

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, June 6, 2022, 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 given by Pastor Steve Eyers. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the May 16th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

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

Boards & Commissions:

The Board of Zoning Appeals met May 18th. They approved a setback variance for Mel Bontrager for a new duplex at 101 Oak Street.

Council Committees:

The Ordinance Committee met May 16th and minutes were in the packets. The committee met with Police Chief Denning to discuss the upcoming changes to the fireworks and concealed carry laws. The committee recommended council make no changes to village ordinances and follow any changes as written into the Ohio Revised Code by the State of Ohio. An oral report was given at the last meeting.

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: a written report was included in packets:

- CSX was working on the East High Street viaduct for settling issues. They added spacers and will return later to investigate the cause.
- Dangler Excavating has replaced 10 of 16 valves.
- Downtown sidewalk panels have been completed.
- The Water Tower project has received a loan (\$249,000 at 0%) and a grant (\$249,000) from OPWC funds. Construction is slated to begin September 1st.
- The Wellfield project is on hold until CSX assigns a flagger. Bryan Excavating will begin installing the access road as soon as the ground is dry enough. Ortman Drilling is planning to be on site mid-June. The completion date is December 11, 2022.
- Water Superintendent Jessi Randall is leaving June 14th. An ad for a replacement has been sent out.
- The house at 501 East Smith Street has been torn down and all backfilling is done.
- Wann asked Mayor Jones to recommend Garrett Franz be hired to fill the street position. He did so and Mike Barth made a motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.
- Beverly asked about the sign at Smith & Maple. Wann told him it was ordered.
- When asked about high grass on the lot on West High Street that the village has been mowing - Wann will check with Mike Bailey for a status.
- Wann told council he is checking with local farmers about baling the 20 acres behind Haver Drive.
- Beverly said he would like to sell the lot at the corner of Arthur and Main and also the strip of land at the park.

Joel Jacob, the new Wastewater Treatment Superintendent, was on hand to meet council members he hadn't met yet. Beverly asked about the spending he's seeing. He wanted to know if Jacob could give him a date when it would end. Jacob told him the costs to maintain the plant would be ongoing. He gave an example of the UV bulbs, how they work, their life span, and purpose. They are expensive but necessary. Once everything that needs repaired or replaced is done, and a good maintenance program is in place, things will settle down, but running the operation is a costly endeavor. Council was invited to come down and tour the plant.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2022-06** approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances; providing for the adoption and publication of new matter in the updated and revised codified ordinances; repealing ordinances and resolutions in conflict therewith; and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2022-06 approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances; providing for the adoption and publication of new matter in the updated and revised codified ordinances; repealing ordinances and resolutions in conflict therewith. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning gave the May numbers for his department. He also let them know he would be looking for a full-time officer to replace Garrett Franz. He would like to have a meeting with the Police & Fire committee. Mike Barth asked about coverage. Chief Denning said they will make it work.*

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

Park Director: *Val Shull reported that the pump at the pool has to be replaced and the cost is about \$7200.00. It should be done on next Wednesday or Thursday. The toilet at Adventure Alley had to be replaced due to a leak. Charlie Martin asked about dragging the fields. A little kid got hurt due to sharp rocks being brought up. Gary Shull (groundskeeper) said he can't use the Bannerman on the turf.*

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

- Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)
- May Income Tax, Utility and Mayor's Court Collections Reports
- May Revolving Loan Report
- OPERS letter offering life insurance to employees
- ODPS Drug Funding Law Enforcement Awards
- OML Notice about pending legislation impeding municipalities in the collection of delinquent utilities.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Jones reminded residents of the anniversary of D-Day. It was 78 years ago, and 9,000 soldiers died on that one day.
- The Summer Concert Series is going on in the Huber parking lot. Everyone is invited to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy the music.
- Day in The Park will be June 25th from 11 am to 9 pm.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer