

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Annual Joint Meeting with Township Trustees
Monday May 3rd, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Council met in Council Chambers. Masks and Social Distancing were mandatory.

The Joint Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Jones, followed with the invocation by Pastor Steve Eyers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll Call was read with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Ron Jones; Council Members Eric Bassett; Larry Ridgway; Mike Barth; Taylor Klepper; and Charlie Martin; Administrator Kent Miller; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Councilman Ron Beverly and Solicitor Troy Essex were absent. Township Trustees in attendance were Zane Zeedyk, John McCalla and Josh Metz.

Mayor Jones asked for any business to be brought forward. The Trustees asked for updates on the street closures. The detours are causing significant damage to township roads which will cost a lot to repair. They will need to close a portion of Casebeer-Miller Road for repairs shortly. Kent Miller told them the West High closure will soon be paved for temporary use but will remain under construction of the water line.

They also wanted to know about the section of Casebeer-Miller from Spencerville to Hidden Brook that is jointly owned by the village and the township (right side/left side). They were assured by council that any repair costs will be shared by the village.

Mayor Jones asked about the split percentage for cemetery funding. The village pays \$27,500.00 and the township pays \$14,924.00. He asked if there was a reason it was not paid 50/50. The Trustees said it was probably based on population. They reminded the mayor that the township has always picked up the cost for any special projects done in the cemetery without asking the village for additional funds.

With no further business Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn the Joint Meeting, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes. The Regular Meeting continued.

Minutes from the April 19th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

There was a **Notice of Public Meeting** announced. The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet May 19th at 4 pm in Council Chambers to hear requests for two sign variances: one at the school and one at the Mennonite Church.

Mayor Jones announced the retirement of Herb Repp from this Board. He had served for over 20 years and has stepped down. The mayor asked for anyone who might wish to join the Board to contact him. He thanked Mr. Repp for his service to the village.

Boards & Commissions:

The Park Board met April 21st, and minutes were in the packets.

Council Committees:

The Police/Fire/EMS Committee met April 26th, and minutes were in the packets.

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: No written report tonight.

Solicitor's Report: (legislation read by Mayor Jones)

- First reading of **Resolution 2021-07** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit personal property including by internet auction for the calendar year 2021.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning again reported his concerns about the MARCS radios and the problems with the repeaters. He will consider going back to the old system if the problem cannot be resolved. The meeting was not successful as the representative for the MARCS company did not show up. That company still has 2 of the Village's repeaters for examination/repair.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer asked for the mayor to recommend moving Austin Thomas from part-time to full-time. Mayor Jones made the recommendation. Mike Barth made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.*

Park Director: *Adam Gubernath from the Park Board had no report.*

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

- Fund Status Report
- Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)
- April Income Tax and Utility Collections Reports
- Notice to Legislative Authorities (Objections to Renewal of Liquor Permits)
- 1st Quarter Mediacom Franchise Fee Report
- April Revolving Loan Listing
- New Quarantine Order (Vaccinated persons can come to work even if they are exposed)

Mayor's Report:

A meeting was held April 21st between representatives of the Village, the various ball associations and the Park Board and minutes were presented to Council. All parties were heard and the background issue appears to be settled.

Mayor Jones has advertised for a new Administrator to replace Kent Miller as he retires. He has spent considerable time speaking with every candidate (7 possible) and considering his options. He has decided to appoint Cory Wann to the position. The appointment is contingent upon a good physical, drug screen and background check. The position will begin with a six-month probation period as specified in the Personnel Manual for all new employees. Kent Miller will remain for training. The mayor then asked for the council to accept his appointment. Larry Ridgway made a motion to accept his choice, with all contingencies, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Mayor Jones reminded everyone to get vaccinated. The Health Department is planning a vaccine clinic in Hicksville and details will be announced soon.

Mike Barth announced a euchre tournament fund raiser by the Legion and Rotary May 21st at 7 pm to help pay for the new handicap ramp.

Also, the Beautification Flower Sale will be held Friday and Saturday at the Township Building across from the School. Volunteers are needed to help set up and tear down.

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer