Piqua City Commission met at 6:00 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street. Mayor Hinds called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Lee, Short, Martin and Vogt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHARTER SECTION 4(B) TO CONSIDER IMMINENT OR PENDING LITIGATION REGARDING A GRIEVANCE FILED BY LOCAL NO. 984, OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFSCME

Motion made by Commissioner Vogt to adjourn to executive session at 6:10 P.M.; motion seconded by Commissioner Martin; motion was carried unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Martin to adjourn from executive session at 6:20 P.M.; motion seconded by Commissioner Lee; motion was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the June 19, 2018 Regular City Commission Meeting

Commissioner Martin moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda; motion seconded by Commissioner Vogt; motion was carried unanimously and Mayor Hinds declared the Consent Agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-98-18 (PUBLIC HEARING)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FOR STATUTORY PURPOSES A BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director, spoke stating the 2019 county tax budget was prepared based upon information that was provided by the individual departments and city administration. As you recall, this is a requirement of the city and the county under the state statutory requirements. The total 2019 tax budget is projected to be approximately 152 million; an increase of approximately 12.1 million, or 8.6 percent more than the 2018 projected budget, due mostly to several major projects in the utility area, in particular the Wastewater and enhancements to that project. Also, as a reminder, this is a requirement of the state and in no way impacts the normal city process for their budget and that process will begin in September on a normal basis.

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-98-18.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to adopt Resolution No. R-98-18; motion seconded by Commissioner Vogt; motion was carried unanimously and Mayor Hinds declared Resolution No. R-98-18 passed.
RESOLUTION NO. R-99-18

A RESOLUTION REPEALING SECTION 3 OF RESOLUTION NO. R-49-18

Law Director Stacy Wall spoke stating the city has a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Blue Collar AFSCME group, effective 2017 through 2019. As part of that Collective Bargaining Agreement, the city was to conduct a compensation study. That study was completed and the city asked that this commission approve Resolution No. R-49-18 on April 3rd of this year. That Resolution adjusted certain positions in the electric department, as well as froze certain positions from any increases in the Contract. As a result of that action, the union filed a grievance on the compensation study, which resulted in the city and the union participating in mediation. The parties have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding resolving the grievance, as well as any issues with the compensation study. The terms of that Memorandum of Understanding require the repeal of Section III of that Resolution approved on April 3, 2018, so the positions frozen in that Section can participate in the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-99-18.

Motion made by Commissioner Lee to adopt Resolution No. R-99-18; seconded by Commissioner Short; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Hinds declared Resolution No. R-99-18 adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. R-100-18

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL NO. 984 AND OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFSCME (BLUE COLLAR)

Law Director Wall spoke stating this Resolution is the Resolution that accepts the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding and will resolve the terms of the grievance and anything involving the compensation study. The terms of the Memorandum of Understanding allow for an equity adjustment for the positions only in the top step of the wage scales that are attached to the Contract. Attached to the Memorandum of Understanding are those wage scales showing the equity adjustments for 2018 and 2019. Not all positions are adjusted in 2018 because some are frozen, including all of the electric positions that were previously adjusted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-100-18.

Motion made by Commissioner Martin to adopt Resolution No. R-100-18; seconded by Commissioner Vogt; motion was carried unanimously; Mayor Hinds declared Resolution No. R-100-18 adopted.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Gary Huff spoke stating the construction of the health and sanitation facility is being delayed at the present time due to the cost of steel.

Also, encouraged all to come to the Piqua 4th Fest; efforts and adjustments are being made to offer relief from the heat, and, of course, fireworks at 10:00 P.M.

Last of all, Justin Sommer, Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director, has submitted his resignation from the city. Justin has been with the city a little over four years and has done a great job. His accomplishments include the implementation of the city's economic development overall. There has been job growth; population growth; a number of existing businesses have expanded; new businesses have come to Piqua; the city has received a
tremendous amount of grants; the iPiqua fund was established, which has over a million dollars in it contributed by business leaders within the community to help with economic development; the place making initiative originated, which includes the Riverfront Development. The city has received marketing awards and national recognition through his efforts and Piqua’s overall reputation has improved immensely. The last great accomplishment he succeeded in on his own is getting Piqua designated as an opportunity zone, which will be a benefit in bringing private investment into the city. While the city is disappointed and regret that Justin is leaving, it is understood those decisions have to be made, so we thank him for all of the great work he has done and wish him the best. A farewell reception will be held July 6th from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Commission Chambers.

Justin Sommer thanked the commission for all the support given to him over the years, as well as the Development Department staff, and noted that all of the accomplishments mentioned by City Manager Huff weren’t done by him individually, they were a team effort. Under the leadership of City Manager Gary Huff and Assistant City Manager Cynthia Holtzapple the city is in good hands going forward; he is very proud of the work being done in the city and will continue to be done; and looks forward to being a part of that.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vogt reminded everybody, once again, no grass clippings in the street; it is like riding on ice for motorcyclists. Also, have a safe 4th of July and enjoy 4th Fest.

Commissioner Martin wished all a safe and happy 4th of July.

Commissioner Lee thanked Justin Sommer for the wonderful job he has done for the city. Also encouraged everybody to come out and enjoy 4th Fest.

Commissioner Short wished all a happy 4th of July and encouraged all to come celebrate at 4th Fest.

Mayor Hinds thanked Justin Sommer for his good work for the city and reminded all about the 4th Fest. Also, a reminder that at the end of the evening, around 9:00 P.M., there will be a preview of the Piqua video, This Small Town Piqua.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Vogt to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 6:35 P.M.; motion seconded by Commissioner Martin; motion carried unanimously.

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KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: ______________________

ATTEST: _______________________
KIMBERLY J. HEBB
ACTING CLERK OF COMMISSION