

Regular Council Minutes

Monday, February 01, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Diane Collins.

A Prayer was given by the Mayor.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Present were: Council members Mike Barth, Ron Jones, Shelia Baker, Ron Beverly, Mike Headley; Solicitor Troy Essex; Administrator Kent Miller and Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Smith. Mick Pocratsky was absent. There were 9 visitors from the downtown business area.

Ron Jones made a motion to approve the January 18th minutes, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

Ron Beverly moved to approve the current bills list, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Cemetery Board: Shelia Baker reported that the Board wants to hire a part time person to assist Josh Metz with mowing and weed eating during the summer months.

Park Board: The Board was not represented.

Planning Commission: The final Pubic Hearing to rezone 800 Ogen Street from Light Industrial to Residential was held tonight. No one appeared to discuss the issue. An ordinance will be brought to the next council meeting to formalize the transaction.

The minutes from the Public Hearing held January 21st to discuss rezoning on Wendell Avenue were in the packets. The lots involved would be changed from R-4 Single Family, Two Family, Multiple Family to M-1 Light Industrial.

Water/Sewer/Refuse: Mike Barth reported that the south Water Tower (by the Library) needs rehabbed. Ron Beverly wanted to know if we really need 2 towers. Jessi Elson was present and was able to explain the value to the village of having 2 towers and the problems that could occur if we went to a single tower. When discussing the amount involved the Mayor asked if would be more cost effective to put up a new tower. Everyone agreed that this was a valid question and the matter was referred to the committee to look into it and report back to council.

Barth also described his visit with Jason Roehrig from Defiance County Soil & Water. They checked the condition of several area creeks. He said it was very informative. He was able to see firsthand how surface water moves around Hicksville and where it gets caught up, specifically a spot behind the cemetery that could use maintenance.

Troy Essex had prepared the paperwork for the easements in the Ogen/Perry Street area and was told they were no longer needed. When presented, property owners refused to sign. The project had to be changed after hearing from residents in the area.

Street/Light/Property: Ron Beverly brought enlarged drawings of "Option 3." This is the choice of the committee to remedy the parking issue downtown. He addressed the gallery and asked if they had a chance to look at it before the meeting and if they thought it could solve the problem they have with the current parking spaces. One resident wanted to know what the other options were. Beverly told her Option 1 was to leave the same 30-degree angle but narrow the spaces and Option 2 was to do nothing. Option 3 will change the angle back to 45-degrees, narrow the spaces and leave the handicapped alone. The striping would be of thermal material. The village will not have to cut new spaces for ramps but the cost will still be in the \$15,000.00 range. Instead of having any further meetings to discuss the issue it was decided to vote tonight. The business owners were in agreement with this. Ron Beverly made the motion to accept Option 3, Mike Headley seconded and all voted yes. The business owners in attendance thanked council for their decision.

Administrator's Report: Miller reported the following:

Following is a list of travel related dates for employees and myself in February & March. Some may be subject to change based on weather conditions or other factors:

February 3, Jessi has a meeting in Bowling Green with OEPA on new sampling guidelines and regulations.

February 8, I have a CDBG meeting in Defiance, should be back before noon.

February 16, I will be gone part of day for Safety Council meeting in Archbold.

February 17, Cheryl and I will be gone all day at a BORMA meeting.
March 9-10, I will be in Columbus for part of the Safety Congress. This will fulfill our yearly two-hour requirement with BWC and I may make it a one-day trip versus spending a night.
March 15, I will be gone part of day for Safety Council meeting in Archbold.
March 18, Allen, Austin and Ethan will be in Edgerton all day for a young tree trimming class.
March 21, I will be in Perrysburg to attend a meeting of the Center for Regional Development. I will be going in place of the Mayor but if anyone from council wants to attend in my place, I will not be upset.
March 22, Ron goes to sewer related classes in Defiance all day.
March 24, All four street employees will be in Archbold for mosquito classes.
March 23-24, I may be in Columbus for the Local Govt officials Conference; final decision hinges on the agenda when released.

Updates on a few issues:

Industrial Drive lighting—I have not heard anything yet from AEP.

Downtown parking—the committee will be reporting on this. I also have the latest ODOT traffic study in your packets, which by chance covered the downtown area. I hope everyone reads through it as there are some interesting tidbits.

Sewer—committee will be updating council on this plus I gave each of you the four-page project timeline from our new NPDES and LTCP permit. After waiting for a bit shy of three years, final approval from OEPA will come in February. The full permit is 90+ pages so if anyone wants a complete package, let me know and I'll make a copy. In a nutshell, in addition to the CSO projects and schedules, it addresses increased testing and other compliance factors, including many more reports being sent to OEPA dealing with the CSO projects.

2017 CDBG application is underway and is due in April. I am looking at doing a small water project.

Finally, we received a copy of the OEPA visit to the plant in December; copies of the main letter are in your packet and again, if you want the full set (24 pages), let me know.

Miller also reminded council of the timeline involved with the NPDES permit. 5 projects (Haver Dr./Downtown/Ogen/Chicago/W Arthur-Antwerp) must have dirt turned by October 1, 2018 and complete by October 1, 2019.

Miscellaneous: Ron Beverly asked about the issue of how many times an employee is able to take and fail a test required by his job. Currently there is no stated number of times. Troy Essex suggested this be incorporated into the changes being made to the personnel manual. The mayor asked all department heads to review the changes being made in case anything additional needs to be done before the amendments are finalized.

Police/Fire/EMS: Police Chief Monty Ballinger was present but had no report.

Fire Chief Scott Cramer asked the mayor to appoint Brock Evans to the Fire Department. Mayor Collins asked if Brock was trained and was told he was not. She then recommended to council that Brock Evans be appointed to the Fire Department pending completing training, with a good physical, drug screen and background check. Mike Barth moved to approve the mayor's recommendation. Mike Headley seconded it and all voted yes.

EMS Chief Loni Kesler asked to sell an unused cot online through an organization already approved by council. It was recommended that we might get a better price if the dead battery was replaced before advertising the sale. Ron Jones made a motion to sell the cot, Ron Beverly seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: The Clerk submitted the MTD/YTD Cash Statement; the MTD/YTD Income Tax Report; and the January Mayors Court Report.

Mayor's Report - A Proclamation declaring February as Career and Technical Education Month was read. The Mayor will be attending a program at 4 County later this month and will be able to congratulate Hicksville's Amber Carwile being chosen as 4 County Ambassador.

She has recently been informed of a County Wide Demolition Program by the Defiance County Commissioners. Each township, village and city is provided the opportunity to submit one project for demolition. If anyone has any ideas for this project, please contact her office. She is also giving the information to the Nuisance Committee.

Ron Beverly moved to adjourn. Mike Headley seconded. All voted yes. Council was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer