



PIQUA CITY SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2024
5 PM

CALL TO ORDER at 5:01 pm

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners Vetter, Simmons, and DeBrosse were present. Commissioner Hohman joined the meeting virtually. Mayor Lee stated Commissioner Hohman could not vote as he was joining the meeting virtually.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:04 pm

Commissioner Vetter made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners Vetter, Simmons, and DeBrosse were present. Commissioner Hohman joined the Executive Session virtually.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session is to consider pending or imminent litigation and to consider confidential information related to economic development as further defined by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(g)(8) or as amended

ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:09 pm.

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

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee and Commissioners Vetter, Simmons, and DeBrosse were present. Commissioner Hohman joined the Executive Session virtually.

Mayor Lee made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ordinance O-14-24. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and Mayor Lee, Commissioners DeBrosse, Vetter and Simmons were in favor and the motion was carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes from the July 30, 2024, City Commission Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to approve the Consent Agenda, and Commissioner DeBrosse seconded the motion. Mayor Lee and Commissioners DeBrosse, Simmons and Vetter were in favor and the motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. O-12-24 (3rd Reading)

An ordinance to repeal Piqua Code 30.15 in its entirety and to adopt new rules for Commission

Introduction: Frank Patrizio said this is the third reading to adopt new rules for Commission. He said he followed another case to write the new rules. There were three changes made from the first reading as requested by the Commission. The MVRMA attorney has reviewed the proposed new rules.

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Simmons asked if MVRMA has reviewed the rules. Frank Patrizio said the attorney from MVRMA did review the proposed new rules. He said he read Kim Heisler's email and gave it a lot of thought. People from out of town should be able to speak. He also said being loud and using profanity is very subjective.

Public Comments: Alisha Lange said that she is concerned about the rule changes, and it appears to violate constitutional rights. She urged the commission to reconsider making these changes. Ms. Lange said it is alarming that their voices are being suppressed. She read a statement on reasons why she was against the ordinance.

Kim Heisler said she feels deeply about the limitations. She said she understands that there are other ways to talk to the commissioners, but this forum is the only way that the 20,000 citizens can hear. Ms. Heisler asked the commission to consider not enforcing the new rules. She asked them to change the deadline from 9:00 pm to 10:00 pm for shutting down public comment. Ms. Heisler said it would be nice if the commission could limit the number of Special Meetings they had. Mayor Lee said the night was only changed because of National Night Out. She said it would be nice if the public knew what changes had been made to the ordinance since the last meeting. Frank Patrizio said there have not been any changes since the last meeting. Mr. Patrizio said that the only changes made since the first reading were increasing the time a person could talk on an agenda item to 5 min, increasing the time a resident could speak during public comment to 5 min, and to the comment cards. Kim Heisler said she felt it was imperative that public comments be dictated.

Jeff Grimes said that the commissioners work for the citizens and that the citizens are their boss. He said limiting the citizens is unconstitutional. Without the citizens' comments it doesn't help get to the bottom of solving this town's problems. He said the time limit should be longer and if we don't have a voice, then why have a meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner DeBrosse to approve the ordinance, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. Mayor Lee, Commissioners Vetter and DeBrosse voted in favor of the Ordinance. Commissioner Simmons voted Nay. The motion was approved with 3 votes in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. O-13-24 (3rd Reading)

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

Introduction: Finance Director Jerry O'Brien stated that there has been an adjustment of \$60,000 to the economic development fund since the last reading. Mr. O'Brien said this was for a legal expenditure.

Commissioners Comments: None

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to approve the ordinance, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. Mayor Lee, Commissioners Simmons, DeBrosse and Vetter voted in favor of the ordinance and the motion was carried with 4 votes.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. R-100-24

A resolution authorizing transfers of cash from the general fund to other funds for the fiscal year 2024

Introduction: Jerry O'Brien said this is a resolution to authorize the transfer from the general fund to other funds. He said that even though the commission approved the ordinance, the Ohio Revised Code requires a separate resolution.

Commissioners Comments: None

Public Comments: Jeff Grimes said he has so many concerns. He said the golf course is getting more money and we just gave them some. He said a huge amount of money is being poured into the golf course. Jeff went over multiple line items. He asked what the Pro Piqua fund and Jerry said it is an organization we donate to. Mr. Grimes said there is no accountability. He again asked what the \$225,000 was going to golf for.

Kim Heiser said she would like a breakdown of what's going to the golf course because she doesn't understand why more money is being transferred to them. Commissioner DeBrosse said there is nothing in the appropriation going to the golf course or the plaza. He said that the wrong column is being looked at.

A motion was made by Commissioner DeBrosse to approve the resolution and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. O-14-24 (1st reading)

An ordinance to amend title 15: Land Usage, Piqua Development Code

Introduction: Kyle Hinkelman said that the Piqua code was modified a little over a year ago and some challenges or issues have come up over time. Kyle Hinkelman said this request is to modify 4.7.5 d1 to allow an unlimited number of flags to be placed on residential properties. He said a flag is considered a sign and some of the content can be concerning and the number of flags. Mr. Hinkelman said the Planning Commission recommended modifying the flags on residential lots with no limit.

Commissioner's comments: Commissioner Simmons said we are voting to let people do what they want.
Commissioner Hohman said he is strongly in support of this ordinance and will vote in favor at the next meeting when he is in person.

Public comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to waive the three-reading rule on this ordinance and Commissioner DeBrosse seconded the motion. Mayor Lee, Commissioners DeBrosse and Simmons voted in favor of waiving the three reading rules. Commissioner Vetter voted Nay. The motion to waive the three-reading rule was defeated with 3 in favor and 1 against.

This will serve as a first reading.

ADJOURNMENT at 6:43 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to adjourn, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All approved and the motion was carried unanimously.



KRIS LEE, MAYOR

Passed: 8.20.2024
Attest: Melissa Kinney
COMMISSION CLERK