

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, January 4th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Council met using "GoToMeeting" due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Information to join the meeting was published on the website: www.villageofhicksville.com.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Jones. Pastor Evers 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, Taylor Klepper, Mike Barth, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, and Cory Wann; Administrator Kent Miller; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; and Solicitor Troy Essex.

Mayor Jones opened the floor for nominations for 2021 Council President. Mike Barth nominated Eric Bassett, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Bassett accepted. There were no more nominations. Larry Ridgway made a motion to close the nominations and vote to approve Eric Bassett as Council President, seconded by Cory Wann. Barth, Beverly, Wann, Klepper, and Ridgway voted yes. Bassett abstained.

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

No bills were presented. This was the first workday of the new year.

Boards & Commissions:

No Boards met during this time. Mike Barth reported Don Brown (Cemetery Board) has asked to be replaced. The Board would like council to approve their recommendation of Dave Brown to be the interim member until the Joint Meeting with the Hicksville Township Trustees in May when he can be officially named. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Council Committees:

No committees met during this time.

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:

- Kent Miller announced Austin Zeedyk's resignation. He also gave a breakdown of payroll hours. Live Christmas trees will be picked up until February.
- Taylor Klepper asked when to expect CSX to be done on N. Main St. Kent Miller said he can't get CSX to answer his questions.
- Cory Wann asked about the traffic tie-up at the corner of Arthur and Spencerville. A truck apparently knocked down the stop sign, and it took the street department an hour to respond and fix it. Wann said cars were running straight through and an accident was a real possibility. Miller said it was after hours and the person on call had to come from home. The police officer called out should have stayed and directed traffic until he arrived. Chief Denning agreed that his officer should not have left the scene until the sign was replaced.
- Troy Essex was asked about damage to lawns/curbs around town by trucks taking detours. He responded that the village is not legally obligated to repair but morally may decide to. The trucking company causing the damage is liable. He also addressed the "permit" that allows trucks to continue through construction areas. The permit applies to state highways only - not village streets. They can be ticketed and have been.
- Mike Barth thanked Austin Zeedyk for his service to the village as the Wastewater Plant foreman. He is leaving to join the Defiance City department and we wish him well.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-01** by caption only rezoning part of Lot 204 of the 1910 Auditor's Plat 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 Ordinance 2021-01 by caption only. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Cory Wann.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning reported the climate control for the evidence room is completed. The generator will be finished this week. Larry Ridgway asked about the new cruisers. They are still on order.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer asked the mayor to recommend Justin Hartman to join the Fire Department. The mayor put the recommendation before council. Ron Beverly made a motion to accept with the required physical, drug screen and background check, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Beverly asked if he was already certified and Cramer said no, he will have to go to class. Chief Cramer reported the new tanker is in production. He also gave the following stats: 2020 Fire Calls 157/ hours 1489 - 2020 EMS runs 521/ hours 1435.*

Park Director: *Val Shull had no report.*

Fiscal Officer Report:

- Fund Status Report for 12/31/2020
- December Utility and Income Tax Collections Reports

Mayor's Report:

The mayor reminded everyone that anyone who wishes to run for Council (4 seats are up for reelection) needs to have their paperwork in by February 3rd for the May 4th Primary.

The mayor then read his 2020 State of the Village message. (attached)

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer