

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2024, 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 Michael Barth, who followed by an invocation. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was read with the following in attendance: Mayor Michael Barth; Council Members Kent Miller, Toni Egly, Eric Bassett, Rob Bailey, and Ron Beverly; Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith; Administrator Cory Wann and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Charlie Martin was absent.

Members of the Hicksville Foundation postponed their attendance until they can meet with the Finance Committee on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Cory Wann will provide numbers to explain the original Splashpad bid at \$869,000.00 becoming \$1,093,235.32; what the extra costs are; and what part of that will be the responsibility of the village.

Minutes from the February 20<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Rob Bailey made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

**Boards & Commissions:** A NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING was announced for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Zoning Office to hear an application for a zoning change. The application is asking to rezone 701 Spencerville St. from R-4 to R-8. Ron Beverly asked for a map of the property in question.

**The Nuisance Board** met February 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in council chambers. A representative from Maumee Valley Planning was present to tell the Board about the CHIP program. This is a grant program available to Hicksville residents who may need repairs to their property. They also discussed several properties that have been notified of issues that need to be addressed.

**Council Committees:** The Street/Light/Property/Sidewalk Committee met February 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. They invited property owners to talk about their issues with the new sidewalks that were installed recently.

*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 reported the Recycle Lot is now open with the regular hours (Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 6 and Saturday from 9 to 1). Please do not bring grass as the village has lost the place to dispose of it.
- Wednesday at 10 am will be the bid opening in council chambers for the Meadow Lane/Beverly Drive water service replacement project.
- The Cornelia/Rock St. project is set to begin in May.
- There will be an ad published to hire a grade II Laborer to mow village properties as well as cover other departments as needed.
- Wann has had 6 applicants for the Zoning Official job that will open when Mike Bailey retires at the end of March. He has asked the mayor to recommend Jared Radford for the job. Mayor Barth made the recommendation. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve Radford with a

physical, drug screen and BCI, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. He can begin on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

- The camera truck will be delivered Tuesday at 9 am if anyone wants to come out to see it. Wann was asked a lot of questions by Ron Beverly. Wann assured him all procedures for the purchase were followed including getting 3 quotes, using a state-purchasing vendor and double checking with a state auditor. The purchase was discussed in previous years but was finally approved by the Finance Committee for 2024. The cost was included in the 2024 Appropriations Ordinance. Beverly was upset that it was not brought before full council before the purchase was completed.
- When asked about the new water tower going online, he reported he was waiting for the altitude valve to be installed and adjusted.

**Solicitor's Report:** There was no legislation presented at this time.

**Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** *Mark Denning had no report but had included the February calls and cases reports in the packets.*

**Fire/EMS Chief:** *Bruce Hart reported 503 has been repaired. Atlantic is trying to find a new keypad but has been unable to find one due to the age of the unit. EMT Abbye Franz reported 1<sup>st</sup> Response has repaired 510 and 511. The electrical problem that recurred in 511 required repairing the wiring and a new battery. The power load systems both required new batteries which have been replaced by Stryker. The new Medical Director came on the 24<sup>th</sup> for an inspection. On March 16<sup>th</sup> he will bring in a "Sim Lab" to do skills training with our current EMTs. Since January 1<sup>st</sup> there have been 14 diversions from CMH. The department will be interviewing for full-time and part-time positions. They have one EMT who would like overnight hours. Bruce Silcott is interested in training to become an instructor. There has been talk also about an RN to Medic class. It may be \$3500.00 if any nurses are interested. The contract with Medicount has been approved by the Solicitor and signed by the Chief. The Police/Fire/EMS Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.*

**Park Director:** *Val Shull reported the Park is getting ready for the upcoming season.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- February Income Tax and Utility Collections Reports.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Barth reported the project at Industrial Park has been put on hold for now. He and Rob Bailey attended the New Council Seminar this month. He has been to meetings in Defiance about the upcoming solar eclipse. A handout from the Defiance County Health Department was passed out.

The mayor asked if Richard Fox would like to address the council. He said they had already spoken, and he has asked Mr. Fox to request to be on the agenda. He said, "as long as you are here", please step up to the podium and council would listen to his concerns. Mr. Fox said he had 3 issues: (1) For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 20+ years he did not get his water bill in the mail. He called Dawn (Hostetler) and she said she would print one out when he came in to make the payment. He said that is not what he wanted. He wanted her to print another bill and mail it to him. He does not want to pick it up in person. He wants it mailed. Beverly assured him he would have Cheryl mail his bill to him. (2) Paving the street in front of his house keeps raising the level causing rain to pool in this driveway making it into a lake. Can't we smooth out the paving so there is no increase in height? (3) Please tell whoever is in charge at the cemetery to clean the sidewalk off. It is treacherous to walk along there with the

debris and stones that are thrown up by cars and maybe the snowplow. He was assured that his issues would be looked into.

A person in the audience began asking questions about the splashpad. She did not come to the podium and did not introduce herself. She said she thought the committee would be here tonight. Mayor Barth said he had spoken with the Foundation and asked for more time to verify numbers and they will come to the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

At 7:05 Beverly made a motion to go to executive session for personnel employment and compensation issues, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

At 7:25 Council returned to regular session with no further action taken.

Ron Beverly made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Mayor

Fiscal Officer