

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday November 22, 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, Charlie Martin, Mike Barth, and Taylor Klepper; Administrator Cory Wann; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Council members Toni Egly and Ron Beverly were absent. Solicitor Troy Essex was absent.

Minutes from the November 7th 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. No vote was taken due to lack of quorum.

Boards & Commissions:

The **HIX TV Board** met October 15th and minutes were in the packets. They discussed the 2023 budget and changes to the Committee Guidelines.

Council Committees:

The **Ordinance Committee** met November 8th and minutes were in the packets. They met to discuss the changes being made to various ordinances. They will be presented to council when they are finished.

The **Finance Committee** met October 25th at 3 pm with the department heads to go over their budget requests for 2023 including a 6% raise for employees and how to finance the new pool project.

The **Water/Sewer Committee** met to discuss current projects, but no minutes were submitted.

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:

- Ortman Drilling has asked for council to approve a change to the way the new wells are constructed. The drilling is scheduled to begin on November 28th.
- Wann reported leaf pick-up is over. They hauled 101 loads using 547 ½ man hours which translates to a little over \$11,000.00.

Solicitor's Report: (legislation read by Mayor Jones)

- Second reading of **Ordinance 2022-10** by caption only to establish appropriations for 2023.
- Second reading of **Ordinance 2022-11** by caption only to establish pay rates for 2023.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning reported he has had no new officers hired yet. The officers will participate in the "Lights for Life" for 48 hours beginning Tuesday.

Fire/EMS Chief: Scott Cramer announced the Feather Bingo made \$9,000.00. This will be used to purchase a battery-operated Jaws. Christmas for Kids forms are out. He was not sure of the deadline. The new tanker is being inspected by the dealer.

Park Director: Val Shull reported the Park is shut down for the year.

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- October collections from the Police Department
- 2023 Estimated Resources

Mayor's Report:

The mayor wished everyone Happy Thanksgiving. Village offices will be closed Thursday and Friday - November 24th and 25th.

Taylor Klepper announced a community Thanksgiving dinner to be held at the Gathering Place. He also reminded everyone to shop Small Business Saturday.

Mike Barth reminded resident the Christmas Cruise Thru begins Thursday night. Fireworks will be December 11th. Alternative parking will be announced in the newspaper and on Facebook.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Joel Jacob was on hand to update council on various repairs and projects happening at the plant.

The 2 large holding tanks have not been emptied for some time and are now solid up to 2 of 3 feet (estimate). They must be emptied before repairs can be done. Typically, one is empty and inspected/maintained while the other fills, then the process is reversed. He has 2 tanks basically out of commission until he can get one emptied.

He has a blower that is not working properly and will need to be fixed or replaced next year and it will be very expensive (It is budgeted for 2023). When the blower doesn't work properly the beds can't dry out as they should. Not only do the beds stay wet, the sludge moves back into the lines and solidifies and plugs them. The problems at the plant happened over a long period of time and there is no fast, easy or inexpensive fix. For the good news our phosphorus is under the EPA threshold of 1 mg per liter. Jacob feels this is due to changing from ferric acid to alum. (Phosphorus is being closely regulated as it is a factor in the creation of algae in our waterways.)

At 6:30 pm Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer