

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, January 21st, 2019 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 read with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Diane Collins; Council Members Eric Bassett, Mike Barth, Ron Jones, Shelia Baker, Larry Ridgway, and Ron Beverly; Administrator Kent Miller; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; and Solicitor Troy Essex.

Minutes from the January 4th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Ron Jones made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Baker, Bassett, Beverly, Jones and Ridgway voted yes. Barth abstained.

A request to speak to council on housing in Hicksville was received from Justin Kuhn. He asked for the following persons to speak as well: Anthony Nighswander, Brad Guilford, Keith Countryman, Mark Yoder, Jason Schooley, Taylor Klepper and Scott Burris.

Kuhn began with a statement that he and Anthony Nighswander will not be building at Makarios Place and have had offers to sell to either a cattle farm or a Columbia City home builder. The home builder would be investing his own money, but as the infrastructure for the development would be around a million dollars, the village is asked to consider investing \$250,000.00 as well and install a sewer line and lift station connecting to Haver Drive. The matter will be discussed by the Water/Sewer Committee again at a meeting Wednesday the 23rd at 3 pm with Defiance County Commissioners and Hicksville Township Trustees.

Taylor Klepper spoke on the need for housing and how there are not many options in the village. He would rather see a new housing development rather than a cattle farm.

Mark Yoder told council he almost had to move out of town to find a place to build a new house. He was going to build at Makarios Place and when that didn't happen, he considered relocating to Fort Wayne. The village could be losing residents because of the housing situation.

Jason Schooley spoke about the shortage of lots available for new construction. He was fortunate to find a property with acreage. Now it is almost impossible to find even an empty lot to build on.

Keith Countryman spoke about parents who want their children to attend Hicksville Schools but cannot find a place to live. He also reported the pre-school numbers have almost doubled, meaning from here on the school will be at capacity. The proposed levy will be to construct a field house and more classrooms.

Boards & Commissions:

The **Nuisance Board** met January 17th and submitted minutes in the packets. They discussed a fire damaged property on West High Street that needs demolished. Ron Beverly asked Mike Bailey to contact Solicitor Troy Essex to format an agreement to be signed by a property owner before the Village demolishes their building.

Mike Bailey received an email from an organization requesting information on an Industrial Park location for a possible medical marijuana processing facility. The request was informational only and was passed on to council members.

The **Park Board** met January 16th and minutes were in the packets. They discussed the "Day in the Park" to be held this summer.

Mayor Collins reported the **Architectural Review Committee** (Industrial Park) met January 14th to discuss a request to install a system to burn pallets. The request was recalled before the meeting, but the committee wants to make an amendment to the by-laws to prohibit these systems from being installed in Industrial Park. Minutes were available at tonight's meeting.

Council Committees:

The **Water/Sewer Committee** met January 16th with Troy Essex. Mayor Diane Collins, Jerry Hayes from Defiance County CIC, Brad Guilford, Justin Kuhn and Tony Nighswander. Guilford spoke on the need for housing in Hicksville. Kuhn and Nighswander have a developer interested in the Makarios Place property if the village could provide certain infrastructure.

Attendees were given informational details. Another meeting will be held January 23rd in council chambers at 3 pm.

NOTE: All committee meeting minutes are available in their entirety in the Fiscal Officer's office at 111 South Main Street, Hicksville or by email request to hixcs@defnet.com.

Administrator's Report:

Miller reported the fence along the alley has been hit again. He also reported inviting the downtown merchants/business owners to a meeting January 22nd at 3 pm in council chambers to get details of a grant opportunity he has come across. They would be involved because it would be a revitalization grant to fix/replace sidewalks, curbs, paint the light posts, update trees, and possibly purchase benches. Property owners are responsible for the first 4 ft. of sidewalk in front of their businesses. He asked council to approve beginning the process as the letter of intent is due by February 1st. If the letter is accepted, he will move on to the actual application process. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve Miller writing a letter of intent, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Baker, Bassett, Beverly, Jones and Ridgway voted yes. Barth abstained.

Solicitor's Report:

- Second reading of **Resolution 2019-01** by caption only to enter a contract with Poggemeyer Design Group for the Chicago Ave-W High project as part of the Long-Term Control Plan Phase II. Ron Jones made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Final reading of Resolution 2019-01 by caption only. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.
- Essex also reported he and Police Chief Denning are working on the contract for body cams to see what our options are.

Department Heads:

***Police:** Mark Denning had no report.*

***Fire/EMS:** Scott Cramer reported the Fire Department has been approved for a grant they applied for. It will pay for an upgrade to their radios.*

***Park Director:** Val Shull had no report.*

Fiscal Officer Report: The following reports were submitted:

Purchase Order report
Fund Status Report
December Police Department Collections
Ohio Division of Liquor Control Report
2018 Real Estate Property Tax Listing
2018 Building Permit Listing
4th Quarter Mediacom Franchise Fee Report

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Collins read a Proclamation designating February as Career and Technical Education Month.

She also thanked a list of investors who contribute to the Defiance County CIC.

Justin Kuhn asked about construction of a driveway on his property at the corner of 2 and 49 across from the school. The question has been referred to the Street/Light/Property Committee.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer