MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, December 15, 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 her last meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Terry, Wilson, Martin, and Vogt. Absent: None.

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Presentation

Vice Mayor Vogt read and presented a plaque to Mayor Fess thanking her for her service and dedication to the Piqua Community.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the December 1, 2015 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 12-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance repealing Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

Elaine Barton, Human Resource Director, provided the Staff Report.

Ms. Barton stated this is the third reading for Ordinance No. 12-15. The employees covered by Schedule A (non-union) will receive a 2% increase in 2016. This has been included in the 2016 appropriations and is the third reading of the Ordinance.


ORD. NO. 13-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance repealing Schedule A-1 of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A-1 of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

Elaine Barton, Human Resource Director, provided the Staff Report.

This is the third reading of Ordinance No. 13-15. For the past several years it has been more difficult to recruit and retain lifeguards for the Piqua Pool due in part to the cost of the certification. Previously, there were pay increases for each step for lifeguards, but due to the increases in minimum wages the difference between the steps became smaller. Schedule A-1 adjusts those steps. The pay for Assistant Pool Manager and also been adjusted, and an additional step has been added to hose employees who work at the golf course in the club house and attending carts, stated Ms. Barton.

ORD. NO. 14-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance repealing Chapter 33.08 and enacting a new Chapter 33.08 of the Piqua Code, relating to Employee Insurance

Elaine Barton, Human Resource Director, provided the Staff Report.

Ms. Barton stated this is the third reading for Ordinance No. 14-15. The changes to Chapter 33.08 reflect the new benefit year of 2016, everything else in Chapter 33.08 remains the same.


ORD. NO. 15-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 33-66, relating to the Municipal Income Tax

Cindy Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager, provided the Staff Report.

This is the third reading of Ordinance No. 15-15. With the passage of HB5 in December 2014, and the required creation of a new income tax Chapter 38, there is a need to update the ordinance to keep in conformity with the new tax code beginning January 1, 2016.


ORD. NO. 16-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance to make appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2016

Cindy Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager, provided the Staff Report.

Ms. Holtzapple stated this is the third reading of Ordinance No. 16-15. Each year the City is required to present and pass the 2016 Annual Budget by the end of the year. This is the second of three readings of the Ordinance. The City Commission reviewed the Department Budgets on November 19, 2015 at a public meeting.


ORD. NO. 17-15 (3rd Reading)
An Ordinance to vacate a portion of Public Right-of-Way

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

This is the third reading of Ordinance No 17-15. The applicant is requesting 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 use for public purposes. The Planning Commission held the Public Hearing on November 10, with a few of the neighbors in attendance, all were in favor of vacating the right of way, stated Mr. Sommer.

ORD. NO. 18-15 (2nd Reading)
An Ordinance Creating Chapter 38 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Piqua Regarding Municipal Income Tax

Cindy Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager, provided the Staff Report.

With the passage of HB5 in December of 2014 an ordinance is required to create a new income tax Chapter 38 beginning January 1, 2016. The major changes are the requirement of a Net Operating Loss (NOL) Carryforward, which will be phased in effective with taxable years after January 1, 2017, the causal entrant rule will go from 12-20 days, penalty and interest charge are uniform, and the minimum collection/refund amount goes from $5.00 to $10.00. Other minor changes were already incorporated into our current ordinance, stated Ms. Holtzapple.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Terry, that the rule requiring Ordinance No. 18-15 be read fully and distinctly on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Terry, Wilson, Vogt, Fess, and Martin. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.


NEW BUSINESS

ORD. NO. 19-15 (1st Reading)
An Emergency Ordinance to make Appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2015

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, that the rule requiring Ordinance No. 19-15 be read fully and distinctly on three separate days be suspended. Roll call, Aye: Fess, Vogt, Terry, Martin, and Wilson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.


RES. NO. R-155-15
A Resolution authorizing transfers of cash from the General Fund to the other funds for the Fiscal year 2015

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager provided the Staff Report.

The Auditor of State Ohio Compliance Supplement requires that transfers require a resolution authorizing the transfers. This is the required Resolution to make the transfer of funds from the Originating Funds to the respective Funds, and not to exceed the Appropriation Ordinance 17-14.


RES. No. R-156-15
A Resolution authorizing transfers of cash from the General Fund to the other funds for the Fiscal year 2016

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager provided the Staff Report.

The Auditor of State Ohio Compliance Supplement requires that transfers require a resolution authorizing the transfers. This is the required Resolution to make the transfer of funds from the Originating Funds to the respective Funds, and not to exceed the Appropriation Ordinance 16-15.

Res. No. R-157-15
A Resolution acquiring the services of American Electric Power to provide Professional Development Training for personnel of the Power System for 2016

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

The Electrical Lineman that construct, maintain and operate Piqua’s electric grid have an extremely dangerous job. It is essential to provide the proper equipment and training which will allow the lineman to perform their duties safely and effectively. In order to become a qualified lineman, the power system has a federally approved four-year apprenticeship program. The City of Piqua currently has five apprentices, and total training cost to send all five apprentices to AEP’s Line Training in 2016 will be $27,000, stated Mr. Krieger.

Commissioners asked several questions. Mr. Krieger provided additional information.

City Manager Huff stated he speaks to the quality of the Electric Lineman the City of Piqua has.


RES. NO. R-158-15
A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for City Membership to American Municipal Power, Inc.

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

AMP has been Piqua’s power supplier since 2007, and Piqua is currently a governing member of the AMP Board of Trustees. Section 30.01 of the Piqua Code requires Commission approval to join trade organizations with annual membership dues in excess of $25,000. The Energy Board unanimously recommended continuation of its membership in the American Municipal Power for 2016. The annual dues of $75,000 are included in the Power System Budget for 2016, stated Mr. Krieger.


RES. NO. 159-15
A Resolution retaining the services of Cooperative response Center, Inc. to provide professional customer call answering and dispatch services for the Power System

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

In March of 2007 the Power System began using the Cooperative Response Center (CRC) headquartered in Austin, Minnesota to provide after-hours call answering and dispatch services. To date, the Power System has been totally satisfied with the level of service provided by CRC, as well as the cost to provide the services, stated Mr. Krieger.

Commissioners asked several questions, Mr. Krieger answered all questions.

RES. NO. R-160-15
A Resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Agent to purchase #2 fuel oil on the open and spot market

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

The Power System purchases #2 fuel oil at various times during the year, depending on how often the combustion turbine generators are operated. In previous years these purchases have been made by obtaining quotes from various suppliers prior to placing an order. The quantity and timing of fuel burned annually fluctuates which makes it impractical to obtain an annual fixed cost for this commodity. Currently there are three suppliers of fuel oil the Power System would like to purchase from and they include: Earhart Petroleum, Troy, Ohio; Schafer Oil Co., Fort Loramie, Ohio; Burke Petroleum, Minster, Ohio.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the cost of the #2 fuel oil, and if customers would get a break when the fuel oil prices are down. All questions were answered by Mr. Krieger.


RES. NO. R-161-15
A Resolution retaining the services of Sawvel and Associates to provide Professional Consulting and Engineering Services for the Power System

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

Sawvel and Associates is an independent consulting and engineering firm located in Findley, Ohio. For over twenty years, Sawvel has provided the Piqua Power System with cost-of-service and rate design, advised the city on electric power supply and transmission arrangements, and made recommendations concerning Piqua’s potential participation in AMP joint-venture generating projects. I would consider Sawvel employees to be an extension of the Power System staff, stated Mr. Krieger.


RES. NO. R-162-15
A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Nelson Tree Service, Incorporated for electric power line clearance

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

The Piqua Power System intends to contract one aerial tree-trimming crew in 2016 and four bids were received on November 17, 2015. Nelson Tree Services is recommended for award as the lowest responsive bid. Nelson has provided this service to the City of Piqua for the last ten years and their service has been exceptional, stated Mr. Krieger.


RES. NO. R-163-15
A Resolution acquiring Power System Engineering, Inc. to provide professional services to the City

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.
AMI is a project where it is extremely important for both the water and electric departments to work together to deploy a common platform. The water department was recently awarded a grant to replace old water meters with new AMI equipped meters. All work must be completed by August 2017 with bid specifications developed in early July 2016, stated Mr. Krieger.

Commissioners asked several questions. Mr. Krieger provided additional information.


RES. NO. R-164-15
A Resolution amending the total payment to Sulzer Turbo Services for the required repairs to #9 gas turbine

Ed Krieger, Power System Director provided the Staff Report.

The Power System owns and operates two combustion gas turbines, #8GT and #9GT. In 2012, Piqua completed control replacements on both #8GT and #9GT which included repairing the rotor due to a catastrophic failure. Sulzer Turbo Services successfully completed rotor repairs to #8GT in 2012, and since that time the unit has operated admirably in severe winter and summer weather conditions.

#9GT will be 50 years old in 2016 and has never received an overhaul or a complete inspection which includes opening the main thermal block. As a result, the City has been unable to obtain insurance coverage for #8 & #9 GT. After the required repairs are completed at Sulzer’s Texas Shop, Sulzer will transport the “like-new” #9GT thermal block to Piqua for reassembly.

Commissioners asked several questions regarding the repairs and the insurance situation.

Mr. Krieger and Law Director Stacy Wall explained.


RES. NO. R-165-15
A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with EMH & T for Engineering Design Services

Amy Havenar, City Engineer provided the Staff Report.

In 2014 the City of Piqua received $1.06 million from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for the Garbry Road/Looney Road Intersection Improvements Project. The proposed design at this intersection will include the construction of a roundabout. The project will be designed utilizing the land use goals and economic development plans for this area to ensure we capture and can accommodate the future growth proposed for this area, stated Ms. Havenar. By putting the infrastructure design in place, the City will be in a strong position to market this corridor to prospective developers to ultimately expand the tax base and create new jobs for this area.

The City of Piqua has secured a CMAQ grant from the Federal Highway Administration in the amount of $1,062,013 for the construction of the project. EMH&T is a highly qualified consultant in the region for roadway/roundabout design and have successfully completed over 38 roundabout studies/designs in Ohio, stated Ms. Havenar.

Commissioners asked several question regarding the costs, the size, possible additional grant money, and how long will it take to complete.
Ed Kagle, Engineer from EMH&T came forward answered questions and provided additional information regarding the proposed roundabout project.

Ms. Havenar and City Manager Huff also answered questions and provided answers and additional information.

**Public Comments**

Valerie Mullikin, came forward and expressed her concerns about the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Looney Road/Garbry Road at this time.

City Manager Huff provided additional information regarding he reason for the installation of the roundabout at this time at Looney Road/Garbry Road.


**RES. NO. R-166-15**

A Resolution authorizing preliminary legislation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the programming of an intersection improvement project in the City of Piqua

Amy Havenar, City Engineer provided the Staff Report.

In March of 2014, the City was notified of the award of a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. This grant is for the intersection improvements at Garbry Road and Looney Road. As with all projects receiving federal funds, the city is required to program the project with ODOT in order to begin moving forward with the design, stated Ms. Havenar. Resolution No. R-166-15 is the request to move forward with the design.


**RES. NO. R-167-15**


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

Each year the city budgets for chemical as a necessary commodity for the normal operation of the Water Treatment Plant. These purchases allow the community to continue to enjoy safe drinking water. The EPA has stringent regulations and the city must purchase these chemicals in order to meet and exceed their standards, stated Mr. Jennings. The Piqua Water Department staff has done an excellent job of providing safe drinking water to the public over the years. Resolution No. R-167-15 will allow the City to continue with the normal process of ordering chemicals as needed throughout the year.

Commissioners asked questions regarding the cost of the chemicals, if they had gone up or down in price. Mr. Jennings answered all questions.

RES. NO. R-168-15
A Resolution awarding a contract to Pohlkat Inc., in the amount not to exceed $150,000 annually for removal and disposal of Lime Residual from the City of Piqua Water Plant Lime Lagoon for 2016-2018

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

Bid #1532 was opened on August 31, 2015 for the removal of residuals from the lime lagoon. Seven companies were sent the bid proposal with Pohlkat Inc. being the only company to bid on the project. Pohlkat Inc. has successfully provided this type of service for the last nine years. This service is necessary to keep the lagoon from getting to full and overflowing, stated Mr. Jennings.


RES. NO. R-169-15
A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Business First! Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Montgomery County and member jurisdictions

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

The Member Jurisdiction desires to participate in a region-wide Economic Development initiative called the “Business First! Program”. The mission of the program is to support growth and retention of local business by identifying their needs and providing information to satisfy those needs. The Program will provide benefits to all Member Jurisdictions and the Regional Resource Partners, explained Mr. Sommer.


RES. NO. R-170-15
A Resolution supporting the Fiscal Year 2016 United States Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Cleanup Grant Program application

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

The City of Piqua is requesting a $200,000 FY 2016 US EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant to fund the asbestos abatement at the former Mo’s Lounge property that is owned by the City of Piqua and located at 111 S. Main Street in Piqua. This property is a catalytic property in the Downtown Riverfront District Development Initiative. A Phase II Environmental Assessment was completed using US EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Funds on the Former Mo’s Lounge in November of 2015. The assessment identified $268,700 worth of asbestos that needs to be abated before a potential developer can occupy the building, stated Mr. Sommer.

Once the asbestos has been abated the Former Mo’s Lounge building will be a more favorable property for a potential developer to purchase. This property has been vacant for over 10 years and as a result the City has suffered from the lack of economic benefits that unique property could provide. The redevelopment of the Former Mo’s Lounge will have a huge regional economic impact in the Miami Valley.

The US EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant Application is due December 18, 2015 and the City will be notified within 15 calendar days it they will pass or fail the US EPA Threshold Eligibility Review, stated Mr. Sommer. If the application passes then it will be evaluated by national evaluation panels chosen for their expertise in the range of activities associated with brownfields cleanup. The City will be notified in the spring of 2016 if the application is funded. The asbestos abatement will take place the first of 2017 or potentially sooner if the grant agreement is received prior to September 2016.
Commissioners asked several questions, Mr. Sommer answered all questions.


**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Steve Mullikin, came forward and thanked Mayor Fess for her years of service to the City of Piqua.

Mr. Mullikin announced the VFW and the American Legion will be holding a combined remembrance event on February 6th, 2016 at the VFW in Piqua from 1:00 – 5:00 P.M. This is the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, and the 25th Anniversary of Desert Storm. This event is being held to honor all veterans of both wars and is open to the public. Mr. Mullikin stated they are looking for any memorabilia that anyone would like to share. Items can be dropped off at the American Legion or at VFW and are just on loan, the items will be returned.

Mayor Fess stated she knows the City will be happy to be a part of this.

**City Manager’s Report**

City Manager Huff stated it is only appropriate that he has a few comments related to Lucy’s tenure as Mayor. Mr. Huff stated he is very appreciative and very thankful he had the opportunity to work with her. One of the most memorable things that he remembers is during the interview process when talking with Lucy was her love and dedication for the City. It came across very clearly that she had a tremendous desire to improve the community, and he was very impressed.

Mayor Fess thanked City Manager Huff stating if she had any small part in bringing him to Piqua, I am very grateful for that as he has done an outstanding job over these four years.

**Commissioners Comments**

Commissioner Wilson stated he attended a Christmas Concert with the Lima Symphony on Sunday December 13th presented by the Friends of the Piqua Library.

Commissioner Wilson stated we are definitely going to miss Lucy. Commissioner Wilson stated he remembers he started working with Lucy in the early 1990’s and in 2010 started working together again. Maybe in 2030 we will have to come back and do it again, stated Commissioner Wilson.

Mayor Fess stated she appreciates it very much, further stating we have been hanging around here for a while.

Commissioner Terry stated we will miss you, thank you for your service. We wish you well in your retirement. You have been great to work with for the time I have been sitting on the commission. Commissioner Terry wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Martin wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Martin told Mayor Fess to have a wonderful retirement, and that it has been an honor to work with her.

Commissioner Vogt thanked Mayor Fess for her service, further stating it has been an honor to work with her over the years.

Commissioner Vogt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.
Mayor Fess stated it has been a whirlwind of emotions since 5:00 P.M. when the Reception began and thanked all who stopped by wish her well. This is my last Commission Meeting and I want to thank everyone for their support.

Mayor Fess stated first she wanted to thank the citizens of Piqua for supporting her over the years.

Mayor Fess thanked former City Manager’s Frank J. Patrizio, Fred Enderle, and current City Manager Gary Huff for their patience, professionalism, and dedication over the years.

Mayor Fess also thanked her fellow Commissioners, John Martin, Judy Terry, Joe Wilson, and Bill Vogt, stating it has been a pleasure working with you and wishes you much success in the near future.

Mayor Fess also thanked all of the City Staff for their help and support over the years, they are the most dedicated group of people and I thank each and every one of you.

Mayor Fess thanked Clerk of Commission Becky Cool stating her efforts often go unnoticed because of her unassuming demeanor. Further stating she has always been there whenever there was a need, and she goes well beyond her job description to make sure the Commission runs smoothly. Thank you to her husband, Steve Cool who is working in the back room broadcasting the commission meeting over the airwaves each week. They both show their love for Piqua in the outstanding jobs they do.

Mayor Fess thanked her dear friends for supporting her unconditionally, further stating you know who you are, and thanked them for always being there to support her. In particular she wanted to thank her dear friends Cliff & Joyce Alexander. Whenever the City had a need they could not support she would pick up the phone and call them. The Alexanders helped support the Ft. Piqua Plaza Project, purchase playground equipment, helped to get the Renew Piqua Program off the ground, and even providing the “red convertible” the Mayor rode in for parades.

Mayor Fess thanked her family as they were her biggest supporters.

Mayor Fess stated God Bless the City of Piqua, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

This was Mayor Fess’s last City Commission Meeting as her term will come to an end on December 31, 2015.

Moved by Commissioner Vogt, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adjourn at 9:00 P.M. Voice vote, Aye: Wilson, Martin, Fess, Vogt, and Terry. Nay: None.