

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday April 17, 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 by Pastor Steve Eyers. All cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Taylor Klepper. Bassett, Beverly, Klepper and Egly voted yes. Martin and Barth abstained.

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING by the Planning Commission to hear an application for a lot split at 402 S. Bryan St. The meeting will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> in the Zoning office at 108 N. Main St. at 5 pm.

**Boards & Commissions:**

No meetings were held.

**Council Committees:**

*The Water/Sewer Committee met 4/12 but no minutes were presented. Taylor Klepper gave an oral report.*

*The Street/Light/Property Committee will meet on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.*

*The Police/Fire Committee met tonight.*

*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](mailto:hixcs@defnet.com). All council meetings are shown on YouTube and minutes are on the website.*

**Administrator's Report:** Cory Wann had the following report:

**Water Tower:**

*Foundation work is still being worked on with plans to start doing steel work by the end of April. WE STILL NEED TO PICK A COLOR AND A DESIGN!*

**Wellfield:**

*The final pitless adapter has been installed and Bryan Excavating is planning to be here this week (weather permitting) to connect the water line to the wells. FET Construction (electricians) are hoping to be out this week to do the work on the generator and wells.*

**Maple Lane:**

*We will have the first preconstruction meeting with Fenson Construction on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup>. Fenson is hoping to start a couple weeks sooner than projected. Originally construction was to start in June it now looks like sometime in May.*

**Parks:**

*The old pool house and pool is now scheduled for demo on May 15th and will take approximately 1 week to complete. Volleyball court relocation will follow after all demo is completed with pool.*

*New basketball goals have been installed. The basketball court will be sealed and repainted as soon as the contractor can get to it... hopefully in the next 2 weeks. Froggy Park received 4 new swings (replacements) this past week.*

*Geo Technical drilling will be done on Tuesday the 25 of this month for the new pool and splash pad, this will be done by CT Consultants of Mentor Ohio.*

**General:**

*South Main St. striping has all been completed, we have removed the 3 parking locations and added the center line from High St to Edgerton St.*

*North Main St. sewer main repair was completed on Wednesday April 12<sup>th</sup> by the JDY Excavating with assistance from the Village. The pole was moved about 14" and a new 6' piece of pipe was installed.*

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Toni Egly asked about the new center line on S Main Street. It seems off-center. Wann said the measurement of center was accurate between curbs. It seems off because the southbound parking is diagonal and the northbound is parallel.

Taylor Klepper remarked he is not in favor of the new loading zone since it appears to benefit only one business downtown. Toni Egly said it was done because of a safety issue with delivery trucks parking on the street and a school bus having issues getting around it.

Wann asked the mayor to recommend the following persons for employment with the village: Rebecca Somers (who is currently a Fireman I and EMR) to fill the janitorial position; Josh Hubbell to fill the wastewater position last held by Lucas Brown; and Tim Baker to mow village properties. The mayor made the recommendations. The vote is as follows:

Ron Beverly made a motion to approve hiring Rebecca Somers, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Charlie Martin made a motion to hire Josh Hubbell, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Eric Bassett made a motion to hire Tim Baker, seconded by Toni Egly. Barth, Bassett, Egly, Martin and Klepper voted yes. Beverly voted no.

#### **Solicitor's Report:**

- First reading of **Ordinance 2023-11** by caption only to levy a tax for Fire Protection in the Village of Hicksville.
- Second reading of **Resolution 2023-03** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit personal property.
- Second reading of **Resolution 2023-04** by caption only authorizing participation in the ODOT Salt Contract and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes. Final reading of Resolution 2023-04 by caption only. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2023-05** by caption only to adopt the Defiance County 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Final reading of Resolution 2023-05 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

#### **Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** Mark Denning reported he is working on getting estimates to repair the station that was hit by a car recently. Toni Egly asked him about golf carts. She said she has seen many at the park lately and they do not have proper plates on them. Chief Denning said they could be cited by his officers. Golf Carts must be plated just like a car. The PD will do inspections. If children are riding, they have to have the same safety equipment as in a car (car seat / booster seat) plus everyone needs to have a seat belt on.

**Fire/EMS Chief:** Interim Chief Bruce Hart reported 122 EMS and 38 fire-related calls this year so far. Mayor Jones remarked he has received 5 applications for Fire Chief. He is bringing them to a committee including himself, Mike Barth, Travis Phillips and Bob Meyer for consideration. He will be making his choice soon.

**Park Director:** Val Shull reported they are mowing and working the ballfields. There was a loose cow this morning, but it has been safely returned to its owner.

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Jones reported he and Taylor Klepper attended an awards ceremony held by the Defiance CIC. Two Hicksville businesses received recognition. The Jim Schmidt Family of Dealerships received the award for family-owned business with 110 employees and 39 years in business. APT Manufacturing received the award for excellence and innovation. They have been in business 27 years.

Mayor Jones reminded everyone the primary will be held May 2<sup>nd</sup> and urged everyone to vote. We have 2 council seats and the mayor's office on the ballot.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 6:40 pm.