

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, June 20, 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, Toni Egly, Taylor Klepper, Ron Beverly; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Solicitor Troy Essex, Administrator Cory Wann and Councilmen Charlie Martin and Mike Barth were absent.

Minutes from the Jun 6th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Ron Beverly asked to make a change to the last sentence in the Administrator's report. Clerk of Council said the comment was made and should stay in the minutes. Beverly agreed. He then made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. Egly, Bassett and Beverly voted yes. Klepper abstained.

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 Park Board met June 15th and the agenda was in the packets. No minutes were written. Mike Altman has resigned effective immediately. The School Board will be contacted for a replacement.

Lindsey Thiel from the Park Board was present to update Council on the Splash Pad and Walking Trail Projects on behalf of the Hicksville Foundation. She began by relating her grandfather's wartime experiences since the walking trail should begin at the Veterans Memorial. The location of the Splash Pad has been chosen. It will be near the pool where the volleyball courts are now. The Foundation would like all the Park Projects to be under one "umbrella." She said Mr. Johns and Mr. Klepper are drafting a letter to the Metropolitan Park Board in Defiance asking them to sell or gift their part of the park to the Village. She said the Metro Park Board gets \$50,000.00 a year and they only give Hicksville \$2,000.00. She said today was a call-to-action to the public to get on board. The committee plans to meet again on Thursday for an update. She would like Council to give their approval, not just keep telling them why that can't do it. Hicksville gives her a sense of pride - the Village needs to work with the Foundation. She said the Committee has gone to Delphos to check out their pool. Jennifer Doctor will be heading up the walking path project. She is a distance runner. Ron Beverly said the pool needs to be replaced. It is way past its lifespan. Taylor Klepper would like the wellfield area of the walking trail to be designated a nature park. Pastor Eyers said donors will want to see plans. Mayor Jones reminded Ms. Thiel to include Administrator Cory Wann as plans are made. He will need to be involved in any project at the park.

Council Committees:

The Street/Light/Property Committee met June 9th and minutes were in the packets. Beverly will contact Schrader Real Estate in Columbia City to meet and talk about the lot at Main and Arthur as well as the 20 acres behind Haver Drive. (Note: Beverly asked about mowing the 20 acres. Klepper reminded him it was disc cut earlier and mowing would be really rough.)

The Police & Fire Committee met June 13th and minutes were unavailable. Smith told council she received the minutes late this afternoon and would email them. Committee member Toni Egly gave an oral report on the meeting. Police Chief Denning would like to hire a Lieutenant. The canine unit has been put on hold for now. Pastor Eyers said he knows the unit will be expensive, but he hopes the formation of the unit won't fall through the cracks. Egly responded that that is not the only reason for putting it on hold. The committee would like to meet the officers and firemen and possibly post their pictures in city hall. They also would like annual reviews of the employees. Fire Chief Cramer would like to take training to become an instructor. Beverly asked about Cramer's recruiting efforts at the school. If it didn't generate enough interest, he should go back and push them a little. It can't be a one-time deal.

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:

Administrator Wann was absent, but a complete report is available from the Fiscal Officer, either paper or email. He included updates on the current projects.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2022-06** authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

Department Heads:

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

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer was absent. Asst. Chief Bruce Hart was present but had no report.*

Park Director: *Val Shull reported the pool is open and very busy.*

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

Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)

Mayor's Report:

Joe Adams, from the Class of 1965, was here to request we open the time capsule found hidden behind the plaque in city hall. He remembers his class made a time capsule and he would like to see if it is the same one. It would mean a lot to the remaining class members. Council agreed to open it and see if the date can be determined by the contents. It can then be closed back up and returned to its place.

Mayor Jones reported our resident Johnny Davis, son of John and Cheryl Davis, advanced to the Special Olympics in Orlando Florida playing softball. His team won the Gold Medal. The mayor gave him congratulations from the entire village.

June 23rd the Summer Concert Series will feature Cameron Davies at the Huber.

June 25th is Day in the Park starting at 11 am. Thanks to the Wann family for organizing it.

July 4th will be our country's 246th year of celebrations

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, July 5th.

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

Mayor

Fiscal Officer