

Minutes from the ANNUAL JOINT MEETING
between the Hicksville Township Trustees and the Village of Hicksville

Monday May 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call was taken with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Diane Collins; Council members Ron Jones, Mike Barth, Shelia Baker, Ron Beverly, Mike Headley, Mick Pocratsky; Administrator Kent Miller; Solicitor Troy Essex; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith.

There were eight (8) people in the audience.

The Annual Joint Meeting of the Hicksville Township Trustees and the Village of Hicksville was called to order. A roll call was taken with Greg Collins, Zane Zeedyk and Jeff Green present. Zane Zeedyk was proposed by Greg Collins to join the Cemetery Board to represent the trustees. Mike Headley made a motion to accept the nomination, Mike Barth seconded it. All members of the trustees and council voted yes. Mr. Zeedyk will join the existing members Don Brown; Cheryl Miller, Clerk; and Shelia Baker representing council.

Troy Essex added Resolution 2016-06 to the amended agenda. Ron Jones made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

Mick Pocratsky made a motion to approve the April 18th minutes, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Shelia Baker asked why the Zoning Inspector's phone bill was more than the lines at the municipal building. It was explained that 111 S. Main Street divides up the bill between all the different lines (departments) and the zoning phone stands alone. Ron Beverly questioned the line items for Verizon (internet), Mayor Collins answered that as the Fire Chief had been called away for a run he would be the better person to answer the question. She said Cheryl Smith would ask the Chief about it. Mick Pocratsky asked about the give-away items purchased on behalf of the mayor. He wanted to know if we compared prices. The mayor assured him this was the best price due to our prior purchases. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the current bills list, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Park Board: Minutes from the April 16th meeting were in the packets. There was no one from the board present.

Cemetery Board: The board met April 26th. They are still looking for a part-time person to mow and trim this summer. If anyone is interested, please contact any of the board members,

Splash Pad Committee: The committee met April 26th. Kent Miller reported it is too early in the process to have a report for council. Hopefully they will be able to do so soon.

Ordinance Committee: The April 18th minutes were in the packets. They will meet again on the 9th to discuss and recommend changes to the open burning ordinance.

Personnel Committee: The committee met on April 20th and the minutes were in the packets. They also met a 4 pm tonight to discuss the solicitor's contract. They plan to bring legislation to the next council meeting.

Administrator's Report: The report in the packets is as follows:
As you will see, I did not take this week off as planned.

The Small Government meeting to discuss our funding is May 5 in Columbus. Adam Voris will be speaking to them as OPWC requested. The Mayor, Mike Barth and I are going down as well.

On the bill's list, there is one for \$11,000 to Brown and Son Electric. This project is to change out the downtown street lights to LED types. In addition to saving quite a bit of money on the electric bill, it will also reduce bulb replacement costs. The upfront costs will be around \$15,000, but the upgrade should pay for itself within a two-three years. We will also be getting a good-sized rebate from AEP for doing the upgrades. The only thing folks will have to get used to is the downtown being a bit less bright at night.

Water-sewer met on April 25 to interview three engineering firms for the proposed water tower project. The maximum points a firm could earn was 175; scoring after the interviews came in at Poggemeyer Design Group at 161, Feller, Finch & Associates at 158, and Jones & Henry Engineers at 158. All three firms made very good presentations, followed by the committee, Jessi,

and myself ranking each. We will get with Poggemeyer to negotiate a contract which full council will eventually have to approve by legislation. The plan at the moment is to do a water system model along with site selection and suitability, plus gathering preliminary engineering data and cost estimates. Second phase would then be, if the Village proceeds, to do the final engineering/design work and construction, allowing for funding schedules and budgeting. Until the modeling and site testing are done, nothing is one hundred percent certain.

Letitia will be off for at least four weeks and Joyce Hootman will take care of the pavilion and PD cleaning during her absence. My guys will spend part of May 10 bagging the commodities for the giveaway that week, and one of them will assist folks the day the food is distributed.

