

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday March 6, 2023, 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 an invocation. All cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the February 21st Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Toni Egly. Barth, Martin, Bassett, Beverly, and Egly voted yes. Klepper abstained.

Boards & Commissions:

HIX TV minutes were presented tonight. The Board met January 28th to discuss the TriCaster purchase.

Council Committees:

The **Personnel Committee** met March 1st- minutes were in the packets. The discussion centered on the accusations levelled by some residents against the Administrator, both for his personal conduct as well as on the job. The committee was able to meet with some of the complainants prior to the meeting. The others did not come to the meeting. Further investigation brought out inconsistencies. Chief Denning said there are active investigations going on so he could not comment. Social media appears to play a role. The committee will update the mayor when he returns.

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:

1. Wann reported the street crew has been working on cleaning up the storm damage.
2. Sixmo Inc (Design & Engineering for new Water Park) will cost \$238,000. The project is estimated to be between 2.5m and 3.5m.
3. He has 2 possible projects to send for CDBG consideration.
4. At the wellfield: the adapters may not be installed for 2 weeks; they need to run conduit for electricity; and propane and the generator will go in next month.
5. Cameron Jones has applied for the Water Dept. position. He has had a physical, drug screen and BCI. Ron Beverly asked about a CDL. Wann said he will have 6 months to get one. He also reported Franz (Street) and Brown (WWTP) have their CDL permits. Wann said Jones interviewed well, he is not a "job-jumper" and has mechanical aptitude. The mayor made the recommendation to hire Jones. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Solicitor's Report:

- Second reading of **Ordinance 2023-09** by caption only to transfer funds.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2023-10** by caption only to amend appropriations 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 Ordinance 2023-10 by caption only. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2023-03** by caption only to enter a contract with Sixmo Inc. to provide design and construction phase engineering services for a new Aquatic Center and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2023-03 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning reported there will be a meeting on March 17th, 11:00 am, to discuss the construction of the MARCS tower at the fairgrounds. If you would like to attend in person or by Zoom, contact Mark. Mike Barth thanked all the personnel who were out directing traffic during the storm. An electric pole was down across N. Main, and everyone did an excellent job getting things corrected.

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

Park Director: *Val Shull was absent.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- February Utility, Income Tax and Mayor's Court Reports

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Jones thanked Charlie Martin who was Acting Mayor in his absence. The mayor said he handled everything very well.

At 6:20 pm Taylor Klepper asked for an executive session to discuss possible litigation, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

At 7:25 pm council returned to open session. No action was taken after returning.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer