

**PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, July 16, 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, Martin and Vogt.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Hinds wanted to address why it is taking so long to get the utility information to the residents.

City Manager Huff reported on the status of the recommendations stating that due to vacations and the necessary personnel being out of the office we are shooting for the end of July. We are working on coming up with ideas/solutions.

Mayor Hinds stated that by the end of July decisions will be made and presented the first meeting in August.

**PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 6, 2019**

Police Officer Brett Marrs accepted the Proclamation from Mayor Hinds designating August 6, 2019 the “National Night Out”, wherein neighbors of Piqua come together with Police and work to build a safer, more caring community. Mayor Hinds stated to contact the Piqua Police Department if they are interested in having a block party on that date and time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Lee moved to go into executive session, seconded by Commission Martin. The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 6:10.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:20 p.m. and the Commissioners continued the regular meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Minutes from the July 2, 2019 Regular City Commission Meeting

Commissioner Martin moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda; motion was 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

### RES. NO. R-60-19

A Resolution approving the purchase of Part of Inlot 43

Chris Schmiesing, Development Director, presented the staff report.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to adopt Res. No. R-60-19; motion seconded by Commissioner Lee; motion was carried unanimously and **Mayor Hinds declared Res. No. R-60-19 adopted.**

### RES. NO. R-61-19

A Resolution to establish the Downtown Piqua Revitalization District

Chris Schmiesing, Development Director, presented the staff report

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

Commissioner Martin asked if all the liquor licenses were the same type.

Chris Schmiesing responded that we were requesting B5 liquor licenses.

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

Kevin Jenkins, 619 N. Downing Street inquired as to what is happening with the Mo's building and the Riverfront Redevelopment project. Mr. Jenkins also expressed concern over the maintenance of city owned properties, one of which is the car wash.

Mayor Hinds responded that the city owns the Mo's building and we are looking to sell the property.

City Manager Huff advised that there are ongoing discussions with regard to the building being purchased for a possible restaurant. City Manager Huff also stated that the City is taking care of the maintenance of the car wash.

Skip Murray, 1215 Walker Street, stated that as a previous holder of a D5 liquor license that it is essential to have liquor licenses available to bring businesses into town.

Commissioner Martin inquired if the City could put restrictions on the operating hours of the business.

Chris Schmiesing stated that businesses would have to have zoning approval and the Planning Commission would have the ability to regulate hours.

Nick Ventura, 108 Jean Drive, asked if the City could turn down liquor license permits for bars in favor of restaurants.

Commissioner Lee responded that the Division of Liquor Control has authority over granting permits.

Mayor Hinds stated that we are not looking to add any more bars to the downtown area that we want family meal establishments.

Dave Hitchings, 803 Camp Street, inquired as to the accuracy of 45 acres.

Chris Schmiesing stated that 45 cares is correct and Mayor Hinds showed Mr. Hitchings a copy of the Revitalization map.

Bill Jaqua, 607 N. Sunset Drive, voiced concern that the additional liquor permits would encourage the creation of more bars.

Chris Schmiesing reiterated that the City is looking to be able to provide D5 liquor licenses to recruit retail food establishment facilities wherein 75% of the income results from food sales, not liquor sales. The objective is to attract nice sit down restaurants.

Jey Roman made the comparison to Z's as far as concerns over increasing the amount of intoxicated individuals on the streets of Piqua during the late night/early morning hours.

Chris Schmiesing stated that we are looking to attract businesses comparative to Lock Tenders.

Mayor Hinds responded that they would be comparable to 3 Joes – restaurants, not bars. The citizens want these types of establishments and we are trying to accommodate them.

Sarah \_\_\_\_\_, 541 S. Main Street asked if the liquor permit could be denied if the food to alcohol ratio is not met and if the city would be trying to attract more entertainment businesses such as bowling alleys, arcades, etc.

Chris Schmiesing responded that there are checks and balances of the Liquor License Control Board.

City Manager Huff responded that the entertainment businesses start to happen as the community improves. Mayor Hinds added that restaurants are not the only businesses that we are looking to come in to the City of Piqua.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vogt to adopt Res. No. R-61-19; motion seconded by Commissioner Lee; motion was carried unanimously and **Mayor Hinds declared Res. No. R-61-19 adopted.**

#### RES. NO. R-62-19

A Resolution appointing a 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner for the City of Piqua

Mayor Hinds brought this Resolution before the Commissioners asking them to make a decision with regard to the two citizens that expressed interest.

Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to appoint James "Chris" Grissom, seconded by Commissioner Vogt. Motion was carried unanimously and **Mayor Hinds declared Res. No. R-62-19 adopted.**

Mayor Hinds stated that Mr. Grissom would be sworn in tonight in the Mayor's office and the official swearing in would be done at the next regular commission meeting.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Hitchings, 803 Camp Street asked who was in charge of the Veteran's banners?

Mayor Hinds replied that this is not a city project and that the Chamber of Commerce is responsible for the banners, that the city only does the labor and that there was an overwhelming response to the request for banners.

City Manager Huff stated that the last information he received was that the Chamber had not received all of the banners.

Leslie Lewis, 510 Second Street stated confusion about the utility bill shut off date and concern over the length of time it takes to receive the monthly billing statements. Ms. Lewis requested that the utilities supervisor attend the next Commission meeting to be available to answer questions with regard to the utility services.

Mayor Hinds stated that we will follow up with regard to Ms. Lewis's concerns.

Bill Jaqua, 607 N. Sunset Drive, expressed concerns over trying to build an economy around restaurants and concern over the drug enforcement problems in Piqua comparative to Troy.

Sara \_\_\_\_\_, 541 S. Main Street expressed concerns over the length of time it will take to implement the utility changes.

Mayor Hinds stated that at the August meeting we will state what we are going to do and plan on immediate implementation.

Tom Fogt, 324 E. Main Street inquired as to the absence of solar panel initiatives to allow citizens to go solar and suggested Piqua partner with a supplier to obtain financing assistance. Mr. Fogt mentioned that the city should look into the ECO Link Energy Conservation for Ohioans Program initiated by Josh Mandel to assist citizens with the financing of solar panels.

City Manager Huff stated that citizens do have the option to utilize solar energy but cautioned against total solar and stated that there is no energy rebate available from the City of Piqua. City Manager Huff stated that he would look into the Josh Mandel program.

Mayor Hinds stated that there would be a meeting with Ed Krieger, Power Systems Director, to educate on energy savings and to get the information out on public media.

Nick Ventura, 108 Jean Drive, expressed concerns over the drug/overdoses problems in the city and lack of police action. Mr. Ventura also expressed concern over utility charges when there is no utility usage.

City Manager Huff replied that we are trying to address these issues and looking into how other communities are handling these situations. The utility report will be ready for the August 5 regular Commission meeting.

Commissioner Martin questioned if the information would be posted on the Internet.

City Manager Huff responded that the commissioners would decide the method of communication.

Jey Roman, 406 W. High Street expressed concerns over trash from move-out being left on curb/porch.

Mayor Hinds stated that the City was aware of the house and City Manager Huff stated that it is the responsibility of the landowner to remove the trash; however, if the trash is causing a nuisance, the City will contract for it to be picked up.

Jey Roman stated that the name of his Facebook page has been changed to Watch Piqua and requested a workshop with regard to the utility issues before the regular commission meeting in August.

Mayor Hinds stated that we are scheduled to present the utility report in August.

Commissioner Martin stated that we could have work session Thursdays after the commission meetings.

It was decided between the Commissioners that there would be a public work session to be held on Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. to be held in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

There was no report from City Manager Huff

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Lee offered congratulations to Chris Grissom and stated that he was looking forward to the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Vogt offered congratulations to Chris Grissom

Commissioner Martin offered congratulations to Chris Grissom and stated the citizens should keep calling the police on the drug houses.

Mayor Hinds reminded the citizens that this Saturday is the next Rock Piqua Downtown, as well as the River Sweep to clean up the Great Miami River which will be held on Saturday morning. Mayor Hinds also stated she is looking forward to the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Commissioner Vogt to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 7:45 p.m. motion seconded by Commissioner Martin, motion carried unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHRYN B. HINDS, MAYOR

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
KAREN S. JENKINS  
CLERK OF COMMISSION