

## Minutes of Regular Council

September 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Haver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Present were: Mayor, Larry Haver; Council members, Ron Beverly, Bruce Hart, Ron Jones, Amy Haver, Mick Pocratsky and Ed Foster; Solicitor, Troy Essex; Administrator, Kent Miller; Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins.

Foster moved to approve the August 17 minutes. Hart seconded. Haver abstained. Beverly, Foster, Pocratsky, Hart & Jones voted yes.

Foster moved to approve the bills. Jones seconded. Beverly voted no. Haver, Foster, Pocratsky, Hart & Jones voted yes.

**Water/Sewer/Refuse/Committee:** Beverly voiced his dissatisfaction with rehabbing the old tower instead of building a new one. Pocratsky explained the difference in rehabbing it and building a new one was tremendous when its purpose is to hold water while the one at the park is being upgraded.

**HIXTV:** Foster wanted to let the minutes reflect that the new station manager, Bill Murphy is on a six month probationary period. Murphy was introduced. Mediacom donated a flat screen TV that was used for a contest at school. There will be a meeting Saturday at 8 a.m. Channel changes were noted.

**Sidewalk Committee:** Beverly reported the committee, ODOT, DGL, the Mayor and Administrator will meet on Thursday, September 10 at 10 a.m. to review the Safe Routes to School plans.

**Insurance Committee:** It was suggested they make some decisions that BORMA is requesting but the committee did not feel qualified to make those decisions so they were referred to the solicitor. Collins will ask Bob Miller to come explain to all the employees what a change to Medical Mutual will mean to them.

**Finance Committee:** Jones reported the committee met on August 25 to freeze spending and discuss measures that could be taken to try to balance the 2010 budget. Another meeting is set up for September 15 at 6 p.m. Suggestions made were: immediately stop the income tax transfer out of the general fund; ask the voters to renew the police and fire levies next year; continue with one less police officer; cut services or raise rates; shorten the work week or do a layoff; and increase the cost of insurance deductible the employee will pay from 12 ½% to 15%. There will already be a 5% water and sewer increase. Refuse will go up also. It was noted we are looking for input from residents also.

### **Administrator's Report:**

- General pick-up generated 62 tons of trash. The old garbage truck held up long enough to finish however on it's last load it did finally suffer a major repair issue. Beverly will look at it and see if it is worth selling at an auction.
- Chipping will be done week of the 21st and that is it until the end of December. We'll get the trucks converted for leaf sucking from October to roughly Thanksgiving.
- More plastic bags and paper sacks are needed for commodities.

### **Miscellaneous:**

**Resolution 2009-11** to set the street light millage was read by caption only for the third reading. Jones moved to approve. Foster seconded. All voted yes.

**Resolution 2009-12** accepting the rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing necessary tax levies was read by caption only for the third reading. Pocratsky moved to approve. Hart seconded. All voted yes.

**Resolution 2009-13** to hire Lingvai Excavating for the West High Street waterline was read by caption only for the first reading. Foster moved to suspend the rules. Beverly seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2009-13 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Hart moved to approve. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

**Resolution 2009-14** to authorize the assessment of unpaid mowing bills was read by caption only for the first reading. Hart moved to suspend the rules. Foster seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2009-14 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Jones moved to approve. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

**Ordinance 2009-09** to stop transferring income tax funds into the capital projects fund was read by caption only for the first reading. Jones moved to suspend the rules. Beverly seconded. All voted yes. Ordinance 2009-09 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Foster moved to approve. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

**Ordinance 2009-10** to amend the annual appropriations ordinance was read by caption only for the first reading.

Essex stated he worked on easements for the High Street waterline project. There is nothing new with providing EMS to Indiana or fire mutual aid.

**Clerk/Treasurer’s Report:** Collins reported the following items:

- The YTD/MTD Cash Report and Income Tax Reports were passed out.
- Beverly moved to approve the county budget commissions Local Government share at 6.9%. Hart seconded. All voted yes.
- A request was made that the village pay for an indigent persons burial. It will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- Collins will ask Bob Miller from Huntington Insurance to come to Hicksville to speak to the Village employees about Medical Mutual.

**Police Report:** No report was given.

**Fire Department:** Chief Miller passed out a monthly report. Miller reminded the public about the pork chop and chicken BBQ this weekend.

**EMS Department:** No one report was given.

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Haver shared the August court report. There will be a rededication ceremony and the rendering of Police Officer Honors for fallen Hicksville police officer, Enos Rath. Mr. Rath fell in the line of duty on November 25, 1899. The ceremony will recognize him on October 4 at 4 p.m. at the McCauley Cemetery of Defiance County.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All voted yes.

MAYOR

CLERK

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Larry Haver

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Diane Collins