

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, October 5th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Council met in Council Chambers - Governor DeWine's "Responsible Restart Ohio" guidelines were in effect. Everyone was asked to wear face coverings or sit where social distancing could be observed.

The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Mike Barth. Pastor Steve Evers gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll Call was read with the following persons in attendance: Acting Mayor Mike Barth; Council Members Larry Ridgway, Taylor Klepper, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, and Cory Wann; Administrator Kent Miller; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; and Solicitor Troy Essex. Mayor Ron Jones was absent.

Minutes from the September 21st Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.

The list of bills to be paid was presented. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.

John Hancock, a City Councilman from Defiance, was on hand to introduce himself. He is a candidate for Defiance County Commissioner. He spoke on his personal history and why he would like to become a Commissioner.

Boards & Commissions: No Boards met.

Council Committees:

The Ordinance Committee met September 26th - minutes were in the packets. They are working with Solicitor Essex on an ordinance requiring house numbers. There was a lengthy discussion on the subject by Council. They had questions about how detailed would the numbering be (park buildings, village buildings, etc.) and how would it be enforced? Who would have the responsibility - the Zoning Department or the Police Department? Essex said it would depend on how the Ordinance is written. Eric Bassett would like the final draft to be presented and go through the required three (3) readings so the public can have the opportunity to voice their opinions. Essex and the Committee will continue working on it and bring suggestions back to answer Council's questions.

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:

- Bid information on the McDonald's playground equipment was in the packets. A campground was awarded the bid at \$1,000.00.
- The CDBG Critical Infrastructure meeting was September 28th. An application for a \$50,000.00 grant was approved by the County and has been submitted to the State for approval.
- The leaf pick-up will begin the week of October 5th and end December 4th. Leaves ONLY - no brush. Nothing behind parked cars will be picked up.
- Third quarter employee hours were listed.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2020-16** by caption only granting consent to ODOT to stripe pavements, erect warning signs, remove snow & ice, and perform repairs & maintenance on state highways within village limits.
- A contract for the removal of snow and ice was also included in packets.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning reported he has received estimates for the installation of climate control for the evidence room (\$9250.00) and a new portable generator and electrical updates (\$11,000.00). Both come in under the amount budgeted for 2020. Ron Beverly and Eric Bassett wanted to know what fuel is used to run the generator. Chief Denning will find out and let them know.

Fire/EMS Chief: Scott Cramer announced he has another EMT in class. October 10th will be the 5K run and pancake breakfast (7 am to 11 am). The Purse Bingo previously postponed will be held November 7th.

***Park Director:** Val Shull was absent. Lindsey Thiel was on hand to report that the Park Board has completed their tentative budget for 2021. She said they have a 3-year plan to replace the playground with sensory equipment. They will apply for grants or accept donations to defray the cost. They are also working with Dave Blue at the school for possible Senior Service Projects. They would like to get the community involved. Ron Beverly would like them to look at fixing or replacing the camera system as it has not worked well enough to deter vandalism.*

Fiscal Officer Report:

The current Fund Status report was in the packets. Also included were the Utility, Income Tax, Mayor's Court and Police Department Collections Reports. The 2021 Health, Dental and Vision Rates were listed. A list of expenditures from the Coronavirus Relief Fund was submitted. Eric Bassett asked for the Electrostatic Machine pricing be compared between Janitor's Supply and 419 Disinfecting. Smith asked Council to approve 2 holidays to be reinstated in lieu of raises for 2021. The holidays will be President's Day and Columbus Day. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Cory Wann. All voted yes.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones was absent.

Taylor Klepper said he has concerns about the "push-back" he has heard about the activity going on at the Park. He said he thinks the Village should be more supportive when volunteers are working at the Park instead of criticism. Kent Miller answered that he has concerns with the elevation at the construction site and how it will affect the combined sewer system at the Park. Klepper said maybe a meeting would have been helpful to iron out the details and get Council approval of the process, not just the project.

Cory Wann asked Council to consider painting a thin blue line down the main highway in town. Kent Miller reminded Council of the striping snafu downtown not so long ago. Painting on asphalt is permanent and can't be easily changed. When the "fad" is over we'll be stuck with the line whether we want it or not. Also, elderly people could be confused as to what it means, and it could cause liability issues. When the State comes in and repaves their highways, the stripe will be covered up. Miller recommends Council hear what the public thinks about it. Wann also asked about flags downtown with thin blue and red lines. Council was not for changing out the American flags.

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer