

Regular Council Meeting

November 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Haver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Present were: Council members Mick Pocratsky, Mike Barth, Ron Jones, Michael Headley, Mark Haver and Ron Beverly; Solicitor, Troy Essex; Administrator, Kent Miller and Clerk/Treasurer Diane Collins.

Headley moved to approve the November 3 regular council minutes. Pocratsky seconded. Pocratsky, Barth, Haver, Headley, Jones voted yes. Beverly abstained.

Jones moved to approve the bills. Haver seconded. All voted yes.

Resident, Vicki Stanley was present to address water and sewer billing concerns, especially the \$35 flat rate for sewer. Ms. Stanley stated she intends to help the residents of Hicksville with the unfair burdens placed upon them by village officials.

Resident and Volunteer Firefighter, Ken Bunn was present to tell council he would like to retire with Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and be rehired as Bruce Hart intends to do. Headley commended him for his service and thanked him as did several of the council members. Council seemed agreeable to the request.

Street/Light/Building Committee: Beverly reported that he sat in on job interviews last week. After the interviews took place Beverly along with Mayor Haver, Council member Barth, Cheryl Smith and Diane Collins walked through the front offices and discussed the possibility of moving the utility department and income tax departments to the front of the building and moving the Mayor's office to the back of the building for privacy. Beverly stated he hates to see people have to walk all the way back the dreary hallway to get service. New telephone systems, computer wiring, painting and new floors are necessary to fix up the building. Council seemed agreeable to the idea. Pocratsky said he would like to see a footprint before doing anything.

Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee: Barth passed out copies of EMHT's Scope of Services for Phase 1 Long Term Control Plan. The Proposal for Professional Services included Aerial and Topographic Survey, Preliminary Design Services, Final Design Services, Easement Exhibits, Bidding Services, Construction Engineering, Exclusions and Budget. Barth asked council to look it over.

An Addendum to the long Term Control Plan draft was presented to council for review. Phase 1 Projects included Haver Drive Sewer Replacement, Downtown Sewer Separation, Oak Street Weir Adjustment and Sewer Cleaning, Cornelia Street Intersection, Chicago Avenue Flood Reduction, West Arthur Street and Antwerp Drive Flood Reduction, Ogen Street sanitary sewer, and Asset Management via Collection System Improvement. Phase 2 projects include NE Neighborhood Inflow Removal and Drainage Improvements, and Defiance Avenue Pump Station Improvements. Phase 3 shall include the planning and construction of a High Rate Treatment System. The NPDES permit, Ohio EPA permit number 3PB00042 expires on July 31, 2018.

Ordinance Committee: Mark Haver stated he has learned the committee decided to allow payment of up to \$1500 for any type of service that involves the burial of an indigent. He had been called away for an emergency during the meeting. Headley stated he thought that was too much. Essex will bring legislation to the next regular meeting.

Income Tax landlord reporting was discussed in a meeting but no vote was taken.

Park Board: Park Director, Val Shull was present but no report was given.

HIXTV Committee: October and November Committee Meeting Minutes were in council packets.

Administrator's Report: Miller reported that he had a change order for work done at well #7. The change order is for \$17,210 after some negotiation. Beverly moved to approve. Headley seconded. All voted yes.

A change order request for the North Main Street Waterline project required a meeting to hammer out negotiations. Miller stated that a change order in the amount of \$37,539.65 was accepted by the contractor but council did not like the number and wants further discussion. Council decided the things they were trying to charge us for were not acceptable and refused to approve the change order. The original change order request was over \$50,000. Another meeting will be set up with the contractor.

Miscellaneous:

Ordinance 2014-18 Annual Appropriations Ordinance was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2014-21 Amending the Solid Waste Agreement was read by caption only for the first reading. Jones moved to suspend the rules. Headley seconded. All voted yes. Resolution 2014-21 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Jones moved to approve. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

Police/Fire/EMS Reports: Police Chief, Monty Ballinger was present and told council that Officer Garrett Franz's six month probationary period was completed on November 15. He asked council to remove Franz from probation as he has demonstrated productivity, knowledge of his job, as well as good work ethics, good attitude and good attendance. Headley moved that Franz be taken off probation and permanently appointed to the Patrolman II, Pocratsky seconded. All voted yes.

EMS Chief Loni Kesler was present as informed council that Rebekah Ballentine turned in her resignation effective November 14. .

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Collins reported the group that interviewed applicants for the income tax administrator position recommends Jay Perry for the position. Mayor Haver recommended Jay Perry pending a good physical and drug screen. The rate of pay will be \$14.97 per hour. Pocratsky moved to approve. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Beverly moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Possible Land Purchase and Economic Development. Jones seconded. All voted yes. (6:40 p.m. – 7:10 p.m.) Barth moved to return to regular session. Headley seconded. All voted yes.

A Special Council meeting to discuss and possibly entering into a Purchase Agreement with Guilford LTD was set up for Monday, November 24, 2014 at 6 p.m.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Haver reported that the deadline to submit names for the future vacant council seat is November 21. He congratulated Ida Steiner on her 109th birthday. Mayor Haver thanked people for their cooperation during the 11 years he spent in office. Council President, Mike Headley thanked Mayor Haver for his years of service and presented him with a plaque to show appreciation.

Jones moved to adjourn. Headley seconded. All voted yes.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer