



**PIQUA CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025**

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.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lee led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to adjourn to Executive Session, and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session is to prepare for and review negotiations on compensation or other terms and conditions of employment for City personnel.

ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to adjourn from Executive Session, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION TO APPROVE BUSINESS AGENDA

1) Rules of Conduct for City Commission Meetings

Mayor Lee noted that the Rules of Conduct for City Commission Meetings were included in the packet.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve the Business Agenda, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1) Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the December 10, 2024, Regular City Commission Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to approve the Consent Agenda, and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Resolution No. R-148-24 (tabled)

A resolution to authorize the naming of a City facility

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to untable R-148-24, and Mayor Lee seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

Introduction: Commissioner Hohman explained that the first time this resolution was presented, the donor's name was left blank. The resolution before them now has the donors name listed. Paul Oberdorfer said that the city had not had a chance to talk to the donor prior to the last meeting, but now we have had an opportunity to speak with them and they were fine with identifying who they were. Paul Oberdorfer said we are grateful for the donation and the opportunity to put the naming convention on the splash pad.

Commissioner's comments: Commissioner Hohman said he is also appreciative for the donation. The fact that it was tabled last time for lack of transparency reflected nothing on the donor, and we are very happy for their generosity. Mayor Lee said we are very appreciative for the donation and that it is just hard to approve something you do not know about.

Public Comments: Kim Heisler asked what would happen when a new donor comes along. Ms. Heisler asked if there was a policy stating the guidelines of naming something. Mayor Lee responded that if another donation comes in, they will have to choose something else to name. Commissioner Hohman said it is pretty standard when you've named something, that is perpetuity in naming rights.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-148-24, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Resolution No. R-1-25

A resolution approving the purchase of liability insurance for Piqua's hydraulic canal and lakes

Introduction: Kevin Krejny said this is an emergency reading for the reason that our insurance runs out on the 15th, and we need this resolution to take place immediately. This is for insurance through AEGIS. This covers hydraulic canals and lakes, the low-level dam and any potential large water sewer failures. This is an annual resolution. Unfortunately, the price has gone up a lot this year from about \$127,000.00 to \$247,000.00. From talking to them Kevin Krejny believes it is from the flooding from hurricane Helene.

Commissioner's comments: Mayor Lee asked if we have looked at any other insurers. Kevin Krejny responded that we use a company called Marsh and McClellan and they requested quotes from a dozen companies. This is the only one that bid on our needs. Commissioner Hohman asked what kind of coverage this is, and specifically asked if it covers things that break, and damages as a result of something that breaks. Kevin Krejny went over things this policy covers. Commissioner Hohman asked which funds this comes out of, and Kevin said it is split between water, sewer and stormwater funds. Commissioner Vetter asked if he would be correct in saying it is not liability coverage. Kevin Krejny said yes if there were flooded sewers that caused damage, it would cover repairs by the failure of the dam. Commissioner Hohman asked if this covers our ODNR issues or does it cause problems for eligibility. Kevin Krejny said no this does not affect our current evaluation with Stantec. He added that it could if we were meeting the hydraulic capacity, which we are not. Commissioner Simmons asked if we could contact these people earlier in the year, so we do not have to make this an emergency. Kevin Krejny said he contacted them the first week of December and we did not get the quote until around 3:00 pm on Friday. He said from now on we will have coverage until the 15th of January each year, and when we come to you the first meeting of each year we will not be hindered by the holidays.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to amend Resolution No. R-1-25 to make it an emergency, and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vetter to approve Resolution No. R-1-25 as amended, and Commissioner Hohman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

2) Resolution No. R-2-25

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

Introduction: Kevin Krejny said this coverage is also an annual resolution. This is for two gas turbine engines the city has. The turbines help us peak shave demands in the summer. Kevin Krejny noted that this policy has gone up a little bit from last year. Mr. Krejny said that everything is the same on this one as R-1-25 as far as it needing to be an emergency, and that he requested the bids the first of December.

Commissioner's comments: Commissioner Hohman said the gas turbines used for peak shaving is an invaluable part of Piqua's power infrastructure. Commissioner Hohman sees the numbers every month at the Energy Board meeting and how much it saves residents on their bill. It is very important and there has been a lot of investment that has gone into the turbines over the last two years. This is a critical piece of investment that more than makes up for it. Commissioner Vetter added that this was unanimously approved by the Energy Board.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to amend Resolution No. R-2-25 to make it an emergency, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-2-25 as amended, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

3) Resolution No. R-3-25

A resolution authorizing a temporary loan of cash from the general fund to the city facilities improvements capital projects fund

Introduction: Jerry O'Brien said this resolution is asking for an advance to be taken from the general fund to be put in the capital projects fund. This is for the HVAC upgrade in this building and the Ft. Piqua Plaza. We are issuing debt for this, and we also have a grant, however it will be several weeks before we have the debt proceeds in hand. This would allow us to go ahead and let us order the materials for the project. Mr. O'Brien said he realized after he added this resolution that he should have asked for this to be passed as an emergency so the order can be placed right away.

Commissioner's comments: Mayor Lee confirmed that this needed passed as an emergency. The Mayor also clarified that we are borrowing money from ourselves until the loan money comes in. Jerry O'Brien said this is very normal to advance money while you're waiting on grant proceeds or loans to allow the project to begin. The money will moved back as soon as the loan proceeds and grants come in.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to amend Resolution No. R-3-25 to pass as an emergency, and Commissioner DeBrosse seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-3-25 as amended, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

4) Resolution No. R-4-25

A resolution regarding the applied for TREX transfer liquor permit for Piqua Vapor Inc., 645 W. Water Street, Piqua, OH 45356

Chris Schmiesing said the item before commission is a typical request of when someone applies for a liquor license through the State of Ohio. It is first circulated to staff for review, and then it is brought before Commission. Commission approval does not necessarily approve it, but it lets the state know whether the city has any objections. This is a TREX application which means when certain types of licenses are exhausted, the applicant can identify a license in another community of the same type, and request that it be transferred.

Commissioner's comments: Mayor Lee asked if there was any internal opposition. There was none. Commissioner Simmons asked if this was the Piqua Vape location and Mr. Schmiesing confirmed that it was.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-4-25, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. Commissioner DeBrosse, Commissioner Hohman, Mayor Lee, Commissioner Simmons voted in favor and Commissioner Vetter voted No. The motion carried Yes 4, No 1.

5) Resolution No. R-5-25

A resolution authorizing a purchase order to Nelson Tree Service, LLC for electric power line clearance for 2025 thru 2027

Introduction: Alan Barga, Power Distribution Manager, presented this resolution. Alan Barga said the Piqua Power System intends to contract one aerial tree-trimming crew in 2025 thru 2027. Sealed bids from pre-qualified contractors were received November 21, 2024. The bids have been reviewed, and the results are attached. The bid from Nelson Tree Service is recommended for award as the qualified bid. Nelson Tree Service has provided this service to the City of Piqua for the last nineteen years and their service has been exceptional.

Commissioner's comments: Commissioner Hohman asked what matrix was used to rate Nelson Tree Service as exceptional for the last 19 years. Alan Barga responded that their knowledge of the system, their customer service, and their communications. Alan Barga said a new vendor would not know the system, we would be unfamiliar with their communication skills, and we would not know how experienced they are. Commissioner Hohman asked how many outages we have had as a

result of trees falling on power lines. Mr. Barga said he did not have that number, and Commissioner Hohman asked Alan if he could provide that information at the next Energy Board meeting and to the Commissioners. Commissioner Hohman asked for how many power outages we have had vs. other power systems around the state. Commissioner Hohman said he knows we have one of the most reliable power systems in the state and maybe even the country. Commissioner Vetter said the other compliment is that when you have 60 mph winds in a storm and you have relatively low outages, tree trimming is part of what we have to do to maintain our reliability. Commissioner Simmons said he has witnessed power lines moving in a tree in his neighborhood. He has seen Nelson Tree Service trim the tree, and they do a really good job. Mayor Lee asked if Nelson Tree Service was the lowest bidder. Alan Barga said, no they were not. Mr. Barga explained the different bids and the reasoning for choosing Nelson Tree Service. Commissioner Vetter acknowledged that this was discussed at the most recent Energy Board meeting and was also unanimously approved. Commissioner Hohman said the bids appear to be substantially close and their experience probably also makes up for the gap. Mayor Lee said for full disclosure he stated that he has received a few emails from people who were not in favor.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-5-25, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

6) Resolution No. R-6-25

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to pay annual membership dues to American Municipal Power, Inc. for 2025 thru 2029

Introduction: Alan Barga, power distribution manager, said this is the annual membership fee that is brought before commission every year. American Municipal Power, Inc. (AMP) was founded in 1971 with the purpose of providing the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power and energy to its members at lower costs. This purpose is served by joint ownership of electric facilities, pooled buying power in the energy markets and pursuing additional means of generating, transmitting and distributing electric power and energy. The original members were all located in Ohio, giving American Municipal Power-Ohio, or AMP-Ohio its name. Today, AMP has grown to serve member communities in nine states, thus the Board of Trustees dropped Ohio from the name to better reflect the growing geographic footprint. AMP membership includes 134 electric municipalities located in the states of Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia and one joint action agency in Delaware. AMP is owned and governed by its member communities.

Commissioner's comments: Mayor Lee said that he has been happy with AMP.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-6-25, and Commissioner DeBrosse seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

7) Resolution No. R-7-25

A resolution authorizing the Power System to purchase #2 Fuel Oil on the Open and Spot Market for 2025 thru 2029

Introduction: Alan Barga, Power Distribution Manager, said this is an annual request to buy diesel fuel. The Power System owns and operates two combustion turbine generators which consume #2 fuel oil to generate electricity. These units are peak load generating units, which means they are only used to meet requirements during the periods of greatest or peak load on the system. These units are utilized for shaving the City's Local (DP&L) and Regional (PJM) transmission peaks, which provides significant savings to Piqua's electric customers.

The Power System purchases #2 fuel oil at various times during the year, depending on how often the combustion turbine generators are operated. In previous years these purchases have been made by obtaining quotes from various suppliers prior to placing an order. The quantity and timing of fuel burned annually fluctuates coupled with the unpredictable fuel market makes it impractical to obtain an annual fixed cost for this commodity. Recent suppliers of fuel oil include:

- Mansfield Oil Co., 1201 Brukner Dr., Troy OH
- Schafer Oil Co., 9201 St. Rte. 66, Fort Loramie OH.

It is necessary for the Power System to purchase #2 fuel oil as needed from one or more of the suppliers listed above.

Commissioner's comments: Mayor Lee asked how this compared to the price we paid in 2024. Alan Barga said he does not have the 2024 cost, but he knows that the cost increased a little.

Commissioner Vetter said he believes it varies because of weather. Alan Barga agreed that weather depends greatly on how much we would use. Commissioner Vetter said this was discussed at the Energy Board meeting on the 31st of December, and it was unanimously approved. Mayor Lee said he likes that we are using Mansfield Oil as they are local.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to approve Resolution No. R-7-25, and Commissioner Vetter seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Paul Oberdorfer announced that we will be opening the rental inspection program for registrations only. There will be no inspections this year. Inspections will begin in 2026. In 2025 we will be working with property owners to register each of their residential rental units in the program in preparation for the launch of inspections in 2026. The registration will open on February 1st, 2025 and we are asking that all property owners complete their registration by June 1st, 2025. We will have communications shared publicly within the next few weeks. We have staff ready to support property owners as they need to complete their registration.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Mayor Lee made a statement to make sure everyone understands that they are not doing

inspections this year. We are only registering properties this year. If you need help registering, people are here to help.

Commissioner DeBrosse did not have any comments.

Commissioner Simmons wished everyone a happy 2025. He said he was able to celebrate the new year with his bride. A monthly food giveaway happens every third Saturday of the month at Stonebridge Church, 105 E Greene Street. He said he is still thinking about doing ham radio class. Commissioner Simmons said he would like to see these meetings streamed live on YouTube and Mayor Lee said it is being streamed live by two residents in the back of the room.

Commissioner Vetter thanked the Street Department for doing a good job on snow removal. He said we are lucky we only got 2-3 inches.

Commissioner Hohman did not have any comments.

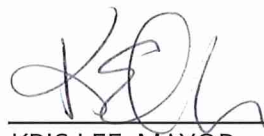
Mayor Lee agreed that the Street Department did an excellent job with the snow removal. Piqua High School basketball is off and running and the same with Lehman High School. Mayor Lee said they are 10-0 and everyone should check them out. He said he hoped everyone had a good holiday. He thanked the city for a good fireworks display. Mayor Lee welcomed Jessica Stiltner as the new Law Director.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohman to adjourn at 6:39 p.m., and Commissioner DeBrosse seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

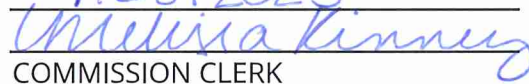
NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

(This is an opportunity for citizens to address the City Commission on Non-agenda items after the adjournment of the Business Agenda. Comments will be limited to seven (7) minutes.)


KRIS LEE, MAYOR

PASSED:

ATTEST:

1.28.2025

COMMISSION CLERK