

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, May 1, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Diane Collins, followed by the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by all present.

The following persons were in attendance: Council members Shelia Baker, Mike Barth, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, Ron Jones and Mike Headley; Solicitor Troy Essex; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; and Administrator Kent Miller.

Minutes from the April 17th Council Meeting were presented. Ron Beverly asked for a correction to paragraph #2 under "Solicitor's Report" and then made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. *(The correction would change the wording from "Beverly polled several law enforcement organizations around the area and of 16, 11 have no ordinance to follow and 5 did" to "Beverly polled several law enforcement organizations around the area and of 16, 5 have no ordinance to follow and 11 did.")* Mike Headley seconded the motion. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented to council. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

A **Notice of Public Hearing** was made for council to hear the request for a zoning change at 727 Ogen Street from M1 to R4. The hearing will be held at the next regular council meeting, May 15th. The change was approved by the Planning Committee at the April 17th meeting (minutes submitted in this packet.)

A **Notice of Public Hearing** was presented to hear an application for a setback variance at 304 Wendell Avenue. The meeting will be held by the Planning Commission May 17th at the zoning office, 108 N. Main Street, at 4 pm.

Boards & Commissions:

- Minutes from the April 17th Planning Commission meeting were in the packets.
- Minutes from the April 19th Park Board meeting were in the packets.
- Minutes from the April 24th Beautification Committee meeting were in the packets.

Council Committees:

- The Finance Committee met April 17th to audit the books. Minutes were in the packets.
- The Sidewalk Committee met April 20th to discuss parking on the sidewalk at the corner of High and Main from Slattery Oil to Bob's Auto. It was decided to paint lines at Slattery's and install cement curbs at the other businesses. These measures should deter parking across the sidewalk. Minutes from the meeting were in the packets.

Administrator's Report:

Miller presented a report to council with the following items discussed:

- The first item is a plea to residents in the northeastern portion of town to stop flushing items which don't belong in the sewer. Someone has been flushing shop-type rags constantly and as of this writing, the sewer guys have pulled the pumps at Defiance Avenue lift station a dozen times in April. Residents need to realize toilets or drains are not meant for garbage. Rags, feminine products, and yes, even teddy bears, should go in the trash. We still have the occasional flare up out on Denan Drive, too.
- Mowing season is in full gear. Mike B. will be sending courtesy letters to folks asking them to stop mowing their grass into the streets. I am sure council has noticed spots where you could bale hay in the street from people letting their yards get too high before mowing and taking the simple way out. We can't run the sweeper 24/7 to keep streets cleaned. Plus, during rain events, that grass clogs catch basin tops which people then call in to complain about being plugged. Both mowing and the sewer issue just go back to having some community pride and using common sense.
- General pick up generated 74.73 tons of trash. The deadline for Request for Proposals concerning trash collection are due May 12 and I will get whatever I receive into the packets for council's review.
- Deadline to accept applications for the street dept. position is 8:00 a.m., May 8. Michael Cline's last day was April 21.
- Bid opening for the E. Cornelia sewer job is May 23. This is for work between Bunnell and Columbus Streets. The existing sewer will be lined (with a short section being replaced) plus a new storm sewer added. A Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (principal forgiveness) should cover all the cost of this job.
- All three street dept. employees will be out of town on May 11 to attend a training class.

Solicitor's Report:

- **Ordinance 2017-12** was read for the second time by caption only to authorize the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds from the general fund to the Police Pension Fund and the Capital Projects Fund.

- **Resolution 2017-08** to oppose the State of Ohio's proposal for a centralized collection of net profit tax returns was read for the first time by caption only.
- Essex is working on the contract with Sherwood to collect their income tax.

Department Heads:

- **Police Chief Kirk Stickney** reported all 3 new officers have their paperwork done and will begin working full-time this week. Shuherk and Bostic have been moved from part-time to Patrolman II. Jason Tate will be sworn in tonight as Patrolman II. Chief Stickney reported the collection of unused drugs turned in yielded 31 pounds this year.
- **Fire Chief Scott Cramer** was absent.
- **EMS Chief Loni Kesler** asked council to approve hiring a volunteer EMT as a replacement when she or Asst. Chief Cody Royer are gone for an extended time for training, or for their vacation. After some discussion, it was decided that the solicitor would bring legislation to this effect so there will be no need to come to full council each time this situation occurs. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve bringing legislation to spell out the parameters to be observed. Mike Headley seconded. All voted yes.
- **Park Director Val Shull** was absent. Rick Belton, Park Board President, was present to answer any questions from council. He also reported hearing concerns that the dugout at field #4 was completed without input from the Board. Council agreed that the Board was to be consulted before any changes are made to structures at the park. Belton would like council to consider a dugout for the little kids at field #1. He has already asked Defiance County and received no answer. Former Board president Eric Bassett told him he would need to approach them face to face at their regular meeting to make the request. Engineering for the new restrooms was also discussed. It appears everyone may not be on the same page about the planning and progress. Belton will get the drawing for the Froggy Park restroom to the mayor by email.

Fiscal Officer Report:

- MTD/YTD Cash Report
- MTD/YTD Revolving Loan Fund Report
- April Income Tax Report
- Letter from Ohio Gas about their upcoming rate increase
- Invitation from the Superintendent for council to attend graduation

Mayor's Report:

The mayor had the following announcements:

- Jerry Hayes from the Defiance County Economic Development office is working on getting Hicksville approved as a CRA (Community Reinvestment Act) village.
- Prom is this weekend - there will be a lot of kids driving around town.
- Please do not mow your grass into the street. It causes problems by clogging up the drainage system, which in turns causes flooding and the unnecessary expense correcting the problem.
- Everyone was sad to watch the closing of our grocery store. The mayor wished Jerry Cline and his employees well in their future endeavors.

Mike Barth reported he and Mike Bailey attended the TIRC meeting in Defiance.

With no other business to discuss, Mike Headley made a motion to adjourn. Eric Bassett seconded. All voted yes. Council was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer