

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday July 18, 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, Shelia Baker, Ron Beverly, Mike Headley, Mike Barth; Administrator Kent Miller; Solicitor Troy Essex; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Mick Pocratsky was absent.

Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on July 5th were presented. Ron Jones moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mike Headley. Ron Beverly abstained; Jones, Baker, Barth and Headley voted yes.

Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the current bills list, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions:

The Beautification Committee met July 13th at 3:30 but no minutes were presented.

Council Committees:

The Street/Light/Property Committee met at the park to discuss disposition of the brick building that formerly housed HIX TV. Their recommendation is to tear down the building due to its condition, replace it with a parking lot, and erect an ADA restroom. They also would like the new facility to be locked by the police department at night and reopened in the morning. During the winter it would be winterized and closed for the season. Council agreed that the plan presented was one they are in favor of. The Administrator brought up several points that would need addressed before the village could move ahead. The security camera that is installed will need to be moved; the infrastructure to the existing restroom is not suitable to be used for a new one; the park employees use one of the buildings for storage. There is also the issue of cost as well as a suitable timetable. In the summer you have a lot of traffic through the area and in the fall football season starts. The mayor stated the County Commissioners may be able to add the building to their demolition schedule. This is an avenue that needs to be looked into before any move is made. There was also discussion about the placement of the new restrooms. Where would they fit and not obstruct the view of parents watching their children? Because of all the details that need to be taken into consideration, council decided to have the Park Director Val Shull find out the process and cost to move the security camera, and for the Administrator to look into entire process; check the possibility of doing the tear down this year and tabling the rest of the project until it can be worked into the budget. Ron Beverly moved to approve this scenario. Ron Jones seconded it. All voted yes.

Administrator's Report: none

Solicitor's Report:

The solicitor will check with the county auditor on the progress of the fire levy and report at the next meeting.

Ordinance 2016-10 first reading by caption only to amend the open burning ordinance.

Ron Beverly objected, asking why we haven't put any information in the paper as was decided at a previous meeting. The mayor responded that she is working on a letter to the public but it's not finished yet. Beverly is opposed to making changes to the existing ordinance and has been approached by several citizens who are of the opinion council is changing the ordinance because of one person's complaint.

The Solicitor stated the only changes he made to the ordinance were:

1. *A time limit of 5 pm until 1 am*
2. *The fire is not to be left unattended at any time*
3. *The fire cannot be left to smolder. It must be completely out using water or other means*

Item #1 seems to be the main complaint from the public. The others are safety issues and basically common sense.

The mayor asked if anyone in the audience would like to be heard on the subject. Scott McClish took the floor and spoke to council about the existing ordinance and his wish leave it alone. He said he was the person who was complained about by his neighbor, as he likes to have a fire during the day. Mr. McClish would like council to reconsider the time constraints they are adding. He has no problem with the safety issues that were added.

Loni Kesler reminded council that people work different shifts and the time constraint would make it impossible for some families to have a backyard fire.

The mayor thanked Mr. McClish and Chief Kesler for speaking to council. She invited anyone who wishes to express their opinion to attend as well. There will be 2 more readings on consecutive council meetings before the changes would go for a vote.

Ordinance 2016-11 first reading by caption only authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds from the general fund to Police & Fire Pension Fund and the Capital Projects Fund.

Resolution 2016-11 final reading by caption only to authorize the village to renew the contract with Solicitor Troy Essex. Ron Jones made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

- Police Chief Monty Ballinger was absent. Patrolman Monica Herman was present but had no report.
- Fire Chief Scott Cramer and Asst. Chief Bruce Hart represented the Fire Department. Chief Cramer reported the Fire Department has received 17 radios as part of a joint grant with Defiance County. The Police Department received 10 radios.
- EMS Chief Loni Kesler and Asst. Chief Cody Royer were present. Chief Kesler asked the mayor to recommend Alexis Hugg to the department. She has recently become a certified EMT. The mayor asked council to approve Hugg, pending a physical, drug screen and background check. Mike Barth made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendation. Mike Headley seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Fiscal Officer Report:

Reports in the packets as follows:

- MTD/YTD Cash Report
- 2nd Quarter Utility Collections Report
- Updates from the OML Income Tax Conference
- Application from Justin Kuhn for a liquor license at the Alley building on W High Street
- The June Mediacom Franchise Fee Report

Mayor's Report:

The mayor asked HIX TV Director Bill Murphy to update council on improvements to the audio system in the council room. He reported he will find out who did the original installation and whether or not any upgrades will be their responsibility or the village's. If it turns out the village is responsible, he will bring quotes on an upgrade or replacement. He hopes we can have a test using new equipment before we do any purchasing.

The mayor asked if anyone else would like to add any comments. Shelia Baker reminded everyone that with the hot weather predicted, the pool will offer free admission any time the temperature goes over 95 degrees. The hours are from noon to 6 pm.

Ron Jones made a motion to adjourn. Mike Headley seconded it. All voted yes. Council was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer