



**PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Piqua City Commission met at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street, Piqua, Ohio.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners DeBrosse, Hohman, Simmons and Vetter were present.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Vetter made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. Commission adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners DeBrosse, Hohman, Simmons and Vetter were present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session is to consider pending or imminent litigation and to consider the purchase or sale of property for public purposes.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner DeBrosse made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners DeBrosse, Hohman, Simmons and Vetter were present.

Commissioner Hohman made a motion to amend the agenda to include a short Q&A by Ken Moyer from the Miami Conservatory District.

Commissioner Hohman said he has heard a lot of concerns about why the fee is going up so much and asked Ken Moyer to explain the difference between an assessment and a tax. Mr. Moyer says any entity that receives an assessment has to receive a benefit. An assessment benefits the particular homeowner. A tax benefits everyone.

Commissioner Hohman asked what level of government the MCD is through. Mr. Moyer said they follow the Ohio Revised Code and are governed by the Conservancy Court.

Commissioner Hohman asked if there was any way of mitigating the cost if the homeowner can't afford the assessment. Ken Moyer said there is no way to get out of paying it because the homeowner is receiving a direct benefit. Commissioner Hohman reasoned that it is a trade off because the homeowner

could have lost the home altogether due to flooding or have to pay for flood insurance without the protection of the MCD.

Ken discussed when the assessments will happen. Commissioners Hohman and Mayor Lee thanked Mr. Moyer for answering questions. Commissioner Vetter mentioned an interesting book available at Johnston Farm with the history of the flood. Commissioner Simmons asked if someone replaced a structure and mitigated the risk, if the assessment could be eliminated. Mr. Moyer said it was a great question. In certain circumstances it may be lessened but the MCD doesn't track topography.

WORK SESSION

Kyle Hinkelman discussed how the City of Piqua would be applying for Piqua Historic Preservation certification. He said that there are a number of other communities that have this designation including Tipp City. This would open up a number of grants to help with certain projects and tax credits. Kyle said we worked with the State already to see if we met their requirements on the checklist and they felt that we needed a new ordinance to cover everything. Kyle showed a map with the boundaries. This would create a new city board. The timeline was discussed. Commissioner Vetter asked what someone could do if they wanted another building included. Kyle said to contact him but noted that the property has to be contiguous. Mayor Lee asked if Kyle had talked to Don Smith and Kyle said he tried to make contact with him, but this would just be another tool for the Caldwell Historic District to use. Commissioner DeBrosse confirmed that this would make tax credits available for developers and would eliminate the developer from having to get this designation themselves. He asked if there were any particular sites that would benefit from this. Kyle said he knows of 2-3 currently. Commissioner Simmons said he'd be interested in being on the Historic Preservation Board and Commissioner DeBrosse said that the paperwork doesn't state a commissioner is needed.

REGULAR PIQUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the March 19, 2024, Regular City Commission Meeting and the March 28, 2024, Special Commission Meeting

RESOLUTION NO. R-59-24

A resolution appointing a member to the Diversity Committee

RESOLUTION NO. R-60-24

A resolution appointing a member to the Diversity Committee

RESOLUTION NO. R-61-24

A resolution appointing a member to the Diversity Committee

RESOLUTION NO. R-62-24

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

Action taken: Commissioner Hohman made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. O-2-24 (2nd Reading)

An ordinance to make appropriations for the City of Piqua, Ohio for the year 2024

Introduction: Jerry O'Brien said the appropriation is to adjust the line items. There have been no changes since the first reading.

Public Comment: None

Action taken: 2nd Reading

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-63-24

A resolution authorizing a purchase order to Knapheide Truck Equipment Center for the purchase of a utility service truck with service body and air compressor system for the underground utilities department

Introduction: Kevin Krejny is seeking approval to purchase a new Utility Service Truck body and air compressor system from Knapheide Truck Equipment Center. This truck is an investment in a piece of equipment that we use every day, and it should last us at least 10 years. It will replace our current utility service truck (W-8) which is 10 years old and has over 100,000 miles. The utility bed and air compressor are being purchased through Knapheide Truck Equipment Center. The cab and chassis are being purchased through Valley Ford Truck, Inc. with a separate Resolution tonight. This equipment was also quoted from one other company known to us as being able to provide this specific equipment, Ace Truck Body, Inc. Their quote came in at \$41,000.00. It will be split 50/50 between Water and Underground.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner DeBrosse asked what the total of the truck and the service body is. Commissioner Hohman asked if the Utility Board approved, and Kevin replied that they were in approval of this at the March meeting.

Public Comment: None

Action taken: Commissioner Hohman made a motion to approve R-63-24 and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. R-64-24

A resolution authorizing a purchase order to Valley Ford Truck, Inc. for the purchase of a new utility service truck for the underground utilities department

Introduction: Kevin Krejny introduced this resolution seeking approval to purchase a new Utility Service Truck from Valley Ford Truck, Inc. This truck is an investment in a piece of equipment that we use every day, and it should last us at least 10 years. It will replace our current utility service truck which is 10 years old. The cab and chassis are being purchased through Valley Ford Truck, Inc. The utility bed and air compressor are being purchased through Knapheide Truck Equipment Center with a separate Resolution tonight. This truck was also quoted from Sherry's and their quote came in at \$70,200.00.

Commissioners Comments: None

Public Comment: None

Action taken: Commissioner DeBrosse made a motion to approve R-64-24 and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. R-65-24

A resolution to authorize a replat along Nadene Drive w/ vacation of existing easements and dedication of new easements

Introduction: Kyle Hinkelman reported that the Planning Commission recommended approval to the City Commission at the March 12, 2024, meeting to approve a Replat of Inlots #8660, 8661, & 8662, and vacation of existing easements and dedication of new easements as displayed in Exhibit A. The lot being divided will be split equally between the 2 adjacent homeowners.

This replat is an equal division of inlot #8661, with the western half being conveyed to inlot #8660 and the eastern to inlot #8662. The desired split of the inlot allows for a much larger home to be built on an irregular shaped parcel.

The developer, Rob Alexander, explained that the individual requesting this wanted a bigger lot for what they wanted to build.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Hohman asked if there was any opposition and Rob said no and this has been done a dozen or more times before.

Public Comment: None

Action taken: Commissioner Hohman made a motion to approve R-65-24 and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. R-66-24

A resolution establishing a Piqua City Commission 2024 Calendar of meetings

Introduction: Paul Oberdorfer said traditionally we establish a calendar of meetings.

Commissioners Comments: Mayor Lee pointed out that the August 6 meeting is cancelled due to the Commissioners wanting to attend National Night Out.

Public Comment: None

Action taken: Commissioner Hohman made a motion to approve R-66-24 and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Paul Oberdorfer reminded everyone that the 2024 Riverway Summit will be held on April 19th at the plaza and encouraged everyone to buy a ticket. He announced that planning commission was moved to Wednesday, April 10th and that the Fire Training Committee has been moved to the Turret Room at the Plaza.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioner Simmons thanked the Mayor and City Manager for rescheduling last Tuesday's Commission Meeting due to weather. He gave a shout out to ham radio operators and enjoyed listening to them. He said it was a lot of fun seeing all of the volunteers that came out for the eclipse.

Commissioner DeBrosse thanked local businesses for organizing events over the weekend. He thanked the chief for preparing for an influx of visitors during the eclipse. He also thanked the officers for how they carried themselves with class during an encounter this weekend.

Commissioner Vetter attended the CHIP meeting and found it helpful. He said the Public Works department is in the process of delivering door hangers for people not removing their trash cans from the street. He has attended the energy and utility board meetings and is very impressed with the professionalism. There was a home buyers resource meeting, and it was open to everyone. We are trying to expand our spay and neuter program for cats and you can contact him or the City Manager if you would like to volunteer to help. There is a Hance Pavilion meeting to discuss ADA on April 18. The city does not have an ordinance stating what can be burned in recreational fires and we follow the State guidelines. April 25th is a Hydraulic Canal meeting.

Commissioner Hohman echoes Commissioner Vetter about the need for the spay and neuter program. He helped by adopting a stray. He said the eclipse was gorgeous and he hopes others got to experience it too. He said he was impressed with the police officer's ability to keep cool during an encounter this weekend. He thanked Chief Byron for getting back with him on the information regarding firearms training and he appreciates his effort in preparing his response. He asked Paul Oberdorfer how much the MCD assessments were going to increase for city properties.

Mayor Lee thanked the downtown businesses for organizing the event this weekend. He said it was delightful to see all of the people. The eclipse was a nice family affair. He repeated that the Fire Training Committee would be meeting Thursday at the plaza and that there is a mayor's meeting every Wednesday. It is the time of year where people start cutting their grass and asked people to bag their clippings and not put them in the street.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Valerie Mullikin applauded the downtown and Piqua Center for having lots of activities over the weekend. She thinks the Historic Preservation certification would be amazing because she noticed some buildings downtown that could benefit from a grant available if we get certification. She asked when we'd have ADA

parking downtown and when the only shelter at Pittsenbarger park would be in ADA compliance. Paul said the study is not complete yet and there has been a change in staff. Valerie said she would like to work with him. Paul told her to email him. Valerie encouraged the commissioners to get involved with the Miami County Fair and to help the Indian Lake tornado victims by donating to Thrivent Financial.

Commissioner Lee said that he received a letter from the City of Celina thanking us for sending our power employees to help. Commissioner Hohman thanked Valerie for her input.

Melonie Walker said that she thinks the Historic Preservation ordinance is amazing. She said she owns a business and a home in this designated area and some repairs are needed to the bricks on her building. She asked about the orange cones around the trees downtown and asked if the work would be done by the Taste of the Arts event in May. She said she appreciated the Police Department. Melonie said she saw a lot of traffic from the alien event downtown. She saw a lot of out of towners on Saturday and on Sunday 80% of the traffic was from Piqua. She said it was a big hit and a lot of people were asking for them to have this event more often.

Kim Heisler asked that batteries be added to the restricted items and not just lithium batteries. Commissioner Hohman said that he believes that it is in the ordinance he's working on. She asked if we could just terminate the contract with BGSU. Commissioner Hohman explained that BGSU has one of the best fire training programs in the state. Their training school is separate from the research department.

Jeff Grimes said that the pallets that will be burned at the Fire Training Center have toxic chemicals on them. Commissioner Hohman doubted that statement and Jeff said that Commissioner Hohman should do his research like he has done. He said that BGSU should lose their accreditation. Jeff said he wants to know when his previous questions will be answered which are: Who approved to pay the utility bills at the Fire Training Center, will citizens be compensated for the water and soil testing, how much we are paying attorneys, was grant money available for the Tillman property, and why the value of the water plant increased drastically? He stated we should pay BGSU back their money and stop the nonsense. Frank Patrizio stated that the valuation was off and may have included the 72 acres also. The auditor's office will re-assess the value.

Eva Silvers said that she was against the battery burning in the beginning and has taken a step back. She thanked Officer Rodriguez saying no one should have to go to work and deal with that, just because they can. She is an avid gun owner and 1st amendment supporter but there is also common courtesy and a way to present yourself in how you walk in life without being vile. As far as battery burning, we have valid testing results that we aren't going to believe because they are attached to the EPA. Anyone with any kind of background would know that only certain entities can test, and those tests are acceptable. She keeps hearing and seeing people come to our community that are doing more harm to the community than good. We say we want answers and we've paid for independent companies to test, and they say the company was paid off. This is ludicrous. No company is going to risk their business. They say the water is toxic but finds it is ironic that they wash dishes in the same water. She loves this community. She has a problem with the fire training board because the city is going to give the board their information, but a

collective group of citizens say it's not going to be viable. She suggested that they need to share their information. She is a supporter of this community and has done clean ups. When a problem arose instead of handling it like adults, it has become a big conspiracy theory. She said she is really tired of the community being drug through the mud. Eva gave a shout out to Lora Kiser who contacted her and wants to do a bike path clean up. It is catching on.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.



KRIS LEE, MAYOR

Passed: 4.16.2024
Attest: Melissa Kinney
COMMISSION CLERK