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, and Martin. Absent: None.

PROCLAMATIONS

OATH OF OFFICE PIQUA FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE CHIEF - BRENT ERIC POHLSCHNEIDER

Law Director Stacy Wall administered the Oath of Office for Fire Chief to Brent Eric Pohlschneider.

OATH OF OFFICE – PIQUA POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LIEUTENANT – WILLIAM D. WEAVER

Law Director Stacy Wall administered the Oath of Office for Police Lieutenant to William D. Weaver.

RECOGNITION OF THE VALOR AWARD WINNERS FROM THE PIQUA FIRE DEPARTMENT
PRESENTER – FIRE CHIEF POHLSCHNEIDER
PIQUA FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC RECIPIENTS – BRAD WEER & JOSH SULLENBERGER

City Manager Huff provided a brief overview of the criteria for the Medal of Valor Awards by the State, further stating there are eight total Piqua Firefighter/Paramedics who have received this distinguished award, two retired and six active. This is the highest award to receive in Ohio, and is a great honor to receive it.

Fire Chief Brent Pohlschneider read from the Medal of Valor Award the actions the two firefighters took in rescuing a woman trapped on the second floor in a house fire on June 24, 2015. This award is not taken lightly and is a great honor to receive, stated Chief Pohlschneider. Further praising the two firefighters for the confidence and dedication to their jobs they displayed that day.

Mayor Fess stated she is very proud of the two firefighters and the Piqua Fire Department.

PROCLMATION ON PIQUA CITIZEN JOURNEY – ACCEPTING MR. SHEA SELSOR

Mayor Fess read the proclamation recognizing the journey of Forest Schoessow, Shea Selsor, and Alex Ross who paddled the entire length of the great Mississippi River. This adventure began on May 20, in Lake Itasca, Minn., and ended July 27, 2015 in the Gulf of Mexico traveling 2,340 miles. Mayor Fess presented the Proclamation to the parents of the three young men as they were unable to attend the meeting.

A letter from Forest Schoessow was read by his father encouraging residents to pursue river stewardship.

Mayor Fess congratulated all three of the recipients, further stating your boys are amazing and we are very proud of their accomplishments. We here in Piqua have been working very hard to develop our riverfront for future use, stated Mayor Fess.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the October 6, 2015 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.
Moved by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Vogt, 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 (3rd 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.

Ms. Wall stated this is the third reading for the franchise agreement with Vectren. 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 11-15 at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, that Ordinance No. 11-15 be adopted. Roll call, Aye: Martin, Fess, Wilson, Terry, and Vogt. Nay, None. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Fess then declared Ordinance No. 11-15 adopted.


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

The E. Ash Street Bikeway Project will consist of the construction of a multi-use path from Scott Drive/Centre Court to Looney Road on the north side of US Route 36. The separated shared use path will generally utilize the alignment of the existing sidewalk, with a widened sidewalk and vehicular barrier added to the north US Route 36 bridge over I-75, stated Ms. Havenar. The project will tie into the multiuse path being designed and ultimately constructed as a part of the Ohio Department of Transportation’s US Route 36 bridge improvement project over the Great Miami River. ODOT will bid both projects simultaneously to ensure coordination between the two projects stated Ms. Havenar. As with all projects utilizing federal money the consultants must be on ODOTs prequalified consultants list, and Korda/Nemeth Engineering Inc. is on that list.

The City has secured Transportation Alternative funding from the Federal Highway Administration of up to $350,000 for the construction of the project. The engineering design would begin immediately with the project construction scheduled for the summer of 2018, stated Ms. Havenar.

Commissioner Vogt stated he was satisfied with the information he received about the project at the recent Work Session and is ready to move forward.
Commissioner Martin mentioned a resident stated he thought Commissioner’s Martin, Vogt and Wilson were against the Bike Path, and we are not, said Commissioner Martin. We just wanted some more information in regards to the multi-use path before moving forward, and the Work Session provided the answers to the questions, stated Commissioner Martin.

Commissioner Wilson stated this will run from the Mall entry to Scot Drive to Looney Rd. This will allow the current sidewalks to be widened, and a vehicle barrier will be added to the bridge. This will protect the pedestrians and the bicycle riders as they go through the area.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-128-15 at this time.


RES. NO. R-135-15 (Tabled 10-6-2015)
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 companion legislation to Resolution No. R-128-15 authorizing ODOT to proceed with the project.

Public Comment

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


RES. NO. R-142-15
A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into a contract with Burch Hydro, Inc. for Wastewater Plant Biosolids contract extension for three (3) years

Wastewater Plant Superintendent Dave Davis provided the Staff Report.

In October 2013 the City entered into a 3 year contract with Burch Hydro to manage the Biosolids Removal & Land Application for the Wastewater Plant with the option to extend for an additional 3 years if agreed on pricing. This 3 year extension would carry us through 2018, stated Mr. Davis. Due to a change in the State of Ohio Biosolids Rule 503, applications rates are to be followed for the application of Phosphorus, due to the algae conditions at Lake St, Mary’s and Lake Erie. The increase is lower than the last 3 year extension overall. Burch Hydro has been the applicator for 9 years now, and when we bid in 2013 they were the only bid we received, stated Mr. Davis.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the use of Phosphorus and asked Mr. Davis to explain how it is used. Mr. Davis provided additional information regarding the use of Phosphorus.

Public Comment

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-142-15 at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Koenig, Peregrine Place, came forward stating he is a candidate for 5th Ward Commissioner and Mayor. The Piqua YWCA will be hosting the meet the candidate night on Wednesday, October 21 at the YWCA at 7:30 P.M. and invited citizens to attend. Also Mr. Koenig stated he will be on the WPTW Morning Show on Thursday morning, October 22, 2015 from 7:45 to 8:30 A.M.

Jim Hemmert, Boone Street, came forward and provided a brief update on the Groovy Gourd Bike Ride held on Saturday, October 17th, 2015, besides having great weather there was a good turnout of participants.

Mayor Fess thanked Mr. Hemmert for the update.


Monthly Reports were accepted.

City Manager’s Report

City Manager Huff stated he had nothing to report at this time.

Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Vogt congratulated both Fire Chief Pohlschneider and Police Lieutenant William Weaver on their appointments, and congratulated Firefighter’s Brad Weer and Josh Sullenberger on their Medal of Valor Award, stating they are true heroes. Further congratulating Shea Selsor, Forest Schoessow, and Alex Ross on their journey down the Mississippi River.

Commissioner Terry congratulated Fire Chief Brent Pohlschneider, Police Lieutenant William Weaver, Brad Weer and Josh Sullenberger, and Shea Selsor, Alex Ross and Forest Schoessow on their promotions, accomplishments, and awards.

Commissioner Terry also reminded citizens to attend the Meet the Candidate Night at the Piqua YWCA on Wednesday October 21, 2015 at 7:30 to hear information on the ballot issues, and the candidates.

Commissioner Wilson reminded citizens to get out and vote on November 3, 2015.

Commissioner Wilson also congratulated the three young men on completing their journey down the Mississippi River, stating it must have been a very unique journey.

Commissioner Wilson stated he observed several young students pulling weeds and raking leaves on the square recently and asked them where they were from. They stated they were students at Lehman High School and were doing public service work for the community. Commissioner Wilson thanked them for their efforts and invited them to come back anytime.

Mayor Fess stated she attend the Piqua Band Invitational and was truly amazed at the various band programs, and all of the work they put into their performances.

Mayor Fess also reminded citizens to attend Meet the Candidate Night on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.
Adjournment to Executive Session

To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline or compensation of the City Manager.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting into Executive Session at 8:20 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Vogt, Terry, Martin, Wilson, and Fess. Nay: None.

Moved Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin to enter Executive Session at 8:22 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Vogt, Fess, and Terry. Nay; None.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn from the Executive Session at 9:40 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Martin, Wilson, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None.

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LUCINDA L. FESS, MAYOR

PASSED: ______________________  

ATTEST: ______________________

REBECCA J. COOL  
CLERK OF COMMISSION