

**MINUTES
PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 2, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

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.

Roll Call as follows: Present: Mayor Hinds, Commissioners Lee, Short, Martin and Vogt. Absent: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OATH OF OFFICE – PIQUA POLICE DEPARTMENT

City Manager Gary Huff administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Richard A. Byron.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the June 4, 2019 Regular City Commission Meeting and the June 11, 2019 Special Piqua 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.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-59-19

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FOR STATUTORY PURPOSES A BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020.

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director, presented the report.

Mayor Hinds asked for any questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Vogt stated that basically this is an estimate for the county and the budget will be addressed at year end.

Mayor Hinds asked for any questions or comments from the Public. There were none

No one came forward to speak for or against Resolution No. R-59-19.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vogt to adopt Resolution No. R-59-19; motion seconded by Commissioner Martin; motion was carried unanimously and Mayor Hinds declared Resolution No. R-59-19 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jey Roman, 406 W. High Street, expressed concerns over trash pickup procedures with regard to the new trash cans and communication between the city and the citizens. Mr. Roman stated that some trash is not being picked up due to the lack of trash cans.

City Manager Huff stated that we are working on it and he will look into the situation.

Commissioner Vogt confirmed that yard waste can be placed into regular trash cans and/or bags for city pick up.

Willis Young, 4763 W. U.S. Rt. 36, asked questions about the Wood Street apartments thinking that they were to be classified as "Luxury" apartments, and asked where the money is coming from to build these apartments.

City Manager Huff responded that these are not "Luxury" apartments that they are going to be built by St. Mary's Building Corporation for the purpose of subsidized housing.

Tonya Blair, owns rental properties in Piqua, stated the base charges for utility services total \$76.67 before any usage and expressed frustration over this fact.

Kevin Jenkins, 619 N. Downing Street, expressed concerns about what people should do about sitting trash due to the lack of cans and yard waste.

City Manager Huff stated that the trash is supposed to still be picked up and that citizens should call in and we will be happy to pick it up.

Mayor Hinds stated that the requests for second trash cans, which have yet to be delivered to the City of Piqua, has thrown the City behind. The frustration is understandable and the second trash cans should alleviate this problem.

Samantha MacKellar, 1323 Garfield Street, expressed concerns over the drainage on her street being barricaded.

City Manager Huff stated that the City is replacing and working on it.

Commissioner Vogt stated that these barricades have been put in place so that cars will not fall into it.

Nick Ventura, 108 Jean Street, questioned if it is right to charge when trash is not being picked up, and is there an opt-out option.

City Manager Huff stated that there is no opt-out option.

Kevin Jenkins, 619 N. Downing Street, asked about the increase in the storm water rates and who sets these rates. Mr. Jenkins also asked about comparable rates with Sidney and Troy, and how the proceeds from the wastewater funds were spent and if it would have been more economical to buy our water from Troy. Mr. Jenkins also inquired as to who was responsible for the painting of the CSX bridge.

Commissioner Vogt stated that the rates in Sidney may be a little lower, the rates in Troy, a little higher. Commissioner Vogt explained how the rates were arrived at and stated that the rates are not going up.

Law Director Patrizio responded that the funds were used to maintain the storm water lines, drains, and flooding issues and that the updates were due to EPA regulations.

City Manager Huff stated that it would not have been feasible to purchase water from Troy. City Manager Huff also stated that CSX refuses to paint the bridge so the responsibility falls to the city.

Tommy Grise, 709 Caldwell, stated that there are some sidewalk maintenance issues and inquired as to who was responsible for maintaining the sidewalks.

City Manager Huff replies that it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain their sidewalk and this would be part of the code enforcement of violations.

Delores Brown, 1020 Lincoln, expressed concerns about the condition of her neighbor's yard and the issue of cut grass being blown into the street.

Jey Roman stated that he feels the Charter should be changed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Huff advised that the City offices would be closed on July 4th and that we are providing information regarding the 4th of July celebration.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vogt requested that people stop blowing grass out into the street.

Commissioner Martin asked about Enterprise Funds and if they could go back into the general fund. Commissioner Martin also inquired as to what can be done about grass being blown into the street.

City Manager Huff stated that 85% of the funds go to the Police and Fire Departments.

Law Director Patrizio stated that he is not aware of any grass clippings legislation but that the City can change the policy.

Commissioner Lee stated possibly a civil ordinance.

City Manager Huff stated that citizens need to have the motivation to help others – "Good Samaritan Laws".

Commissioner Lee expressed congratulations to Chief Byron. Commissioner Lee also acknowledged the frustration of the citizens but that we are trying to find solutions/resolutions to their issues.

Mayor Hinds addressed the issue of allocation of funds within the city and acknowledged that she too felt the frustration and stated that the city is trying to use funds the best we can. Mayor Hinds also expressed thanks for the citizens' participation as we are a community and to have a happy 4th of July.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Martin to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 6:45 P.M.; motion seconded by Commissioner Lee; motion carried unanimously.

KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: _____

ATTEST: _____
KAREN S. JENIINS
CLERK OF COMMISSION