

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday September 19, 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. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the September 6th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Council Member Ron Beverly requested the square footage of spec building on Industrial Drive be correct to 100,000sqft. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as amended, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Ron Beverly asked about the H & W Automotive invoice for Radiator. Wann explained that included the radiator and other Village invoices from NAPA. He also questioned check to Mike Bailey for mowing, it was explained that was reimbursement for mower gas when Village gas card was not working. Ron Beverly then made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Eric Bassett. Bassett, Beverly, Egly, and Martin voted yes. Barth abstained.

Conrad Beck with Beck Insurance Inc. was present to answer questions on the Village Ohio Plan Risk Management proposal, and options for consideration. Proposal was in council packets. After a brief discussion it was proposed by the mayor that the Street, Light and Property committee meet to review.

Boards & Commissions:

Annual (CRA) 2022 meeting: No new CRA application for this year, current properties were inspected by Mike Bailey, and all were up to date and looked good. This committee is also looking for a new member, anyone interested should contact Zoning Inspector Mike Bailey or the Mayor.

Park Board Mike Barth spoke as the Council representative; they have a meeting scheduled 9/21. He discussed the Boards purpose, historically and in the future, the chain of responsibility and about redundancy with all the current organizations represented in the park. Troy Essex will look at how and why the Board was established and any requirements if abolishing this board is recommended.

Council Committees:

The Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee met September 14th; no minutes submitted as of meeting time.

The Ordinance Committee met September 14th; packets were distributed prior to the meeting. Discussion on ordinance 1165.06 update and remove the campers/RV portion; 905.05 add vegetation and increase height to 8"; and begin a tag system to notify resident/property owner of violation, doing away with mailed letters. They would use the wording of 923.03 except replace building inspector with zoning inspector or his designee. Update 905.01 to 8". 911.01(911.03) implement a tag system, followed by a nuisance sign placed on the property, like the City of Defiance, a fee would be charged upon return of the nuisance sign. Discussion also included a new ordinance for outdoor furniture restrictions. All will be submitted to Solicitor Essex for review and completion.

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 Reported Bore pits in well field have been completed. Ortman will be in field end of September beginning of October to drill wells 8 and 9.
- N. Main St and E High St are in the process of being paved. There will be quite a few new ADA curbs installed.
- The Rotary Park Pavilion kitchen demo is complete, Battershell cabinets will install new cabinets and counter tops.
- The girls' softball window repair is almost complete.
- Wann requested the mayor recommend Jodi Sanders for the open custodial position, pending physical and drug screen. Mayor Jones made the recommendation Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth, all voted yes.

Solicitor's Report:

Final reading of **Resolution 2022-13** to enter an agreement with the Defiance County Commissioners for the recovery of monies expended for providing legal counsel to indigent persons for the calendar year 2023. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, second by Charlie Martin, all voted yes

Motion to waive any hearings before the Defiance County Budget Commission regarding apportionment of the undivided local government fund pursuant to Section 5747, Ohio Revised Code. Charlie Martin motioned to approve, second by Eric Bassett, all voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Sergeant Doctor on behalf of Chief Denning recommended Andrew Fritch be hired as a Patrolman pending physical and drug screen. Fritch is a 2022 graduate of the Academy. Mayor Jones made the recommendation Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Assistant Chief Bruce Hart gave the Fire department update. He stated the tanker was on the line to be equipped with electrical and plumbing, no ETA. The department saw 3 fires this past weekend, two were total losses and the third was a mutual aid that worked very well. He gave a shout out to all the department and stated how Proud he was to be a part of the HVFD. Mayor Jones and council also commended the Department.*

Park Director: *Jennifer Doctor, the Walking Trail Association chair addressed council on the progress of the trail and association. They are still in the process of becoming a 501c3 and have received some donations. They have met and been working with a native habitat biologist associated with "Pheasants Forever" to learn the best native grasses and plants for the area. The goal is as natural and least amount of maintenance as possible. Discussed with Council and Administrator Wann what Troyer was doing currently and what they will continue to do as this moves forward. Council wants to see the well field work done before the trail starts in the area, Doctor shared a possible 5-year plan, with perimeter trail first. A meeting will be set up with Wann, Troyer and the association soon so everyone is on the same page. Councilmember Toni Egly commended Doctor on the associations efforts to maintain natural habitat.*

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

Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)

August Utility and Income Tax Reports

August Revolving Loan Report

August Police Department and Mayor's Court Collections Reports

Notice from Mediacom

Information on annual fuel PO - 4 departments have run out of funds

Council was asked to approve Flu Shots for employees for the 2022-23 season. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, second by Mike Barth, all voted yes.

Mayor's Report:

- "Christmas Cruise Thru" set up has begun, volunteers are needed.
- The most recent Defiance County Health department meeting states they are back to normal with all the regular programs.
- Trick or Treat in the Village will be Saturday October 29th from 4:00-6:00p
- "Hoptoberfest" was a success, and the mayor is happy to see the new businesses in town.
- The mayor shared congratulations to the Hicksville Elementary School who was named a National Blue Ribbon School, out 297 nationwide and 13 in the state of Ohio. An honor well deserved.
- Joel Jacobs the new WWTP Superintendent was present to introduce himself and updated council on issues at the plant.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.