

**PIQUA CITY COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, February 4, 2020  
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 Lee called the meeting to order.

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

**PRESENTATION - PITSENBARGER MOVIE PREMIER COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

Kathy Sherman and Dwayne Thompson offered thanks to the residents of Piqua for their support of the project, stated the monetary proceeds with regard to the movie and reported on the events with regard to the Last Full Measure movie premier.

**PRESENTATION - PIQUA PARKS BOARD**

Eddie Harvey presented the report and slide show with regard to the Piqua City Pool.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Minutes from the January 21, 2020 Regular City Commission Meeting

**RES. NO. R-20-20**

A Resolution of Appreciation for the Public Service of Frederick W. Langston as a City Employee

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ORD. NO. 1-20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Reading)**

An Ordinance declaring the improvement of certain real property located in the City of Piqua, Ohio to be a public purpose; declaring such property to be exempt from real property taxation; designating public infrastructure improvements 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 Public Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund

This is the third reading and 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 Public.

Bill Jaqua, 607 N. Sunset Drive, questioned if we had enough economic tools and the ability to compete with other cities.

City Manager Huff stated that the tools we can utilize was explained last week. Commissioner Hinds stated that the Mock Site visit showed where we are and that "we are in a good place".

Commissioner Grissom offered further comments on the cities resources.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt ORD. NO.1-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson; motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared Ord. No. 1-20 adopted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ORD. NO. 5-20 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

An Emergency Ordinance repealing Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code and adopting a new Schedule A of Chapter 33 of the Piqua Code, relating to wages of certain Municipal Employees

City Manager Huff asked to waive the three reading rule because this ordinance deals with non-union employees annual raises and that if it is not passed, employees would have to wait another month and a half for their yearly raises.

Motion to waive the 3 reading rule was made by Commissioner Fogt, seconded by Commissioner Grissom, motion carried unanimously and Mayor Lee declared the three reading rule for Ord. No. 5-20 waived.

Catherine M. Bogan, Human Resources 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 Grissom to adopt ORD. NO. 5-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Fogt; motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared ORD. NO. 5-20 adopted.

### **RES. NO. R-21-20**

A Resolution approving the purchase of liability insurance for Piqua's combustion turbines

Cynthia Holtzaple, Asst. City Manager/Finance Director presented the staff report.

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

Mayor Lee inquired if this has saved us money in the past. Cynthia Holtzaple reported that in the past the turbines were damaged significantly and that over \$1,000,000 in repair costs was reimbursed back to the city.

Commissioner Hinds commented that Ed Krieger from the Power Department talks about how much the turbines actually save the city as far as our power supply.

Commissioner Grissom asked about the age of the turbines

City Manager Huff stated that the turbines are older but that we have had to have them rebuilt.

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

Joe Drapp 1266 Park Avenue made comments with regard to the turbines and their capability to produce power in the event our grid goes down, that these are essential items and helps maintain credit rating.

Bill Jaqua made comments with regard to the necessity of these turbines and alternate resources to eliminate the usage of these turbines and the possibility of becoming a "smart city".

City Manager Huff explained the reasons we need to keep the turbines going as long as possible.

Law Director Patrizio explained how and when the turbines operate, and deferred to Joe Drapp to explain how this affects our purchase of power from AMP Ohio.

Mayor Lee commented with regard to the ability to have enough fiber and power to become a "smart city".

Commissioner Hinds mentioned that we have diverse portfolio and the ability to pull power from so many different places and this makes us unique and very rarely does the city's power go out..

Jey Roman inquired about the inspection process of the turbines to determine remaining life in turbines, a possibility of non-repair of the turbines, the ability to utilize the turbines without the insurance coverage until the turbines died.

City Manager Huff stated that energy costs would go up by over \$1,000,000 without the use of the turbines, they are inspected and in the event they are not replaceable, they would not be fixed. .

Joe Drapp provided explanation to Mr. Roman with regard to his questions.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pearson to adopt RES. NO. R-21-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Grissom; motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-21-20 adopted.

RES. NO. R-22-20

A Resolution approving the purchase of excess liability insurance

Cynthia Holtzapple, Asst. City Manager/Finance Director presented the staff report.

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

Commissioner Grissom questioned if this insurance would apply to the removal of dams.  
City Manager Huff stated that no, this is property insurance (damage from projects, tree removal, etc.)  
Commissioner Pearson asked if this insurance would cover spillage into the waterways  
City Manager Huff stated that coverage from damage due to breakage of levees would be covered.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt RES. NO. R-22-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Hinds; motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-22-20 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marcia Garrett, 318 Westview Drive commented that she would like to see the repairs completed to keep the pool open.

Mayor Lee responded that we will continue to keep the pool open another year, but that we need to look at options to provide funds to be able to do the repairs and keep the pool open, and talked about having a work study to devise a plan of action.

James Verhotz, 1222 Nicklin Avenue – spoke in favor of keeping the pool open.

Leah Berry, 406 W. High Street – spoke in favor of keeping the pool open and expressed concerns with regard to the inability to acquire lifeguards to work at the pool and alternative options for obtaining lifeguards and/or helping with certifications.

Catherine Bogan stated that we are working with the YMCA and Edison to see if they can help with the certification program, pay incentives and that we also need pool managers. Personnel factors are big variables.

Commissioner Hinds addressed the issue of the struggles with regard to the weather and the inability to work.

Bill Jaqua, 607 N. Sunset Drive suggested a town hall meeting to figure out why people are not coming to the pool. He also commented on the change from a charter to a statutory government.

Jey Roman also spoke in favor of keeping the pool open as he feels it is significant to provide a sense of community and having a work session or town hall for the issue of the charter to statutory government issue.

Mayor Lee stated that the charter to statutory issue is Bill Jaqua's project, not the City of Piqua's.

Joe Drapp spoke in favor of keeping the pool open reasoning it would give the kids something to do and keep them off the streets, and that he is in favor of occasionally waiving the three reading rule when circumstances warrant it.

Joe Wilson, 211 W. Greene Street stated he would like to retain a charter city as he does not want the city run under political parties. Mr. Wilson also asked if it would be possible to have the commission meetings aired live on TV.

City Manager Huff stated that the school would have to buy a very expensive piece of equipment to make that happen.

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

No comment

#### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Hinds offered congratulations to Fred Langston and expressed concerns over the pool with regard to the monetary issues.

Commissioner Grissom spoke about the sendoff of Troop 1487 (Iron Camels), the efforts of Natalie Young to bring the community together and the definition of community.

Commissioner Pearson stated that we need to do something about the pool and that the workshop is a good idea, but the bottom line is money.

Commissioner Fogt offered a thank you to Eddie Harvey for the pool presentation, that it is important to bring the students on board, announcements of board openings, that citizens need to get involved in these boards, the local board of legislation rallying together to support citizens, the 200 job vacancies in Piqua and that people need to apply for these jobs

Mayor Lee offered congratulations to Fred Langston, thank you card from Mayor Oda for assistance from the City of Piqua when they had the tornado. He is proud of the commissioners' attendance at recent events and his conversation with Governor DeWine with regard as to what the Governor could do to help the City. Ohio Means Jobs: availability of over 200 jobs. It looks like we are well set with infrastructure, the send-off of Troop 1487, congratulations to the team that worked on the Pitsenbarger project. Congratulations to Natalie Young with regard to the Home Town HG TV video. Anatta boy to Britney Hayslett with regard to customer service with regard to a street light, ideas on setting up a meeting to discuss the pool, setting up the meeting for Thursday, February 27, 2020 to begin at 6:00

p.m. Cudos to Lucky's Bar for the improvement to the establishment and the improvements being made in that area of Main Street.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Commissioner Grissom to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 7:30 p.m. motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson, motion carried unanimously.

  
KRIS LEE, MAYOR

PASSED: 2/18/20

ATTEST: Karen S. Jenkins  
KAREN S. JENKINS  
CLERK OF COMMISSION