

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, April 15th 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 and a prayer was offered by Pastor Steve Eyers followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Kristi Booth, director of the 9-1-1 center, was present to answer any questions the council may have about the 9-1-1 Final Plan they will be voting on later in the meeting. She explained it is in the very preliminary stages now with lots to be worked out. Theoretically, it will centralize all 9-1-1 centers to increase efficiency. It will be paid for using grant funds and “wireless” funds. That comes from a line on your wireless bill. It will not cost the village anything. The project has a 5-year deadline for completion.

Ms. Booth was also asked for an update on the MARCS tower. Agile Communications is the company responsible for the construction. There was a hold up as they needed a “bill of sale” from the State of Ohio. This was signed in February and payments have already started. However, Agile apparently needed the “owner” to follow-up on the punch list. They should have the proper paperwork by now. The new deadline for ‘operational’ is 30-60 days.

Minutes from the April 1st Regular Council Meeting were presented. Charlie Martin 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 Charlie Martin. 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: Police/Fire/EMS Committee met April 4th and minutes were in the packets. Deputy Chief EMS Bruce Silcott updated the committee with a report on the current state of the EMS (included in packet) along with some financials. Chief Hart gave an update of Fire equipment repairs.

The Finance Committee will meet Thursday at 4:15.

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 a written report as follows:

St. Dept. has been out doing yard restorations, along with trimming and removal of trees that have been on our list since last fall along with filling in the old pool as dirt is being hauled in from the Nemco addition.

The wastewater department discovered an AEP ground rod that punched through the sewer main on Old Mill Road during a camera inspection of the line. We will be working with AEP to fix this issue, as of now AEP will need to relocate their transformer as it was installed directly over top the sewer main (March 2021)

Caldwell Tank was onsite on Tuesday the 9th to repair leaks that were discovered a few weeks ago. The leaks have been repaired and the tower now has water and is online with the water plant. Bercot Excavating will be here over the next few weeks to add stone underneath the tower and stone the driveway back to the tower, along with all the yard restorations that are needed.

Dangler Excavating has completed about 50% of the water service lines on the Meadow/Beverly project. Once all the lines are replaced and all meter pits are set then Ohio Asphalt will be in to mill and repave the entire housing addition. Ohio Asphalt will move onto repaving Dixon Ave once they wrap up the Meadow / Beverly project.

Hohenbrink Excavating is scheduled to start the replacement of water mains on E. Cornelia and Rock St. the week of May 20th, weather permitting.

Bid opening is scheduled at the Commissioner's office for April 29th at 11am for the water tower demo project behind the library.

There is a bid opening at City Hall on April 17th at 11am for the Nuisance property mowing for this year.

CSX has postponed work on the decking at East Smith Street for at least a month, possibly longer due to another project that is ongoing for them.

Nagel will be starting this week on the groundbreaking of the splash pad.

Solicitor's Report:

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

First reading of **Ordinance 2024-09** by caption only rezoning Parcel #E060027000143 701 Spencerville St. from Residential R-4 to Residential R-8 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 Ordinance 2024-09 by caption only. Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Final reading of **Resolution 2024-07** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete or unfit village personal property including internet auction for the calendar year 2024. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Final reading of **Resolution 2024-08** 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. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-09** by caption only to enter a contract with JDY Excavating LLC for the Water Valve Replacement Project and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2024-09 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

First reading of Resolution 2024-10 by caption only to approve/disapprove the 9-1-1 Final Plan and declaring an emergency. Toni Egly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2024-10 by caption only. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All votes yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had no report.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Interim Chef Stacy Lemper had no report.*

Deputy Chief EMS Bruce Silcott - had the following information:

1: He thanked Chief Hart for his 38 years of service. The department is planning a retirement send-off.

2: The tower truck cylinders are fixed. A big thank you to Mike Myer for donating the cost of the work to the fire department. 504 has had the air leak fixed by 1st Response.

3: 511 still has electrical issues. It may be time to consider a new (or almost new) unit.

4: Working on system upgrades to MARCS radios - due before July 2025. P&R has new batteries for \$193.00 each.

5: He will meet with Darrell Rock from Sherwood later this week to continue discussion of "west-end" department.

6: June 1st will be the Fireman's Breakfast to coincide with the village-wide garage sales.

7: He asked the mayor to recommend Rebecca Somers be hired for the open part-time EMT position. She is already a member of the fire department and is trained as an EMR. She just finished her classes and passed the National Registry to become an EMT. Mayor Barth made the recommendation. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve Rebeccas Somers, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Darrick Crochran said he remains hopeful that the Rescue Squad will be amazing. The response times are dependent upon having 2 squads ready to run at any time. If we are running with one, Sherwood has to pick up the slack and it puts a strain on their department as well. It also makes response time of around 20 to 25 minutes. Hicksville has to respond to our own calls to keep the response time down.

Park Director: *Val Shull had no report.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures).
- March Income Tax and Utility Collections Reports.
- Email from Unison Infrastructure offering to purchase our lot lease contract for the Verizon Tower.
- Atlantic Emergency and 1st Response invoice copies so the council members can read the comments made after repairs were done.
- A reminder that all elected officials need to complete Sunshine Law and Ethics trainings once during their 4-year term. They can choose a designee to take the classes and Rob Bailey volunteered. They should also take any available class from RCAP they are interested in. They deal with water and sewer infrastructure. Mayor Barth said he thinks each council member should take the classes themselves.
- Notice from June Crosser about the "neighborhood clean-up" being held on Saturday April 27th.
- June 30th will be Dawn Hostetler's last day. She is retiring from the Utility Department and ads will be run next week for her replacement.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Barth reported he has attended a meeting with Erika Willitzer from Defiance County CIC in Perrysburg. It was about area housing. He also thanked the Annabelle Green estate for the generous gift to the Fire and EMS Departments. It was much appreciated and will be used wisely.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer