

MINUTES
REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 18, 2020
6:10 p.m.

Piqua City Commission met at 6:10 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street following the Joint Meeting with the Washington Township Trustees, during which Mayor Lee informed that this meeting is a Zoom meeting as well as a YouTube live meeting and that we have one person engaged in the Zoom meeting. Mayor Lee called the meeting to order.

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

PROCLAMATION - HONORING THE LIFE OF KENNETH CORNELL THORPE

Mayor Lee issued a Proclamation honoring Kenneth Cornell Thorpe, a former Piqua athlete from the 1950's and an honorable man who passed away on July 3, 2020, establishing Tuesday, August 18 as Kenneth Cornell Thorpe Day.

SUMMER RESIDENCE PRIDE AWARDS:

Mayor Lee recognized the following property owners which have received the Summer Residence Pride Award. No recipient was in attendance at the Commission meeting to receive the award.

Crystal & Shane Cantrell	536 S. WAYNE STREET
Rita & Roger Queen	907 YOUNG STREET
Lucille & Dennis Myers	701 COTTAGE AVENUE
Diana & Edwin Benton	721 BROADWAY STREET

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the July 7, 2020 Regular Piqua City Commission Meeting and the July 21, 2020, July 29, 2020 and the August 4, 2020 Special Commission Meetings

RES. NO. R-97-20

A Resolution of Appreciation for the Public Service of Jonathan A. Stevens as a City Employee

Mr. Stevens was present to accept his Resolution of Appreciation

RES. NO. R-98-20

A Resolution of Appreciation for the Public Service of Candace L. Etter as a City Employee

Candace Etter was present to accept her Resolution of Appreciation

Commissioner Grissom moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda; motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearson. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was carried unanimously, Mayor Lee declared the **Consent Agenda approved**

NEW BUSINESS

RES. NO. R-99-20

A Resolution authorizing a purchase order to Cargill, Incorporated for the purchase of road salt for the Street Department

Brian Brookhart, Public Works Director presented the staff report

Mayor Lee asked for any questions or comments from the Commission

Commissioner Fogt asked what drove the salt price down

Mr. Brookhart stated that drop was due to supply and demand of the seasons

Commissioner Hinds inquired if we are purchasing the same amount as last year.

Mr. Brookhart confirmed that is was.

Commissioner Pearson inquired if the salt will be used along with chemicals.

Mr. Brookhart stated yes, the chemicals help the salt to adhere to the road.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Pearson to adopt RES. NO. R-99-20, motion was seconded by Commissioner Fogt. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-99-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-100-20

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Ohio Department of Transportation - Office of Aviation for funding under the Ohio Airport Grant Program for FY2021

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

Mayor Lee asked for questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Grissom inquired if this was just an application to apply for the grant.

Ms. Havenar responded that was correct, this is just the application, there are no guarantees that we will get the grant. If we are not successful with the grant the City will not proceed with the project.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt RES. NO. R-100-20, motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearson. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-100-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-101-20

A Resolution authorizing continued Wastewater Biosolids to disposal at Cherokee Run Landfill in Bellefontaine (Republic Services)

Chris Melvin – Superintendent of Wastewater presented the staff report

Mayor Lee asked for questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Hinds commented that the budgeted item is much more than what is being asked for at the present time.

Mr. Melvin explained that this year has been a transitional year, construction gave way to a late start.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt RES. NO. R-101-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Fogt. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-101-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-102-20

A Resolution repealing Resolution R-46-20 which authorized the sale of City owned real estate located at 439 S. Main Street

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director presented the Staff Report

Mayor Lee asked for questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Grissom asked if this resolution was just repealing the previous Resolution or is it also authorizing the sale of the city owned real estate.

Mr. Schmiesing confirmed it is repealing Resolution 46-20 adopted in April and replacing it with this Resolution to reflect the correct purchase price.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Fogt to adopt RES. NO. R-102-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Hinds. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-102-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-103-20

A Resolution authorizing a zoning map change for Parcel N44-095820 from OS-Open Space to R1-One Family Residential

Chris Schmiesing, Community and Economic Development Director presented the Staff Report

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

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt RES. NO. R-103-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-103-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-104-20

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for the alternative feasibility study and preliminary design of the Piqua Water Supply Lakes System

Bob Jennings from the Water Department presented the Staff Report

City Manager Huff stated that this is the project with regard to getting the rating of our dams changed so that the City will not have to face a high cost of improving the dam structures in the future

Mayor Lee asked for questions or comments from the Commission

Commissioner Grissom asked if the expenditure listed includes grants or was it the sole responsibility of the City.

Mr. Jennings stated that the total expenditure included a 10% contingency so the total was \$624,000 –\$211,000 will be allocated out of this year's and next year's budgets.

Commissioner Pearson stated that there will be alternatives after it is discovered what is wrong and how to go about correcting it.

Rob Kirkbridge of Stantec Consulting Services stated they will be able to provide information with regard to the different alternatives and options available when it is realized what it will take to get the dams into compliance.

City Manager Huff stated that the alternates will vary in cost.

Commissioner Fogt asked if this process included dredging or if we use current water levels.

Mr. Kirkbridge stated that the focus is on trying not to change the normal pool level.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adopt RES. NO. R-104-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Grissom. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-104-20 adopted

RES. NO. R-105-20

A Resolution to levy assessments to pay for the cost of Nuisance Abatements

Amy Welker, Director of Health and Sanitation presented the staff report

Mayor Lee asked for questions or comments from the Commission

Commissioner Hinds asked if this is about the same amount of assessments we usually have.

Ms. Welker stated that the number is less than in the past because we are filing more often.

Motion was made by Commissioner Grissom to adopt RES. NO. R-105-20, motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lee declared RES. NO. R-105-20 adopted

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Lee explained the process being followed at this time.

Jey Roman, 406 W. High Street - participating through the Zoom process. Mr. Roman thanked the Commission for making this chat process available. Mr. Roman asked for an update on the medical marijuana issue

Commissioner Fogt stated that the topic will be on the Planning Commission's next agenda.

The Commission has received two questions/concerns via e-mail

Jim and Amy Francis, 309 N. Sunset Drive – Mr. and Mrs. Francis expressed concern that a gas station is planned to be built on the corner near their home.

City Manager Huff stated that the City of Piqua Development Office has received an inquiry with regard to a gas station on the property. However, no permit application has been received

Chris and Angie Smith, 315 N. Sunset Drive – Mr. and Mrs. Smith expressed concerns over the possibility of a gas station going on the corner of Sunset and High Street

Mayor Lee stated that this subject was just addressed in the previous question. There is nothing that we know of at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Huff asked Chris Schmiesing, Economic Development Director to present an update on the Plaza Oversight Committee.

Mr. Schmiesing stated that the committee had a recent meeting where they discussed the history of the Plaza and the types of businesses suitable for the plaza. The committee included members from each ward in Piqua. The committee reviewed the proposal they had put together and discussed the process of soliciting proposals for the restaurant spaces. At the present time there was difficulty soliciting restaurants due to the COVID-19 pandemic and state restrictions on restaurants. The City has received seven inquires, three specific to the deli space and the remaining in regard to the restaurant space. One person followed up. The consensus is they would be a good fit – it looks positive to possibly be on the September 1, 2020 Agenda for approval. This prospect is a deli-type business and is an existing entrepreneur.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER FOGT

Urban chickens neighborhood co-op poll – 49% yes, 44% no, 7% no opinion. We need to figure out a way to do a true poll of the city rather than social media (mailer-type poll).

Talks among citizens and the commission – encourage citizens to bring these talks to the Commission – communication is a two-way street and e-mail and phone calls are encouraged.

Utility studies of an entire utility process possibly to be done in the next years comparing.

City Manager Huff stated that a study was done a few years ago. The City of Piqua was about two from the bottom of least costly; now probably in bottom half of area municipalities.

Commissioner Hinds commented that she has a packet of information that she will provide to Commissioner Fogt.

City Manager Huff – we have more recent data

Commissioner Fogt stated that next year he would like to do a poll on urban chickens, put more focus on the pool – try to find some way to raise money for pool that is not a tax.

Racism resolution – Commissioner Fogt has found some cities that have the ability to give “water spots” through town to afford accessibility to free, clean water for the homeless or other people who don't have the ability to access clean water.

COMMISSIONER PEARSON

Congratulations to the Residence Pride winners. Hope that the students, teachers and principals will have a good year.

COMMISSIONER GRISSOM

Shout out to parents and decisions with regard to school. Take into consideration others' though processes (masks) – respect others' opinions. We need to come together and support each other.

Thank you to the one person who attended the meeting via Zoom. We are hoping for more, this is a step in the right direction.

Thank you to Jon and Candi for their years of service and congratulations to the Residence Pride Award Winners.

COMMISSIONER HINDS

Congratulations to the Residence Pride Award winners, looking forward to the Christmas awards. Thank you to Jon and Candi for their many years of service.

Thank you to the city staff, we are fortunate to have this staff, this is a stellar staff that has kept the city going during this difficult time. Shout out to Tyler Lee for the maintenance of the big flowers pots around the City of Piqua.

MAYOR LEE

The flower planters are beautiful and are doing a good job slowing traffic. Thank you to Tyler Lee.

Mayor Lee asked if the city has had any experiences and issues with the opening of the City Building.

City Manager Huff replied there had been none.

Mayor Lee noted the social distancing “circles” look good and offered thanks to the city employees for making these adjustments.

Thank you to Jon and Candi – workers come to the City for a career – they stay and make a difference for the citizens.


Thank you to the Residence Pride Award winners. Homeowners are doing a good job and homes are turning out beautiful.

Piqua Catholic Schools started today. His son is happy to get out and be among kids.

The Piqua Health Department is helping schools to keep our kids safe. The Governor's direction to our Health Department will help citizens make decisions with regard to schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Hinds to adjourn from the Regular City Commission Meeting at 7:15 p.m. motion seconded by Commissioner Pearson, motion carried unanimously.



KRIS LEE, MAYOR

PASSED: 9-1-20

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