

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, December 6th, 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, Taylor Klepper, Mike Barth, Ron Beverly, and Charlie Martin; Administrator Cory Wann; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; and Solicitor Troy Essex.

Erika Willitzer from the Defiance County CIC was present to update council on Vancrest LLC's plans for the new facility on Defiance Avenue. The building will be 51,000 sq ft, with an additional 15 employees. The annual salary is projected to be 1.3 million dollars. The existing building is scheduled to be donated. Ms. Willitzer did not know the recipient. She is asking tonight for council's blessing by a "Resolution of Support" to proceed since the building would not currently be within the village limits.

Minutes from the November 15th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

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

Boards & Commissions:

Minutes from the CRA meeting held November 17th were presented to council.

Council Committees:

The **Ordinance Committee** met November 23rd and minutes were submitted. They discussed proposing an ordinance outlining the rules for use of the park by baseball/softball leagues, specifically background checks.

The **Personnel Committee** met November 29th and minutes were in the packets. They met to interview a candidate for the Wastewater Superintendent position.

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 council meetings are shown on YouTube and minutes are on the website.

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

- Stark Plumbing & Heating will be adding air purification units to each building's furnace, with the exception of the municipal building. The offices there will have individual units installed.
- The main PLC control went down at the Wastewater Plant due to the power supply failing and the battery backup non-operational. No backup was found. IFM's Control Engineer came in and rewrote the program. A new power source, battery backup and USB port were installed.
- Bids were received by the Commissioners for Division B of the well field. They will notify the contractor who will begin the contract.
- There was a water main break on Wendell Avenue that took 5 hours to repair Tuesday. Service in the area was disrupted for about 2 hours. The cement drive at the Crippled Children's building will be repaired.
- Friday, December 3rd was the last day for leaf pick-up.
- The Ambulance (Old 510) was sold online for \$13,105.00.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-16** by caption only approving 2022 appropriations and declaring an emergency. Larry Ridgway made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2021-16 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2021-25** by caption only expressing support for the Enterprise Zone for Vancrest of Hicksville LLC and declaring an emergency. Eric

Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2021-25 by caption only. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had no report.*

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

Park Director: *Val Shull was absent. The park is shut down for the season.*

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

- Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)
- November Mayor's Court and Police Department Reports.
- November Revolving Loan Balances Report.
- Letter from Mediacom outlining changes.
- Report of Park vandalism by juveniles and amount of restitution made.

Mayor's Report: *Mayor Jones reported the Christmas Cruise Thru will run through the 23rd, and fireworks will be on the 12th. He asked council if they would like to see council seats non-partisan. All were in agreement to move ahead with legislation. Mayor Jones asked to have Cory Wann (Administrator) taken off probation. He has successfully completed 6 months on the job. He also asked for his salary to be raised to \$56,000.00 per year. Larry Ridgway made a motion to approve the mayor's request, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.*

Bill Murphy, HIX TV Station Manager, reported that Channel 8 with SMTA was up and running.

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

Mayor

Fiscal Officer