

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday June 21st, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Council met in Council Chambers. If not fully vaccinated, please wear a mask.

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

Minutes from the June 7th 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 Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Commissioner Mick Pocratsky was present to speak about the Gordon Creek area. The 18 homes in the unincorporated subdivision are hooked into a septic system that is coming to the end of its life. The County has been asked to suggest remedies before that happens. He would like to begin by telling the residents that the wisest choice would be to hook into the Village's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Pocratsky would like to have a solid answer from the Village before he goes any further. Mike Barth made a motion that the Village agree to such a preliminary proposal, details to be worked out. He was seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes. Mr. Pocratsky would like a cost approximation of what the Village would charge each household to process their wastewater. The Village will work on getting a figure for him before he meets with Gordon Creek residents.

Boards & Commissions:

The Nuisance Board met June 9th. Minutes were in the packets.

The Park Board met June 16th and minutes were in the packets. Lindsey Thiel from the Park Board covered the discussions held on the 16th with Council. She reported there is an opening on the Board. She said the Softball Association would like a play area near the fields, but they really want a new concession stand/restroom built with a second story press box. They will need some direction in how to proceed. Taylor Klepper said he would look into it.

Council Committees:

The Water/Sewer Committee met June 18th and minutes were in the packets. Their discussion once again centered on the swale situation on the land behind Haver Drive. The Committee was split 2 to 1 to forgo spending the money (\$10,000-\$18,000) putting in a swale then selling the land. Larry Ridgway said we could still reserve the wider easement so the Village could install a swale if it becomes necessary in the future. Any contractor who purchases the land and builds on it will have to abide by Village Ordinances and Zoning Regulations. Beverly was adamant that we put the swale in now. He said the residents were promised a swale when we didn't own the land and now, we do. He said it's not fair. He became vocal and asked council if "they could sleep tonight" knowing they have made this decision. Taylor Klepper said we could put the swale in, sell the land, and the contractor building and installing a street would change the drainage plain anyway. Larry Ridgway made a motion to have Troy Essex bring legislation to increase the width of the easement for future use, seconded by Eric Bassett. Barth, Martin, Klepper, Bassett, and Ridgway voted yes. Beverly voted no.

The Personnel Committee met June 14th and minutes were in the packets. Eric Bassett summarized the items discussed. Kent Miller will go from full-time to part-time June 29, 2021. His hourly rate will be as a Laborer I at \$18.60 per hour.

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. All meetings are shown on YouTube.

Administrator's Report: There was no written report.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-07** by caption granting preliminary consent regarding paving within the Village and declaring an emergency. Larry Ridgway made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2021-07 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-08** by caption to amend Section 905.07 of the Codified Ordinances increasing the rate for nuisance mowing and declaring an emergency. Taylor Klepper made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2021-08 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.
- Mayor Jones asked for a Resolution to sell the land at the corner of North Main & Arthur. He also asked about getting the process started to auction the land behind Haver Drive.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning was present but had no report.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer was absent. Mayor Jones reminded everyone of the Fireman's Breakfast Saturday before "Day in the Park."*

Park Director: *Lindsey Thiel from the Park Board had already spoken previously. She returned to ask how to tell the Softball Association to proceed with their plans for the new construction. Who gives approval and so on? Eric Bassett told her it would need to be planned and executed in future budget cycles. Ms. Thiel was reminded the land is co-owned by the Village, the School and the Metropolitan Park Board (Defiance County) so all parties would need to give their approval before any planning begins.*

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

- Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)
- Chamber email with a draft of the new downtown banners.

Mayor's Report: Mayor ones had the following:

- The Huber Concert Series begins this Thursday.
- The Farmers' Market is every Saturday from 9 to noon at the corner of Main & Smith.
- June 26th is "Day in The Park" all day.

Mike Barth reminded residents to be careful driving on West High Street while the new waterline work is being done. Kent Miller said the completion date is August 1st, but he expects it to be much sooner. Several Councilmen asked about paving. Miller reminded them how much we are already over the original budget. Ron Beverly wants Miller or Wann to get quotes to fix the "dip" in the street. Taylor Klepper reminded him ODOT is paving in 2022, so maybe this year we can do the bad spots.

Larry Ridgway made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer