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. Absent: Martin and Vogt.


Mayor Hinds stated because there are only three Commissioners present everything that is voted on has to be unanimous in order to be adopted according to the City Charter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No one came forward at this time.

GOVERNMENT ACADEMY GRADUATES

Leesa Baker
Melissa Clune
Thomas Fogt
Joyce Sarver
David Scott
Joshua Sheets
Michael Sloan
Mary Tolman
Christa Wheeler
Eric White
Bev Yount
Holden Yount

Brittany Van Horn, Special Events Coordinator, and Mayor Hinds read the names of the graduates as they came forward to receive their certificate.

City Manager Huff provided background information on the Government Academy.

City Manager Huff encouraged citizens to get involved in the Government Academy to learn more about their city government and how it works.

Several of the Academy Graduates came forward and thanked the City for the opportunity to participate in the program. Further stating all of the staff, employees, and department heads are very professional and knowledgeable.

Mayor Hinds stated as Commissioners they get a lot of calls about various situations, this past weekend she received a call about a transformer that had blown in Candlewood. By the time she called the Power System they were already on the way to repair it.

Mayor Hinds thanked all of the graduates for participating.

CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the October 16, 2018 Regular City Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Short, moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda, motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion was carried unanimously, and Mayor Hinds declared the Consent Agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 15-18 (1st Reading)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 33 OF THE PIQUA MUNICIPAL CODE EMPLOYMENT POLICY

Law Director Stacy Wall provided the Staff Report.

Stacy Wall, Law Director stated Ordinance No. 15-18 is amending Chapter 33 of the Piqua Municipal Code at the request of the Commission to clarify the language for all non-union employees on the benefits. Ms. Wall outlined some of the changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Ordinance No. 15-18.

Ordinance No. 15-18 was given a first reading at this time.

RESOLUTION NO. R-135-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO CASCADE ENGINEERING FOR PURCHASE OF TRASH CARTS

Amy Welker, Director of Health & Sanitation, provided the Staff Report.

The Sanitation Department will be providing trash carts to refuse customers. The carts will be 96 gallon capacity with a lid and wheels. Also available are 64 gallon and 32 gallon carts on request. The carts will be blue in color with a black lid and have the city logo on the side. These are the same type carts customers currently have for recycling, and will be delivered in early 2019, stated Ms. Welker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Bubeck, Camp Street came forward stating this should help cut down on all of the trash blowing around from torn bags, and help the sanitation employees.


RESOLUTION NO. R-136-18

A RESOLUTION TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS TO PAY FOR THE COST OF NUISANCE ABATEMENTS

Amy Welker, Director of Health & Sanitation, provided the Staff Report.
The city abates nuisance conditions on properties including mowing high grass, removing trash, trimming trees, and demolishing structures according to city code. Abatements take place after the property owners has been notified of the condition and given a timeframe to comply, failure to comply results in the abatement. If the property owner fails to pay the abatement costs then the costs are certified to the county auditor to be placed on the property taxes, stated Ms. Welker. The auditor accepts assessments once per year, and the City is asking that assessments be adopted quarterly in order to provide ample public notice to current or future property owners.

Mayor Hinds stated if someone is interested in purchasing a property in Piqua, information can be found on the Piqua website to see if there are any outstanding assessments on the property before purchasing it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-136-18 at this time.


RESOLUTION NO. R-137-18

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CONTRACT WITH SSOE GROUP FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE POWER SYSTEM

Ed Krieger, Power System Director, provided the Staff Report.

During routine Substation testing in 2017 Power Services identified concerns related to Piqua’s aging, maintenance intensive 69 kV Breakers and recommended the City consider replacement of these service critical assets. Additional engineering hours are required to complete the Substation #5 breakers replacement project. Included in the 2018 Power System budget is $225,000 for the engineering services and equipment necessary to replace three (3) – 69 kV Breakers at Piqua’s Substation #5. The Piqua Energy Board unanimously recommended to move forward with the services of SSOE Group.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-137-18.


RESOLUTION NO. R-138-18

A MORAL OBLIGATION TO PAY VALLEY ASPHALT CORPORATION FOR HOT MIX ASPHALT FOR THE 2018 STREET, ALLEY AND BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Brian Brookhart, Interim Public Works Director provided the Staff Report.

The Street Department has been purchasing hot mix from Valley Asphalt all year, and have surpassed the original budget estimated amount. Numerous street and alley projects throughout the city as well as portions of the bike path that needed to be repaved due to safety reason were completed, stated Mr. Brookhart.
City Street Department employees spent some time working alongside of the Barrett Paving Company employees learning various methods. They complimented the City of Piqua paving crew on the good job they were doing, further stating they could work with them anytime.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-138-18.


