

**PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020  
7:30 PM**

Piqua City Commission met at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street. Mayor Lee called the meeting to order.

Roll Call as follows: Present: Mayor Hinds, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Grissom, Commissioner Pearson, and Commissioner Fogt

PROCLAMATION HONORING – WILLIAM H. PITSENBARGER

Duane Thompson, Kathy Sherman, Mike Ullery and Ruth Koon accepted the Proclamation honoring William Pitsenbarger from Mayor Hinds

Elizabeth Gutmann issued the following Oaths of Office:

FIRST WARD COMMISSIONER – THOMAS FOGT

SECOND WARD COMMISSIONER – CYNTHIA PEARSON

FIFTH WARD COMMISSIONER – KATHRYN B. HINDS

Motion was made by Commissioner Pearson to nominate Kazy Hinds to the position of Mayor. Motion was not seconded. Motion to nominate Kris Lee to the position of Mayor was made by Chris Grissom, seconded by Commissioner Fogt. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hinds then spoke with regard to the events and projects that have occurred over the past four years and the events that she had spearheaded as Mayor. Commissioner Hinds then acknowledged that Kris Lee is the first African American mayor for the City of Piqua and offered her congratulations.

Mayor Lee stated that Commissioner Hinds has left big shoes to fill and asked that we give Commissioner Hinds a round of applause for her service to the City, which ended with a standing ovation. Commissioner Hinds then passed the gavel to Mayor Lee. Mayor Lee then took his seat as Mayor

Motion to nominate Commissioner Grissom to the position of Vice Mayor was made by Commissioner Hinds, seconded by Commissioner Pearson. Motion carried unanimously.

Elizabeth Gutmann issued the following Oaths of Office

MAYOR – KRIS LEE

VICE MAYOR – CHRIS GRISSOM

RESIDENCE PRIDE AWARDS-HOLIDAY LIGHT DISPLAYS

Mayor Lee recognized the following property owners which have received the Residence Pride Awards – Holiday Light Displays.

Hartzell Propeller Inc.	1 Propeller Way
William & Joetta Didier	208 Ford Drive
Daniel & Vickie Pierre	2104 Fawn Court
The Smith Family	1244 Broadway Street
Randall & Jennifer Breaden	620 Caldwell Street

JJ Frigge and Dave Trissell from Hartzell Propeller, Inc. and William Didier were present to accept their awards. None of the other recipients were in attendance at the Commission meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Minutes from the December 17, 2019 Regular City Commission Meeting

#### **RES. NO. R-1-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Piqua Energy Board

#### **RES. NO. R-2-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Piqua Energy Board

#### **RES. NO. R-3-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Grow Piqua Now Board

#### **RES. NO. R-4-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Miami County Council

#### **RES. NO. R-5-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

#### **RES. NO. R-6-20**

A Resolution reappointing an alternate member to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

#### **RES. NO. R-7-20**

A Resolution appointing a member to the Governing Board of the Piqua Improvement Corporation

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to approve the Consent Agenda; motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson, motion was carried unanimously, Consent Agenda **adopted**.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ORD. NO. 1-20 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

An Ordinance declaring the improvement of certain real property located in the City of Piqua, Ohio to be a Citizens purpose; declaring such property to be exempt from real property taxation; designating Citizens infrastructure improvement to be made that will benefit such property; requiring annual service payments in lieu of taxes; authorizing the execution of a Tax Increment Financing Agreement; and establishing a Municipal Citizens Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund

This is the first reading - Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director presented the Staff Report.

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

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Citizens. There were none.

The Ordinance will move forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

### **RES. NO. R-8-20**

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into Jobs and Commerce Economic Development Agreement between the State of Ohio Department of Transportation and City of Piqua for the extension of Scarbrough Drive

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director presented the staff report

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

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Citizens. There were none.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt RES. NO. R-8-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Fogt; motion was carried unanimously

RES. NO. R-9-20

A Resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Analyst to advertise for bids to make certain purchases during the 2020 year

Cynthia Holtzapple, Finance Director presented the staff report

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Commission  
Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Citizens.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pearson to adopt RES. NO. R-9-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Grissom; motion was carried unanimously.

RES. NO. R-10-20

A Resolution requesting final legislation to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the resurfacing of Covington Avenue (U.S. Route 36) between R.M. Davis Parkway and Sunset Drive

Amy L. Havenar, P.E., City Engineer presented the staff report

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Commission. There were none.  
Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Citizens.

Jey Roman, 406 W. High Street asked how it was decided which roads are paved.

City Manager Huff replied that each year the roads are analyzed to decide which roads are in need of paving.

Mr. Roman then asked what is the standard?

City Manager Huff stated that it depends upon the conditions of the roadways upon yearly inspections.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt RES. NO. R-10-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson; motion was carried unanimously.

RES. NO. R-11-20

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to continue to contract with Frank J. Patrizio as Law Director and McCulloch, Felger, Fite and Gutmann Co., L.P.A. as Legal Counsel for the City of Piqua

City Manager Huff presented information with regard to this Resolution.

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

Law Director Patrizio commented that he has enjoyed working with the City of Piqua, and his enjoyment of prosecuting especially with regard to the drug enforcement aggressiveness and to correct the misstatement that going to a statutory city would save money in the law director field. He stated the amount paid to the Law Director of the City of Troy is significantly higher than what the City of Piqua is paying.

Commissioner Hinds stated that the City is saving money by his part time employment vs. having someone on staff.

City Manager Huff replied that this was correct and stated the amount of savings for the city.

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Citizens.

Bill Jaqua, 607 N. Sunset Drive spoke with regard to his opposition to the contract with Law Director Patrizio and the issue of statutory over charter, comparing the rates of Troy's Law Director to what the City is paying Law Director Patrizio.

Natalie Young, 1234 Marwood Drive, inquired as to why the Law Director for the City of Troy is paid more.

Law Director Patrizio stated the Troy Law Director is billing on a contractual amount vs. the hourly rate that the City is paying Law Director Patrizio.

Jay Roman inquired as to the information/rumor that Law Director Patrizio's represents Ed Liette to which Law Director Patrizio replied that he does not represent Mr. Liette, that he has prosecuted him.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt RES. NO. R-11-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Fogt; motion was carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jay Roman offered congratulation to Mayor Lee. He then spoke with regard to the misinformation and communication issues between the City of Piqua and the citizens.

Law Director Patrizio commented that in the future that he cannot ethically reveal who he represents and would ask that he not inquire in the future.

Bill Jaqua – presented the official petition with regard to the statutory government, stating it will be exactly like the City of Troy's.

Joe Drapp, 1366 Park Avenue, offered congratulations to the new members of commission and asked about any headway with regard to an upgrade to the airport.

City Manager Huff replied that some criteria has been changed and we have been invited to submit a new application and hopefully we can move forward at this time.

Phil Moyer, 421 Orr Street commented on Piqua parks and trail system and the removal of the trees inquiring about the repurposing and replanting of trees.

Natalie Young spoke with regard to utility rates study for the year 2021

City Manager Huff responded it would be this year

Natalie asked if there was any information with regard to the new owner of the mall and had questions with regard to tax increment financing and if there were other sites available to utilize this for development.

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director explained the various investment leverages

Paul Reece offered congratulations to the new commissioners and gave information with regard to his being a candidate for Miami County Sheriff.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

No report tonight

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Fogt – looks forward to serving the citizens of the City of Piqua

Commissioner Pearson – it has been a great night and appreciates that she will be able to help the City of Piqua – looking forward to serving the citizens of the City of Piqua

Commissioner Grissom – thanks to everyone in his ward and City of Piqua for holiday decorations and thank you to Kazy for all her assistance and guidance in welcoming him to the commission

Commissioner Hinds – congratulations to residence pride award winners, reminder about the Pitsenbarger movie premier and details about movie date and reception. Reminder of upcoming ribbon cuttings and details regarding the Bring Your Green Miami County Conference. Congratulations to Mayor and Vice Mayor and Commissioner Fogt and Pearson

Mayor Lee expressed thanks for the opportunity to be Mayor and talked about his childhood in Rossville and stated that he would try to lead like Kazy and that together we will work for the citizens of Piqua. Congratulation to Chris Grissom and the two new commissioners. We need to be agreeable when we don't agree and he is willing to listen.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Commissioner Pearson to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 8:45 p.m. motion seconded by Commissioner Fogt, motion carried unanimously.

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KRIS LEE, MAYOR

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

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