th in downtown Piqua. Mr. Fashner thanked the various city departments and department heads, along with all of sponsors and the countless volunteers who helped make the Piqua BikeFest a success this year.

Mayor Fess stated it was an amazing event and thanked Mr. Fashner for all of his hard work and time he put into the BikeFest, further stating she could not believe the number food vendors and people who attended the event.

Jim Hemmert, Boone Street, came forward and provide a brief overview of the Bike to Work Week activities, and the Cyclovia that was held on Saturday, September 26, 2015 downtown Piqua.

Mr. Hemmert also commended the City on the recent repairs that were made to Caldwell and Greene Street recently.

Mr. Hemmert stated he would like to see a connector from the proper part of Piqua out to the Educational Complexes that would include the pedestrian bikeway across the river. When the City Commission is holding the Work Session on the bikeway to consider the safety of the pedestrians and bicyclist who travel that way.

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Hemmert for all he does for the community, and all the volunteers who help, this could not be done without them.

Nick Alexander, S. Roosevelt came forward stating Piqua is on the National Bike Route, and is the last leg of the route. This will bring a lot of visitors coming thru Piqua to eat, drink, and spend money in the stores. Mr. Alexander also voiced his concern about the items that were tabled. Mayor Fess stated she wanted to wish City Manager Huff a very Happy Birthday, and was glad he chose to spend this time with them.

**City Manager’s Report**

City Manager Huff stated he wanted to congratulate the Piqua Power Plant on their National Awards.
City Manager Huff announced the Zollinger Building located on S. Wayne Street, has been approved by the Ohio Historic Site Advisory Board for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and makes it historic tax credits for development. City Manager Huff thanked Mr. Sommer and the development staff for putting this together.

The City will receive a reimbursement in the amount of $15,466.24 as a result of the Road Salt settlement by the Ohio Attorney General. This money will go back into the Street Fund for various other uses.

City Manager Huff congratulated several local businesses on their anniversaries and achievements. They include Polysource on their 25th Anniversary, Hartzell Industries on their 140th Anniversary, and French Oil being recognized by the State Treasurer as an outstanding Ohio Manufacture.

Don Friesther provided a brief overview of the reason for the lowering of Hydraulic System, which should take about 3 weeks to complete the process of installing new gates.

**Commissioners Comments**

Commissioner Wilson provided a little bit of his view of the background on the tabled items, and stated he would like to get public input.

Commissioner Terry congratulated the Residence Pride Award winners, and Mike Fischbach.

Commissioner Terry announced Meet the Candidate Night will be held at on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:30 at the Piqua YWCA. This is a good chance to meet the candidates, and learn about the issues.

City Manager Huff announced Bridge Builders will be holding a community discussion on race, protection, and community development on October 15, at 6:00 P.M. at the Piqua Plaza.

Mayor Fess congratulated Chris Schmiesing on his son being named Homecoming King at Piqua High School.

City Manager Huff also stated Mallory Havenar, City Engineer Amy Havenar’s daughter, who is a fourth grade, was in the audience. She stated she likes to attend the Commission meetings to see how government works. Mallory was named Treasurer at her school recently.

Mayor Fess stated the Piqua BikeFest was an amazing event and thanked everyone who helped.

Mayor Fess also attended the Hartzell 140th Anniversary event, and stated she appreciates the efforts of Hartzell in the community. Mayor Fess also congratulated the Hartzell family on the induction of Robert Hartzell into the Aviation Hall of Fame. This is a great honor for the Hartzell family and the community, stated Mayor Fess.

Mayor Fess also congratulated Mike Fischbach on his retirement.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 8:45 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Fess, Martin, Wilson, and Terry. Nay: None.

______________________________
LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: ______________________
ATTEST: _______________________
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION