

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, October 2, 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 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; Administrator Kent Miller and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith.

Minutes from the September 5th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Mike Headley made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett.

Bills lists dated September 18th and October 2nd were presented to council. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve both lists, seconded by Eric Bassett. Baker, Beverly, Headley, Bassett and Jones voted yes, Barth abstained.

Boards & Commissions:

Park Board meeting minutes from September 20th were in the packets.

Revolving Loan Committee meeting minutes from September 20th were in the packets.

Planning Commission meeting minutes from September 21st were in the packets.

Council Committees:

Personnel Committee meeting minutes from September 16th and 25th were in the packets.

Ron Beverly, Personnel Committee Chairman, recommended James Brown to replace Kent Miller as Administrator. Mr. Brown is a former Hicksville resident who now lives in Edgerton. The mayor accepted the recommendation of Mr. Brown, contingent upon a good physical, drug screen and background check. There will be a six (6) month probation period per policy. Mike Headley made a motion to accept the mayor's endorsement, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Administrator's Report:

Miller presented the new Ohio Plan Policy which will run for three (3) years. Ron Beverly made a motion to accept the terms, seconded by Ron Jones. All voted yes.

Haver Drive resident Chris Balser asked to speak to council about his underground fence that was damaged by the construction crew. Miller asked him if he did not receive a letter hand delivered to the residents asking them for any special circumstances on their property before the project started. Balser said he never got one. He said when the fence stopped working he spoke with the guy at the end of the block about it. He was told to get an estimate to repair it and turn it in. He got one quote for \$1200.00 and submitted it to the village. He said that quote was a "worst case" scenario. It could turn out to be less. After discussion by council Ron Beverly made a motion to accept an amount not to exceed \$600.00, which would be collected from the contractor. Mike Headley seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Miller said he sent correspondence to EMH&T on other matters, and they have a deadline of October 6th to answer.

The CDBG paperwork for paving "borderline" streets, in this case W. Arthur and W. Cornelia, requires a 100% income survey. That means every household must answer or we stand to miss out on funding. There were only 6 valid letters returned out of 32. Ron Beverly said if the residents can't return one anonymous survey, they are not interested in having their street improved. Ron Jones and Mayor Collins volunteered to go door-to-door.

Solicitor's Report:

- Third reading of **Ordinance 2017-16** by caption only to amend Sidewalk Chapter 909.02 increasing the permit fee from \$1.00 to \$3.00. Ron Jones made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. Baker, Barth, Headley, Jones and Bassett voted yes. Beverly voted no.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2017-17** by caption only adopting Chapter 923 of the Codified Ordinances regarding maintaining drainage swales, and describing a penalty for any violations.

Essex explained the information from Frost Brown Todd LLC requesting the village to join a coalition of municipalities to challenge centralized collection of municipal income tax and other provisions of ORC Chapter 718.

He then reported on pending CRA legislation regarding the boundary to be included in the Ordinance before it can be presented to the Hicksville School Board.

Finally, he asked for an Executive Session later to discuss economic development.

Department Heads:

- **Police Chief Kirk Stickney**
 - reported he has some applications to consider and hopes to bring names to the next council meeting. He wants to hire a full-time officer and couple of part-time officers.
 - Stickney also wanted to answer some rumors he's heard concerning the incident on E. High St. He said he was called because of bricks in the street. He then called the Fire Department to assist with traffic control once he saw the scope of the problem. The entire front of the building had collapsed. The owner was told the building was unsafe, not to attempt to enter the building, and would need to bring it the rest of the way down before it fell. He did not mandate any action in particular be taken.

Ron Beverly said the building was off balance and ready to fall. Contractors were called to finish bringing it down. Shelia Baker said she spoke with the owner and he only wanted the second floor taken down.

The time frame for the incident was from 4 pm to 10 pm. The police department, fire department and EMS were all on scene.

- **Fire Chief Scott Cramer**
 - reported his department has 4 open spots with Broc Evans resigning. He asked the mayor to recommend hiring Ethan Hathaway and Phil Karacson to join the department. Both are former village employees and have had physicals, drug screens and background checks done. The mayor made the recommendation. Mike Headley made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Ron Jones. All voted yes.
 - Cramer then reported on a HazMat drill recently completed with several other area entities, including Community Memorial Hospital and the Defiance County EMA.
 - He reminded everyone of the Halloween Carnival to be held October 28th from 5 pm to 8 pm.
 - He requested a Police & Fire Committee meeting sometime this week.
- **EMS Chief Cody Royer**

- Reported he has two (2) candidates for the Rescue Squad. Both will require training and certification. They are Stormie Hathaway and Abbye Shock. The mayor made the recommendation pending good physicals, drug screens and background checks. Ron Beverly made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes.
- **Park Director Val Shull** did not attend.
 - Park Board President Rick Belton thanked Kent Miller for his help with the restroom construction details. The contract should be awarded in mid-October.
 - The Park budget has been submitted.
 - Belton reported the Beautification Committee will be providing 3 to 4 "dog stations" to be constructed around the park. These will provide supplies for waste disposal.

Fiscal Officer Report:

- Smith asked council to approve switching financial and payroll software from Software Solutions to UAN. UAN is a product from the state auditor that not only costs less, the computer and printer is included. At year end there is no need to switch to another software to complete reports for the state as they are built in. Council agreed and each signed the agreement.
- A letter from American Tower with proposed payment options was included. Council asked Smith to send a copy of the current contract to Essex. They want his opinion when comparing which option is the most beneficial to Hicksville.
- MTD/YTD Cash Report
- August Police Dept. Collections Report
- August Mayor's Court Collections Report
- August Mediacom Franchise Fee Report
- August Revolving Loan Report
- September Income Tax Collections Report
- September Utility Collections Report

Mayor's Report:

- Christmas Cruise-Thru set-up has begun. Volunteers are needed (over 15yrs. old) . Contact Denise Sutter at 419-542-9000 or Mary Wann at 419-542-7237.
- Reminder, Trick-or-Treat is October 28th from 4 pm to 6 pm
- Hickory Creek sent eh mayor a list of activities and a thank you for "Lunch with the Mayor" given for their auction.
- A letter was received from a resident concerning sidewalks. Copies were provided to council.
- Hixtoberfest will be October 14th in the downtown area. Details can be found on the Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.
- The "Meet the Cops" at the Huber was a success.
- Micah Schroeder (golf team) has gone on to district. Congratulations!
- Kailin Elwood, a second grader at Hicksville Schools, sent a petition to the mayor asking for street lights on Haver Drive to be replaced. The Mayor thanked her and explained that AEP sent a lot of repairmen down south the help the flood victims get their power back. They will get to the Haver Drive project as soon as they all get back.

Ron Beverly made a motion to go into executive session to discuss economic development. Mike Headley seconded. All voted yes. Council went into executive session at 7:12 pm.

Council returned to open session at 7:24 pm.

With no other business to discuss Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Headley. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer