

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday February 1, 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, he followed with 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, and Ron Beverly; Administrator Kent Miller; Sr. Utility Clerk Dawn Hostetler; and Solicitor Troy Essex. Cory Wann and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith were absent.

Minutes from the January 18th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Beverly abstained, all voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Questions concerning "Fire Dept. FEMA Grant Money" and "Tax return postage" were answered. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. Barth abstained, all voted yes.

Councilman Ron Beverly asked about money donated by residents for new signage in the Village. The only sign so far was at FWT coming in from Indiana. Taylor Klepper stated there was \$1200 still in the fund and that fund was in his name. Mike Barth asked him to talk with the Boy Scouts about signage.

Boards & Commissions:

No Boards met during this time.

Council Committees:

Personnel Committee met January 25th. Eric Bassett reported that the Extension of FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) was the topic of discussion. The Committee Unanimously agreed to follow the 6-qualifying reasons for leave, under the FFCRA (copies in packet). Council Voted to approve the committee recommendation. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.

Police, Fire, and EMS Committee met January 28th. Old and new Police cruisers were discussed. Chief Cramer stated need for more firefighters and possibly extending the area they can recruit from. They have also been asked about possibly covering Scipio Township. Discussion was tabled for a meeting when Chief Cramer was available for 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:

- Kent Miller had no report. Mike Barth thanked Village employees for the quick snow removal this past weekend. Taylor Klepper asked about property owners being responsible for shoveling the uptown sidewalks, after much discussion it was decided to leave as is for now.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-03** by caption only to amend appropriations and declaring an emergency (Fire Department FEMA grant). Motion to Suspend the rules Ron Beverly, second by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. Motion to Approve by Mike Barth, second by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2021-01** by caption only to approve a new bond schedule for Mayor's Court (and declaring an emergency.) Motion to Suspend the rules Ron Beverly, second Taylor Klepper. All voted yes. Motion to Approve Larry Ridgway, second Mike Barth. All voted yes.
- Discussion then turned to the land behind Haver Drive adjacent to new well field. Troy stated a resolution must be passed by a 2/3 vote to sell, and Village would need to advertise a public auction for 5 weeks, questions were brought up regarding easements and drainage issues. Ron Beverly and the Mayor both want to see this finished. Troy will bring a resolution to the next council meeting for the details to be worked out.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Chief Denning stated the department had 4840 Calls for Service in 2020 compared to 4967 in 2019. New Cruisers are in should be in service end of March or beginning of April. The Department is Compliant Certified in new regulations, for Law Enforcement. Generator and new electrical are in place.

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer was absent.*

Park Director: *Val Shull was absent.* It was shared that the pool would be advertising for summer lifeguards soon. Long time park board member Rick Belton has resigned, anyone interested in serving please contact Mayor Jones.

Fiscal Officer Report: The following reports were submitted to Council:

- Fund Status Report
- January Income Tax and Utility Collections
- Cemetery Budget and Financial Statement
- Property Tax Listing

Mayor's Report:

The Mayor sent condolences to the family of past Assistant Fire Chief Ray Yoder who passed away recently.

He stated the County Commissioners Demolition program will be starting back up this year, deadline for applications is March 20, 2021, see Mayor Jones or Zoning with questions.

The Village Council received a thank you for their support from CIC.

Residents are reminded to be aware of the Emergency Snow Routes this time of year.

COVID-19 update, Community Memorial Hospital was now on the county list as a vaccination location.

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday February 16th due to Monday the 15th being a holiday.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Mayor

Sr. Utility Clerk