

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, April 1st 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 Acting Mayor Charlie Martin, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Philip Fairchild was present to address the council about the pool situation. He was adamant in his belief the village should not have demoed the old pool, even when Councilman Beverly told him how old, crumbled and unsafe it was. The situation with the hospital also played a part in the decision. It is our largest employer and closing will affect our tax base. Fairchild thought the council should not have been “blindsided” by the possible closing of the hospital. He lived 1,000 miles away and he knew about it 3 years ago. Beverly asked where are we going with this (discussion)? The pool is gone, it won’t come back. The village has applied for grants. If they are approved the council will revisit the project. Fairchild wanted to know when and why it takes so long. It was explained that grants are offered and approved at certain times of the year. We have to be patient. The village also has a pool fund being held in the budget.

Richard Fox did not appear.

Minutes from the March 18th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

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

A **Public Hearing** was held tonight to hear comments about a request for a zoning change at 701 Spencerville St. The request would be for an R-4 Residential to be changed to an R-8 Residential. There was a question about the difference between R-4 and R-8, but no other comments or objections.

Boards & Commissions: No minutes were submitted.

Council Committees: 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: Cory Wann had no written report. He gave an oral report with the following:

- 1: **Sidewalks.** 3 residents have reached out. Is he to wait for them until April 15th, or should he and Jared check everyone? It was agreed to check them all.
- 2: **Valve Replacements.** There were 3 bids. JDY came in lowest.
- 3: **Pool/Sixmo.** Kent Miller asked why the original bids were not requested as council asked (pool only/splashpad only/both together) so the additional costs were made plain up front. Instead, it was bid as Phase I, Phase II and Phase III.
- 4: **School Seniors.** Mandy Wyman reached out to ask about Community Service projects for seniors.
- 5: **Water Tower.** Still waiting for Caldwell Tower to return and fix the leaks.

6: **New Employee.** Wann asked the acting mayor to recommend hiring Kody Burlingame as a Laborer II to mow village properties and do general labor. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the recommendation with a good physical, drug screen and BCI, seconded by Rob Bailey. Bailey, Beverly, Egly and Bassett voted yes. Miller voted no.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2024-08** by caption only to amend appropriations.

Second reading of **Resolution 2024-06** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete or unfit village personal property including internet auction for the calendar year 2024.

Second reading of **Resolution 2024-07** by caption only authorizing the Village of Hicksville to donate 2 sets of bleachers to Mac Gym that are not needed for public use and the property has no value.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had the March calls and cases reports. He gave a MARCS tower update- still not operational. They are getting a run-around from the construction company. Officers Balsler and Echo are in their 4th week of training. May 24th is graduation day.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Bruce Hart reported 504 has been returned. Charlie Martin asked Chief Hart if the ladder truck has been taken out to Mike Myers to fix the hydraulics. Hart said not yet.*

Deputy Chief Bruce Silcott (1st full day is today) - had the following information:

1: The squad will be taking K9 medical training since we now have a K9 officer - it will be with a vet from Auburn Animal Care - who is Officer Echo's personal vet.

2: May 4th at 9 am will be the second training - this one will be on pediatric trauma.

3: He asked the acting mayor to recommend hiring Cloey Whitman as a part-time EMT. She is from Williams County and already certified. She will cover overnight hours. Acting Mayor Martin made the recommendation. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the hire, seconded by Rob Bailey. Bailey, Beverly, Miller and Egly voted yes. Bassett voted no.

4: 2 grants have been applied for. Both are from ODPS - one is for training and equipment and the other is a "hardship" grant.

Park Director: *Val Shull reported they have been getting the fields ready for baseball.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- Purchase Order Listing
- Revolving Loan Collections Reports
- March Income Tax and Utility Collections Reports were unavailable. They will be included in the April 15th packets.

Mayor's Report: No report.

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

Mayor

Fiscal Officer