

Minutes of Regular Council

February 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Mick Pocratsky.
The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Present were: Mayor Pro Tem, Mick Pocratsky; Council members, Bruce Hart, Ron Beverly, Mike Barth, & Mike Headley; Administrator, Kent Miller; Solicitor, Troy Essex; Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins. Absent were: Mayor Haver & Council member Ron Jones.

Headley moved to approve the February 1 minutes. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Beverly moved to approve the bills. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Mike Kravtsov, Project Manager of the Floyd Browne Company was present to explain what they will be working on in the near future. They will pursue all available grants. A Sewer Separation Project - Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) will be prepared for a cost of \$55,000. The exact nature and extent of the sewer separation program will be established under the PER phase, preliminary design, final design phase, bidding phase, and construction phase and post-construction phase services to assist us in completing the sewer separation. The exact nature and extent of the sewer separation program will be established under the PER phase in accordance with the USDA Rural Development PER checklist requirements. Alternatives to be considered in the PER are: 1. Gravity sewers; 2. Vacuum Sewers; 3. Combination of gravity, vacuum and pressure sewers. He stated we need to proceed very fast in order to be prepared for a second round of stimulus money. A field office will be established in Hicksville at a later date.

Isaac Lee of the Defiance County Economic Development office came to give council and update and discuss activities in Hicksville. The strategic plan was passed out to all council members. He stated it is a planning document that needs completed. It should cost less than \$30,000 to complete it. When asked what our next step should be Lee stated the next step is to move forward with this initiative.

Jim Thompson of Thompson Funeral Home in Montpelier was present. Mr. Thompson read references to the law requiring municipalities to bury or cremate an indigent. He asked council to explain why they refused to pay a \$750 bill he sent to council for an indigent burial of a Hicksville resident. Essex referenced an Attorney General's 1995 opinion and explained how that could be interpreted in our situation. Mr. Thompson asked for an explanation in writing but was told by two council members that that was not necessary as he heard our reasoning.

Ordinance Committee: Hart reported there will be a short meeting Saturday, February 20 at 8:30 a.m. in the council room.

Sidewalk Committee: Beverly reported the committee was asked what their opinion was of doing some sidewalk and curb repairs prior to the sewer separation project. The committee did not recommend doing any projects although they do not want the sidewalks and curbs to get in disrepair. Beverly suggested several committees get together to discuss the different aspects of the future sewer separation project.

Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee: Pocratsky reported the committee met with the Floyd Browne Group February 3 at 6 p.m. to negotiate a contract. He wants to call another meeting to work on a contract proposal from IFM. That decision needs to be made by the end of July.

HIXTV: The committee met Saturday, February 13 at 8 a.m. at the library. The minutes were passed out. The committee recommended that Bill Murphy be taken off probation and given his regular pay in the amount of \$501.75 per month. Pocratsky recommended Bill Murphy be taken off probation. Hart moved to approve Pocratsky's recommendation. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Administrator's Report: Miller asked council if they wanted to spent money have our buildings and properties appraised or if they want to do as some other municipalities do and increase the value by a percentage. Council does not want to spend the money on appraisers at this time.

Miscellaneous: Essex read Resolution 2010-03 to hire the Floyd Browne Group to prepare the PER document for the first reading.

Essex reported he is trying to recoup the money we paid to have our damaged patrol car repaired. He is also working on a lease agreement between the Village and the school at Ron Bauer's request. This would be to use the facilities at the park.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Collins shared the MTD/YTD Cash Report and a luncheon invitation from the Huber Opera House & Civic Center. She will not be at the next meeting but will ask her assistant to take minutes.

Police Report: Chief Szabo did not have a report.

Fire Department: Chief Miller did not have a report.

EMS Department: Chief Seevers was called out on a run.

Mayor's Report: It was brought to Pocratsky's attention that Park Director Ron Bauer needed some direction. The village received \$80,000 - \$90,000 worth of used playground equipment that is laying at the park in pieces. It could cost up to \$10,000 to get the plans, parts inventoried and put together. Council was not willing to spend \$10,000 getting it put together at this time. Headley felt we could find volunteers to help get

the work accomplished.

Beverly moved to adjourn. Headley seconded. All voted yes.

MAYOR

CLERK

Larry Haver

Diane Collins