

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday September 3rd, 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 and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Greg Smitley from the Hicksville Bank was here tonight to address the council about the advantages that their bank has to offer if they decide to switch banks. (Attachment available upon request)

Minutes from the August 19th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve with a correction to the solicitor's report, seconded by Rob Bailey. Martin, Bailey, Egly, Miller, and Beverly voted yes. Eric Bassett abstained.

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

Boards & Commissions: No minutes were submitted.

Council Committees:

The **Personnel Committee** met August 26th. They discussed the Personnel Manual and changes that are being requested. Discussion on the concern of Fire/Ems/Police staff showing up to a scene in their personal vehicles. Minutes were in the packets.

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 was absent but had the following report:

1. Water Tower Project

Completion Status:

- Baumann Enterprises has successfully completed the demolition of the water tower.
- All punch list items have been addressed.
- A new fire hydrant has been installed.
- The yard has been graded, seeded, and strawed.

Financials:

- Final Cost: \$90,273.86 (including change orders)
- Original Bid: \$82,770.00
- Funding Source: CDBG Grant

2. Street Maintenance

Completed Work:

- Street patching and crack sealing on Old Mill Road have been finalized.

Future Plans:

- Plans to repave several streets on the North side of the Village are scheduled for next summer.
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3. Water Main Replacement**Contractor:** Hohenbrink**Completion Status:**

- Water main replacements on East Cornelia and Rock Street have been completed.
- All punch list items have been addressed, and streets have been repaved.

Financials:

- Final Cost: \$322,480.70 (including change orders)
 - Original Bid: \$328,296.20
 - Funding Source: \$170,000.00 OPWC Grant
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4. Frisbee Golf Course**Status:**

- The frisbee golf course has been completed.
- Signage is pending arrival.

Future Activities:

- Kevin Troyer is planning to host tournaments at the park.
 - This addition is considered a valuable asset to the parks department.
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5. Pavilion Restrooms**Updates:**

- The restrooms in the Pavilion have been repainted.
 - Plans are in place to replace bathroom partitions and install LED lights within the year.
 - The rooftop exhaust fan has been recently replaced.
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6. Sidewalk Replacements**Completed Work:**

- Sidewalks in front of 108 North Main building were replaced due to non-compliance with the sidewalk ordinance.
 - Replacement of two panels behind Palace Pizza, correcting previous work.
 - Sidewalk approach and ADA mat at West Hicks & South Main have been replaced.
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7. Valve Replacements**Contractor:** JDY Excavating**Cost:**

- \$43,500 (funded by a CDBG grant)

Schedule:

- Work is set to commence in the next few weeks.
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8. Splash Pad Electrical Service**Current Issues:**

- Existing electrical service is configured for 240V/3P Delta, which may pose maintenance challenges due to the high leg.

Proposed Solution:

- Sixmo will liaise with AEP to explore options for a new 208V/3P transformer pole or retrofitting the existing pole.
- The new service should be adequate for both the splash pad and the future pool with minimal additional costs.

Next Steps:

- AEP will provide design and pricing for consideration.

Discussion on the email Cory sent out on the grant money for the pool; Bassett made a motion to go ahead and get rebids for the pool second by Egly. Bassett, Egly, Martin, Beverly, Miller all voted yes. Bailey voted no.

Solicitor's Report:

Second reading of **Ordinance 2024-15** by caption only prohibiting the establishment and operation of recreational marijuana cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries within the village limits.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-19** by caption only to amend the Annual Appropriations and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-19 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-20** by caption only accepting the amounts and rates determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Rob Bailey made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Second reading of **Resolution 2024-13** by caption only for recovery of monies expended for indigent legal counsel.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning reported that one of his part-time officers Zackary Miller has resigned. He will get an ad to Cheryl for one full-time officer. They have had complaints about the E Cornelia parking. Discussion was hard but it seems to be mostly between two neighbors.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Darrick Crochran had no report. Martin asked if there was any fire training going on. He said they are looking into who wants to go on to the fire burning training class that is different from the initial training they just finished. It is \$300 per person, and it is a scheduled class offered in various locations. Beverly asked if they all had tested the last class; Chief Crochran reported that nine have passed and two are going back to take the test again.*

EMS Chief Bruce Silcott reported:

- 1. They had \$208,298.50 in billing for the year; \$49,557 in income and \$42,846 in adjustments thanks to Medicare.*
- 2. In August they had 59 calls. So far this month they have had 10.*
- 3. In August they got a grant for \$5500. They did not get the hardship grant*
- 4. Monday, they have 7 new EMTS going to class and Tuesday they have 3 EMTS going to advanced class.*
- 5. He asked the mayor to recommend Devin Johnson be hired as a part-time EMT. He is already certified and is a member of the Edgerton fire department. Mayor Barth made the recommendation. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve Devin Johnson, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.*
- 6. Bruce reports 511 is in service as of 4pm today we now have two fully functioning squads in Hicksville. 511 is now the primary so that 510 can get looked over at Jim Schmidt's.*
- 7. The old 511 is now on govdeals.*

Park Director: *No report.*

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

- Fund Status Report/ Cash Summary by fund.
- August Utility and Income Tax Collections
- Hicksville Police Collections

Mayor's Report: Mayor Barth reported he had went to a cannabis seminar with Senator Rob McColley over what is happening currently with the retail; those that got the license early and are preestablished have first dibs on it and that it is very expensive for a license; last week he attended a housing meeting with Erika from the Economic Develop down in Lima about the lack of housing. The state is trying to find innovative ways to help with grants, different programs. Most of the presenters are from Lima and there they have a 6% rental rate. We had a builder reach out to us recently and ask for a tour of Hicksville; we met with them after the meeting and showed them different building opportunities around the village; they got with the Administrator to get some infrastructure information. Mayor Barth thanked the Beautification Committee, the flowers around town look very beautiful and for their hard work in taking care of them; also, would like to thank the Farmer's Market Committee for their hard work. He reached out to the Solicitor on the Verizon tower. She is waiting to hear back from Marc Warncke. Mayor Barth will reach out to him tomorrow.

Kent Miller asked if Bailey, and Egly would like to meet about the E. Cornelia St parking issue; they said no it has already gone to committee once.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:03 pm.