

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday August 7, 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, Taylor Klepper, Charlie Martin, Mike Barth, and Toni Egly; Administrator Cory Wann; Solicitor Troy Essex and Utility Clerk Dawn Hostetler. Absent were Council Member Ron Beverly and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith.

Minutes from the July 17th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Minutes from the July 19th Special 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. Eric Bassett made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Toni Egly. Bassett, Beverly, Martin, Barth, and Egly voted yes. Klepper abstained.

Notice of Public Hearing: on an application for a Lot Split to be held August 17th at 6pm in the Zoning office. The request is for .14 acre at 941 Haver Drive.

Boards & Commissions: No reports filed.

Council Committees:

WSR committee met Thursday August 3rd, minutes will be sent when finished.

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:

- Pool bid date has been extended 2 more weeks, bid deadline is now August 23rd, original deadline was August 11th. This is due to a few contractors reaching out to Sixmo and notifying them they were not able to meet the deadline.
- Light poles for volleyball courts expected to be installed over the next couple of weeks, we are trying to time it with the pavilion sidewalk installation.
- Maple Lane paving is scheduled for the week of August 22nd.
- OEPA was on site at the wastewater treatment plant on Friday for inspection. One main point was the relocation of the salt storage, salt must be stored covered, and not near any water or streams.
- Street painting is scheduled to start next week, trying to get started this week.
- At the end of September, the Village will no longer have a place to dispose of leaves and grass. I am reaching out to a few places to see if they would allow us to use their site. This could impact future leaf pickup and grass and leaf dumping at the recycle lot on Elm St.
- 344 Chicago Ave, demo is scheduled to start this week by Rensi Dirt Works out of Defiance.

Council Member Toni Egly asked how soon the sidewalk project would be completed, it should be within the next week.

Council Member Taylor Klepper asked about a time frame that the sewer plant would be up to standard. WWTP Superintendent Joel Jacob's stated it would be a long process probably 2-3 years.

Solicitor's Report:

- Reading of a **Motion** to accept the apportionment of the Local Government Funds and waiving any hearings before the Defiance County Budget Commission. Charlie Martin made a motion to accept, seconded by Mike Barth. All in attendance voted yes, Ron Beverly was absent.

- Second reading of **Resolution 2023-14** by caption only to authorize the Village Administrator to enter a lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for vehicle replacements.
- First reading of **Resolution 2023-15** by caption only to assess delinquent bills for mowing weeds and grass and declaring an emergency. Charlie Martin made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First Reading of **Resolution 2023-16** by caption only to assess delinquent utility bills and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2023-17** by caption only submitting to the electors of the village the question of an additional 5.0 mill levy for fire protection and EMS services withing the village pursuant to R.C. 5705.19(l) and 5705.191 and declaring an emergency. *Discussion on how 5.0 mill was decided on and current levy's expiration. It was asked if there was a plan for how this money would be used, how many EMT's would be hired, and what else it might be used for. Also discussed was why the council was just seeing the numbers now. Troy Essex explained that corrections by the Auditors office were completed Friday, he had picked them up personally to get to council packets.* Mike Barth made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. Barth, Egly, Martin, Klepper voted yes. Bassett voted no.
- First reading of **Resolution 2023-18** by caption only to assess street light millage and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.
- First reading of Resolution 2023-19 by caption only to enter an agreement with the Defiance County Commissioners for recovery of monies expended for providing legal counsel to indigent person for the calendar year 2024.

Solicitor Troy Essex was asked about progress on the Tower easement. He stated they were moving forward with the help of SMTA, and a surveyor. The discussion also included the attached letter from American Tower / MD7 that was included in the Fiscal Officers report. Troy explained this was an annual letter regarding continued leasing of property or possible purchase of property.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Wall at the station has been fixed from the Accident.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Bruce Hart had no report.*

Park Director: *Val Shull absent.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- July collections for Utilities and Income Tax
- Mediacom Franchise Fee report for 2nd quarter
- Back to School Breakfast notification
- Letter from American Tower / MD7

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones reminded residents the last concert on the Huber patio will be Thursday August 17th and The Defiance County Fair starts August 19th. He also reminded everyone to get out and vote on "Issue 1" in the Special election tomorrow.

Council member Toni Egly asked about resumes for Village Solicitor. Charlie Martin stated they had received two, and the personnel committee would be meeting soon.

Council member Taylor Klepper would like to see a plan for housing in the Village. Utilizing the CIC and possibly putting an RFQ out for free land. With current industries expanding and new industry looking at Hicksville housing is a priority. We either grow our tax base or increase taxes on our current base.

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