RESOLUTION NO. R-139-18

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF EXCESS LIABILITY INSURANCE

Stacy Wall, Law Director provided the Staff Report.

Excess liability insurance covers the City’s dams for its lakes and canal, pollution and claims arising out of injury or property damage as a result of an exercise of its emergency assistance agreements with other communities related to power and claims related to water and wastewater. Associated Electric & Gas Insurance Services Limited (“AGIS”) has provided excess liability coverage to the City for over twenty years, stated Ms. Wall. The amount is not to exceed $87,453.00 for a period from November 2018 – December 31, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-139-18.


RESOLUTION NO. R-140-18

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR PIQUA’S COMBUSTION TURBINES

Stacy Wall, Law Director provided the Staff Report.

Certain specialty areas do not fall within the coverage of the City’s general liability policy and excess liability insurance is needed for coverage. In 2017 the City was able to obtain coverage from Chubb and would like to renew the coverage with no increase this year. This coverage includes liability and property coverage for the City’s combustion turbines through Chubb effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 in the amount of $85,096.00, stated Ms. Wall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-140-18.


RESOLUTION NO. R-141-18

A RESOLUTION RETAINING THE SERVICE OF ENROLLMENT SERVICES (EMS) TO PROVIDE HEALTH INSURANCE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF PIQUA
Catherine Bogan, Human Resource Director provided the Staff Report.

The city will retain EMS health insurance consulting services to work with the city and its employees to offer support and insurance options outside the city’s group plan. The estimated maximum amount of health savings the city could see is approximately $600,000.

Commissioner Lee asked how many employees were identified as people who could possibly benefit from this program. Ms. Bogan stated currently 21 employees opt out of the city’s health care plan and this program has identified another 64 who could possibly benefit from this program. There are currently 173 employees on the city’s healthcare plan. Consulting fees are $5000 per month with a three-year contract that can be terminated if the cost of the services do not outweigh the savings, stated Ms. Bogan.

City Manager Huff stated this is a win win for the employees, and a good opportunity for the city to save money. The City of Xenia saved 1.2 million the first year with the program.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-141-18.


PUBLIC COMMENT
Brad Boehringer, Mound Street, came forward congratulates the Government Academy Graduates stating he attended the first class in 2012.

Mr. Boehringer stated he wanted to remind citizens to recognize the Native American Heritage, further stating November is Native American Heritage Month.

Mr. Boehringer also reminded citizens to get out and vote.

Mayor Hinds stated she has a program entitled Eye on Piqua Series on Channel 5, with Andy Hite featuring the Johnston Farm.

Paul Bubeck, Camp Street came forward and voiced his concerns over property maintenance in the City of Piqua.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT
City Manager Huff announced the Echo Hill Golf Course will host the Wounded Warriors 5K Walk/Run on Saturday November 10 at 9:00 A.M.

City Manager Huff also announced as a wellness incentive, the City will receive a one month free insurance premium, with a cost savings of over $200,000 thanks to our city employees.

City Manager Huff announced the Dayton Business Journal will be running a number of articles on City of Piqua and the community in the next few weeks.

City Manager Huff stated Kettering Health Network is planning a ground breaking ceremony on their new facility located on Looney Road on December 10, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.

City Manager Huff announced Budget Meetings will be held on November 13, 2018 beginning at 4:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M.
COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Lee inquired on the Pitsenbarger Park Playground Equipment. City Manager Huff stated it is in the 2019 Budget, and after the first of the year will be able to order the equipment.

Commissioner Lee congratulated the Government Academy Graduates stating they get a greater insight into how the different departments function and work together for the city. Commissioner Lee encouraged citizens to get out and exercise their right to vote, every vote makes a difference.

Commissioner Short encouraged citizens to keep things civil after the election no matter what the outcome is even if you do not agree with the way things went.

Mayor Hinds stated we are stronger together in the midst of our difference then we are in our disagreements.

Mayor Hinds announced the Annual Horse Parade in Downtown Piqua is Saturday November 10, 2018.

The Veteran’s Service will take place on Sunday, November 11, 2018 at 11:00 A.M. at the Veteran’s Memorial and encourage citizens to attend the ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting into Executive Session at 6:40 P.M. motion seconded by Commissioner Short. Roll call Vote, Aye: Lee, Hinds, Short. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Short to adjourn from the Executive Session at 7:04 P.M. motion seconded by Commissioner Lee. Motion carried unanimously

Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 7:05 P.M. motion seconded by Commissioner Short. Motion carried unanimously.

____________________________________
KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: ______________________

ATTEST: _______________________
REBECCA J. COOL
CLERK OF COMMISSION