

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday July 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 Mayor Michael Barth, followed by a prayer by Pastor Steve Evers and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Boy Scout Logan Ish asked to address council about his proposed Eagle Scout project. He would like to make a landscaped area at the Walking Trail to showcase a sign, a bench and a doggie bag holder. He provided a photo of the area with a rendering of how it would look completed. He would like to complete it this year. He will be using natural plants and mulch so upkeep will be minimal. He will have to get approval from the Scouting Council and raise donations to pay for the material needed. Eric Bassett asked if the Trail Committee has agreed to maintain it after construction. Logan will find that out as well. He is coming to council tonight as a first step because it is village owned land. Council asked him to come back when he has all the necessary approvals and donations. They were agreeable to the project but will officially vote at a later date.

Minutes from the June 17th Regular 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 Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

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 the following report:

- Sewer main repair on Old Mill Road was completed about 2 weeks. AEP was there to assist with the repair, the main was jetted and cleared of any debris.
- We had some new stone put down in the little league ball diamonds parking lot today, there were a lot of areas that had little to no stone left.
- Hohenbrink should have the water main project wrapped up this week. Today they set the last meter pit, and tied in the 2nd of 3 ties to the current mains, Rock St. was today, Cornelia St was a few weeks ago, hopefully they get Elm St tied in yet this week.
- On Friday June 28th we had a water main break at 334 West High St. at about 2pm, Village utility workers were able to locate and repair the 6" main, and the repair took approximately 4.5 hours.

Additionally, Wann reported he has received a press release from Senator McColley's office that the village has been awarded a grant of \$750,000.00 towards installation of a new pool. Specific details will come later.

Wann asked council to approve moving Josh Hubbell up to Laborer I. He has completed his probation and has received his CDL license. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the promotion, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

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Solicitor's Report:

- Second reading of **Ordinance 2024-11** by caption only to amend Chapter 951 regarding refuse collection.
- Second reading of **Ordinance 2024-12** by caption only to amend regulation of public nuisances.
- Second reading of **Ordinance 2024-13** by caption only to amend the sidewalk ordinance.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning reported our K9 officer Echo has been sick. He is being treated by the vet and is feeling better.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Darrick Crochran has been in contact with Mickey Smith, who is a FEMA grant writer. They will arrange a Zoom meeting with the committee to discuss what is involved in a new application and what is required from the village.*

Chief Crochran brought 2 more recruits before council for approval. They are Mason Van Atta and Isaac Wilhelm. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Crochran should have 9 or 10 fireman recruits for the academy class. He is on the way to filling the 16 empty lockers.

The Chief cannot attend the next meeting, but a new roster of officers is being announced. They are: Deputy Chief Stacy Lemper; Assistant Chief Rick Evans; Captain Travis Stratton and Lieutenant Tim Coon. He would like to make another Lieutenant spot soon.

EMS Chief Bruce Silcott reported in the first 6 months of 2024 they have had 337 runs and travelled 1100 miles. He would like to hire Paramedic Christopher Snider to begin filling the "48 hour" gap approved at the last meeting. Toni Egly made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Ron Beverly asked when we were getting any money from the billing company. Silcott said anywhere from the middle to the end of July.

PennCare Reps PJ Lukasewski and Adam Kazen were present to answer any questions about the ambulance, which is parked outside. Ron Beverly asked if the box was big enough and was assured it was. He wanted to know about radios and graphics. How long and how much? Who is doing it? Silcott estimates it would take 2 weeks to be complete once a purchase is made. Silcott said the radios would be done by P&R Communications and the graphics would probably be done by Jennifer Dietsch. Eric Bassett asked about the total cost for everything. It should be \$294,900.00. The PennCare representative said it has a 3/36 7-year extended warranty from Ford.

Ron Beverly made a motion to approve the purchase as long as the total number does not exceed \$300,000.00 and letter of intent can be signed by the mayor tonight. This was seconded by Rob Bailey. Kent Miller spoke up to ask EMS Chief Silcott if he was sure this was it or would they be back asking for more from council. He would like that assurance before the vote takes place. Silcott said the EMS would not be asking for more. Beverly, Egly, Martin, Miller and Bailey voted yes. Bassett voted no. He would like to see more numbers from the Fiscal Officer to provide for a cash sale rather than financing it.

Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith was asked about a Resolution – is it necessary when paying cash? She will research and let them know.

The new ambulance will be used on alternate months to provide relief for 510, which is being run exclusively right now.

Park Director: *Val Shull reported the All-Stars Tournament will be held on Friday.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures).
- June Income Tax, Utility and Police Department Collections Reports
- Ohio Plan schedule for live virtual training.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Barth announced the next in the Concert Series at the Huber will be July 18th at 5:30 pm. The theme is Craft Night and will have craft vendors and food trucks as well as music by Dave Bussing.

He congratulated Dawn Hostetler on her retirement from the Utility Department as of June 30th. He also thanked Day In The Park for the fireworks display.

Mayor Barth announced that soon there will be a Town Hall Meeting to afford residents of Hicksville a place to voice their opinions, concerns and comments on recreational marijuana being legalized in Ohio, and how it may concern the village.

Dawn Ish asked for time to announce an upcoming event. On July 20th at the Hicksville Eagles a fundraiser is being held by area Boy Scouts to help with the costs of sending scouts to Camp Lakota. There will be a motorcycle run, a chicken and pork chop sale and a band that evening from 6 to 10 pm. Everyone is invited to help support the scouts.

Kent Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer