

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 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; followed by the invocation by Pastor Steve Eyers, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the October 4<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting were presented. Taylor Klepper made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Charlie Martin. Barth, Klepper, Martin, Beverly, and Ridgway voted yes. Bassett abstained.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. Bassett, Beverly, Martin, Ridgway and Klepper voted yes. Barth abstained.

Kerstin Wilson from Energy Optimizers attended to give Council copies of the proposal her company has written. She explained the report in detail and answered questions. Bassett asked about options (ex: motion sensor vs daylight sensor). Ms. Wilson said the village can choose what works best for the location. He also asked if a 'material only' option could be available. She said yes. Council asked for further information on possible financing of the project. She will contact the Administrator when she has the information requested. She said the timeline would be about 8 weeks from approval for the start of the project, and it would take about a month to complete.

**Boards & Commissions:**

The **HIX TV Board** met September 11<sup>th</sup> and minutes were in the packets. Bill Murphy was asked about progress with SMTA at the station. He said DJ Stevenson was on it.

**Council Committees:**

The **Street, Light & Property Committee** met October 7<sup>th</sup> and minutes were in the packets. They discussed a request to lease the 3 acres on Antwerp Drive for a small farm enterprise. The land was originally purchased for a retention pond for stormwater runoff and may still be needed in the future. Council agreed to let the land lie for now.

The **Water & Sewer Committee** met October 4<sup>th</sup> and minutes were in the packets. They discussed moving the Defiance Avenue Lift Station work from 2022 to 2023.

Water Superintendent Jessi Randall was on hand to ask village residents to join a group of volunteers who have their water tested annually. The test is EPA mandated and measures lead. There is an application on the village website. The actual testing occurs once during the time period of July through September of each year. Randall asked Council to approve an incentive plan for volunteers. If any resident signs up and their residence is accepted as a testing site, they will receive an \$20.00 credit on their utility bill. They will also receive a copy of the report. Taylor Klepper made a motion to approve the plan, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. If you have any questions, please call the water plant at 419-542-8984.

*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](mailto:hixcs@defnet.com). All council meetings are shown on YouTube and minutes are on the website.*

**Administrator's Report:** Wann submitted a written report covering the following topics:

- Jeff Ruple (Wastewater Treatment Superintendent) is leaving. Ads will go out this week for a new operator.
- The Wellfield Project is out for bids.
- Loop Paving was in last week to spot pave.
- ODOT responded to Wann's request for the stop sign at the N. Main viaduct to be put back as before. He was told the original sign did not comply with the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices and was not approved/legal.
- Well #3 at the Water Plant went down Thursday. Ortman Drilling is making repairs that could cost up to \$20,000.00.
- A walk-through was done at the WWTP. There were many maintenance issues found. A written report was submitted to the Water & Sewer Committee detailing the severity of the problems.

**Solicitor's Report:**

- Second reading of **Ordinance 2021-15** by caption only to establish pay rates for 2022.
- Final reading of **Resolution 2021-23** by caption only to sell property - Lot 55 of Edgerton's First Addition. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.
- *Note: Council had asked about our ability to sell land gifted to the Village. Essex is in the process of verifying this.*
- *Essex reported the annexation of the wellfield is complete. The Auditor will have it added to the new Auditor website soon.*
- *The Defiance Avenue land purchase is ready to be sent to the Title Company.*

**Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** *Mark Denning reported he is changing out the prisoner seat of the SUV for a plastic one. The current seat cannot be cleaned or sterilized properly. This will be paid for with COVID funds. Taylor Klepper asked the Chief if he could provide a monthly report to council with the cases categorized.*

**Fire/EMS Chief:** *absent - no report*

**Park Director:** *absent - (Val Shull had texted the mayor to report park operations are closing down for the season.)*

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

- Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)
- September Mayor's Court Report
- November Calendar

**Mayor's Report:** *The Christmas Cruise Thru is ramping up for this year and needs volunteers. The mayor will follow-up with the Sheriff's department and the head of the Cruise Thru committee to coordinate with our Police department to avoid traffic issues like those that occurred last year.*

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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Mayor

Fiscal Officer