

Minutes of Regular Council

December 7, 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, Ed Foster, Bruce Hart, Ron Jones, Amy Haver, Mick Pocratsky and Ron Beverly; Administrator, Kent Miller; Solicitor, Troy Essex; Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins.

Foster moved to approve the November 16 minutes with a correction in the Mayor's Report. It was Beverly that thought it should go to a committee. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Beverly moved to approve two sets of bills. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Finance Committee: Jones reported the committee met prior to this meeting to audit the books and will meet again December 14 at 6 p.m. to look over the proposed 2010 appropriations.

Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee: Pocratsky reported the committee met November 17 to discuss the next step in choosing engineers for the sewer separation project. They will meet again at 5:30 p.m. in December 14. As requested by Beverly, the committee discussed the pros and cons of supporting the MICHINDOH aquifer project. The committee recommends that the Village of Hicksville not support the MICHINDOH aquifer project and have Mayor Haver send a letter stating the same. Foster moved to accept the committee recommendation. Pocratsky seconded. All voted yes.

Police/Fire & EMS Committee: Foster and committee met November 30 at 6:30. It was the committee recommendation to eliminate the Mayor's Court Clerk and give the duties to the Police clerk to do during her 35 hour work week.

Sidewalk Committee: Beverly reported the school will cut the trees affected by the nesting bats so the Safe Routes to School project will not be stalled. Beverly stated the stumps can stay as their removal will be paid for by the grant.

HIXTV: Foster reported there will be a quick meeting on Saturday, December 12 at 8 a.m. followed by an appreciation breakfast for volunteers at 8:30 a.m. The issues to have live broadcasting of the council meeting is still not fixed. Minutes of the last meeting are in council packets.

Foster attended the Upper Maumee River watershed meeting on November 19 at the request of Mayor Haver. Foster feels that it is important to have someone continue going to the meetings as there are three different river groups meeting to do different things.

Administrator's Report: Miller reported:

- There are a couple of school sidewalk contracts Miller needs an o.k. on. These involve hiring the appraisal/right-of-way firm and the appraisal reviewer (both are requirements of ODOT). Cost for the former will be around \$18,135; the latter \$1,500. Beverly moved to cap the R/W Service Contract Proposal at \$20,000. Hart seconded. All voted yes.
- Leaf pick-up is finished with 165 loads being collected. Not all gasoline bills are in, but the cost for fuel and labor to do leaf sucking from October 19 to December 4 is currently \$6,348.25.
- The employees will get the truck converted for chipping and will be out shortly. The recycle lot has reverted to winter hours and will not be open on Mondays.
- There will be the usual general pick-up during the week between Christmas and New Year's. We'll start on the 29th and run that week until each street is done one time.

Miscellaneous:

Ordinance 2009-13 the 2010 Annual Appropriations Ordinance was read by caption only for the second reading. Collins will need to make last minute adjustments

Ordinance 2009-14 to eliminate a holiday was read by caption only for the second reading. The department heads are supposed to let Troy know exactly which holiday to cut.

Ordinance 2009-15 to eliminate personal days was read by caption only for the second reading. Part-time employees personal days are to be eliminated in the corrected version.

Ordinance 2009-16 to amend pay ranges was read by caption only for the first readings. Additional changes were pointed out to Essex.

Ordinance 2009-17 to eliminate hourly on call pay for the EMS was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2009-16 combining two fire levies was read by caption only for the second reading.

Resolution 2009-18 to reduce the employee work hours to 35 hours per week was read by caption only for the second reading. There was some discussion if it should stated that over time will not occur until 40 hours are worked. Essex said that was a given with the Federal Wage and Hour Law.

Resolution 2009-19 rescinding resolution 2009-17 was read by caption only for the first reading. Beverly moved to suspend the rules.

Pocratsky seconded. Resolution 2009-19 was read by caption only for the second and third readings. Jones moved to approve. Hart seconded. All voted yes.

Resolution 2009-20 to pay a longevity bonus to councilmember Ed Foster was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2009-21 to enter into a farm lease with Dan Michael was read by caption only for the first reading. Miller pointed out that the dates did not match the current agreement signed so Essex said he would change them.

The HIXTV guidelines were amended to add an at large position. Beverly moved to approve. Haver seconded. Foster abstained. Beverly, Haver, Pocratsky, Hart & Jones voted yes.

Foster asked Essex how things stood with the EMS running in Indiana and if we were getting any mutual aid fire contracts from IN. Essex said we should be okay operating in IN as we only do a few runs a year. He has only been contacted by two Indiana agencies about the fire contracts.

Clerk/Treasurer’s Report: Collins passed out the MTD/YTD Cash Report and Income Tax Report. Collins asked council to approve the annual election for the Volunteer Firefighters Dependents Fund. Foster moved to elect the same people as last year. Hart seconded. Beverly & Pocratsky abstained. Haver, Foster, Hart & Jones voted yes.

Police Report: No report was given.
Fire Department: No report was given.
EMS Department: No report was given.

Jones moved to go into executive session. Hart seconded. All voted yes. (8:03 p.m. Ð 8:36 p.m.) Foster moved to return to regular session. Beverly seconded. All voted yes.

Beverly moved to rescind the motion at a previous meeting to have a reduction in force to two employees from the utility department. Hart seconded. Haver & Foster voted no. Beverly, Pocratsky, Hart and Jones voted yes.

Beverly moved not to have a reduction in force from the utility department at this time. Hart seconded. Foster, Haver & Jones voted no. Beverly, Pocratsky, & Hart voted yes. Mayor voted no to break the tie.

Jones moved to lay off one person in the utility department at this time due to finances. Beverly seconded. Beverly, Foster, Pocratsky, Hart & Jones voted yes. Haver voted no.

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Haver had a November Court Report in the council packets. He reported that Soil & Water has applied for a federal grant on our behalf and the village has applied for one also. Miller clarified that it was an initial submission to Congressman Lattas office. It would be a 75/25 shared funding.

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

MAYOR

CLERK

Larry Haver

Diane Collins