Miller also reported striping of the downtown area is scheduled, barring bad weather, for May 9th and 10th. The area will be shut down completely for 2 days. It cannot be shut down one side and then the other due to the size of the machinery involved. Chief Ballinger asked if detours for trucks were going to be in place. Miller has taken care of that.

Solicitor's Report: **Ordinance 2016-05** to approve changes to the Personnel Manual was read by caption only for the second reading.

Ordinance 2016-06 to restructure the street, water, sewer and refuse departments was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2016-05 establishing a new pay rate for the Zoning Inspector was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2016-06 authorizing a contact with EMH&T Inc. to provide engineering services for Phase I of the Long Term Control Plan was read by caption only for the first reading. Ron Beverly moved to suspend the rules. Mike Headley seconded the motion. All voted yes. Resolution 2016-06 was read by caption only for a second and third reading. Mick Pocratsky moved to approve, seconded by Ron Jones. All voted yes.

The Solicitor reported he has several easements ready for signatures and has given them to Kent Miller.

He hopes to bring legislation to the next council meeting to begin the Fire Levy process.

Police/Fire/EMS: Police Chief Monty Ballinger introduced Dan Fedderke and requested council approve hiring him as a part-time officer. He has 18+ years' experience in West Unity. Mayor Collins recommended Officer Fedderke to council, pending a good physical & drug screen; Mike Headley moved they accept the recommendation, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Chief Ballinger reported answering 4 fire calls recently. They all concerned open burning in the village limits. He would like the ordinance updated with more detailed rules. He said that although no one has been anything but cooperative, it would be better if the rules were plain and made available to the public. It was suggested an ad be put in the paper annually, similarly to the "weed ordinance" ad. The ordinance committee is working on this issue.

Fire Chief Scott Cramer was called away for a run and returned at the end of the meeting. He had no report beyond the EMS Chief's request concerning hiring personnel.

EMS Chief Loni Kesler was absent but had asked the mayor to recommend rehiring John Elwood as an EMT. She did so, pending a good physical & drug screen. Mike Barth made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

Fiscal Officer Report: The Clerk submitted the MTD/YTD Cash Report; the MTD/YTD Income Tax Collection Report; the 1st Quarter Utility Collections Report; and the April Mayors Court Report. A letter from Mediacom was also submitted. They will be removing all analog channels by June 21st. They also sent in the March Franchise Fee Report. Ron Jones asked how many customers we have now. Cheryl Smith will find out and report to council at the next meeting.

Mayor's Report - The Mayor announced National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5th. If anyone wishes to participate, the First Church of Christ in Hicksville will be open from 6:30 am to 8 am, noon to 12:30 pm, and 6 pm until 8 pm.

The mayor thanked the kitchen at Community Memorial Hospital for all the hard work in getting approved to supply meals for the Summer Program at the Park. She also asked anyone who would like to volunteer to help to contact the village. The dates will be from June 13th until August 5th.

The mayor thanked the village employees for the work they are doing on the viaduct.

She reminded everyone of the Beautification Committee's Plant Sale this coming weekend at the Township Building at the corner of 2 and 49, across from the school. Proceeds help pay

for all the flowers and flower beds around town. The sale will be Friday from 8 am to 6 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm.

Other Discussion: Mick Pocratsky asked that the Beautification Committee not plant such tall flowers that they obscure the monument at the corner of Elm and Meuse Argonne. Last year they completely covered the plaque. He also reminded everyone that the village lost 3 boys at Meuse Argonne in France during WWI - and the 100-year anniversary is coming up.

Mick Pocratsky asked council to approve free pool passes for kids when the temperature reaches 95 degrees this summer. He made a motion, and was seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

The park drive will be under construction soon preparing to be repaved. The public is asked to be patient. The end result will be worth the inconvenience.

Mike Headley moved to adjourn, seconded by Ron Jones. All voted yes. Council was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer