

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, April 20th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Due to the current COVID-19 health crisis Council met by teleconference using "GoToMeeting" to comply with the Ohio Sunshine Law as well as the Governor's "Stay at Home" order. Instructions to download the app to a computer or phone can be found at www.villageofhicksville.com.
Meeting Access Code is 174-551-365 Dial-Up Number is 1-872-240-3311

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Jones. He then gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll Call was read with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Ron Jones; Council Members Larry Ridgway, Eric Bassett, Taylor Klepper, Ron Beverly, Mike Barth, and Cory Wann. Administrator Kent Miller, Solicitor Troy Essex and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Also attending were Department Heads Fire Chief Scott Cramer, Police Chief Mark Denning, Water Superintendent Jessi Randall and Park Director Val Shull.

Minutes from the March 2nd Regular Council Meeting were presented. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes. The meeting normally scheduled on April 6th was cancelled due to the "Stay at Home" order until an alternative way to meet was determined.

The list of bills to be paid was presented. Taylor Klepper asked about the purchase of a trailer by the Park. Cory Wann explained that it was paid for from 2019 proceeds from "Day in the Park." No tax dollars paid for it. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the bills, seconded Eric Bassett. Ridgway, Klepper, Beverly and Bassett voted yes. Barth and Wann abstained.

Boards & Commissions:

The **Nuisance Board** submitted a report updating Council on current activities. The **Beautification Committee** had a flyer for their annual Plant Sale to be held this year by pre-orders only.

Council Committees:

The **Police/Fire Committee** will meet by teleconference on the 22nd to discuss purchase of a new ambulance, raising rates and new contracts coming up in July.

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 submitted a written report to Council. He updated Council on the projects still ongoing. He also reminded everyone that some expected funding may not be available due to the current Pandemic. He asked Council to look at the renewal of the Werlor contract as a decision will need to be made soon.

Solicitor's Report:

- The Mayor has issued a "Declaration of a State of Emergency" for the Village of Hicksville due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2020-05** by caption only amending Section 141.16 of the Codified Ordinances establishing current rates for the Rescue Squad.
- First reading of **Resolution 2020-05** by caption only authorizing participation in the ODOT Salt Contract and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2020-05 by caption only. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes
- Essex is still working on completing the Haynes Trucking contract.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning had no report.

Fire/EMS Chief: Scott Cramer submitted a written report outlining the plans to increase rates for EMS runs and renewing Township contracts due in July. He also explained his thinking on financing a new ambulance.

Park Director: Val Shull updated Council on projects at the Park including new lighting being installed and bulbs being replaced. The new mower has been delivered.

Fiscal Officer Report: The following reports were submitted:

- Fund Status
-

Mayor's Report:

- **Census** - if you haven't filled out your form, please do so. If you need help, please call Mike Bailey at 419-542-0115. Cards were mailed to each household with an ID# to use online.
- **Primary Election** - April 28th - be sure to cast your vote. An application for a ballot can be printed from the Defiance County Board of Elections website. Don't wait until the last minute and miss out.
- **Small Businesses** can find links to available services and help during this crisis on the village's website as well as the Chamber of Commerce. The Mayor's office is also open and available by phone, email or appointment.
- Going forward, each business, essential and non-essential, should have a written plan or protocol showing how they are keeping both employees and customers safe.
- The Defiance County Health Department website has information for every aspect of life during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Income Tax** deadline for filing and payment has been moved to July 15th to sync with the Federal government. Our Income Tax office will remain open as usual and residents are encouraged to file and not wait until the July deadline.
- **Water / Utilities** will not be disconnected during the Pandemic following an order by the Ohio EPA. Usage will be billed and due as usual, and late fees will apply to any amount unpaid. Residents are encouraged to pay their bills on time, and if this is not possible, contact Dawn at 419-542-8224 to discuss options.
- **Revolving Loans** will be heard on a case by case basis using protocols already in place. Please call the Mayor's office or Dennis Miller at Maumee Valley Planning if you need assistance.
- **Burning of Recreational Fires:** please be considerate of your neighbors. They may have respiratory issues. Try to have your fire at dusk, not all day long. Also, never leave it unattended.
- **Grass in the Street** when lawns are mowed is a problem. It is a safety hazard for bicycles and motorcycles. It clogs up the sewer system. It can be expensive with a fine of \$100.00 for violation of the Village Ordinance prohibiting it.
- **Finally, to all the First Responders** including our Police Officers, Firemen, EMT's, the employees at Community Memorial Hospital, and all the Village employees: Thank you for your service every day keeping things going during this crisis.

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer