

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday September 16th, 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, Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; Administrator Cory Wann; Council Members Rob Bailey, Toni Egly, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, Charlie Martin, and Kent Miller.

Bob Weatherhead was present to address council about installing pickleball courts or converting the tennis courts to pickle ball courts. After much discussion and questions from council members it was agreed to get quotes for either scenario. The possibility of purchasing nets that could have dual purpose was given to the Administrator to investigate.

Minutes from the September 3rd 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. Ron Beverly made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions: The Nuisance Board met September 10th - no minutes available at this time.

Council Committees:

The Police/Fire/EMS Committee met September 10th. They discussed staffing, next year levy income and a new program to collect additional \$\$ from Medicaid. 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 had the following report:

1. Splash Pad:

- **Current Status:** Grading and electrical work are still pending.
- **Additional Information:** Additional site grading is required on the North and Northwest sides of the splash pad. One of the original volleyball courts needs grading to address a hill forming to the north of the splash pad.
- **Next Steps:** Schedule and complete the necessary grading work to ensure proper site preparation. Continue with the planned electrical tasks to meet project deadlines.

2. Security Camera System:

- **Current Status:** All wiring for the new camera system has been installed by Koorsen Security.
- **Next Steps:** Proceed with the installation of the cameras and any necessary system integrations or testing.

3. Picnic Tables:

- **Current Status:** All picnic tables have been assembled.
- **Location:** Currently stored at the Parks Department building.

4. Income Survey Letters:

- **Current Status:** Maumee Valley has officially sent out all of the income survey letters to residents within the Defiance Ave project area.
- **Next Steps:** Monitor responses and follow up as necessary to ensure all required surveys are completed.

5. Parks Building Insulation:

- **Current Status:** Estimates for insulating the parks building with spray foam are still being gathered. One estimate has been received so far.
- **Next Steps:** Obtain additional estimates to compare options and determine the best solution for insulation.

6. Pavilion Bathroom Partitions:

- **Current Status:** The bathroom partitions in the pavilion are scheduled to be replaced.
- **Timeline:** Work will be completed over the next couple of months.

7. Meeting with AEP and Nagel:

- **Date:** Tuesday
- **Purpose:** AEP will assess their service capacity to determine if an upgrade is necessary to support the splash pad and future pool.
- **Next Steps:** Follow up on outcomes from the meeting to address any required service upgrades and coordinate with Nagel and AEP as needed.

8. Salt Bunker Construction:

- **Current Status:** Planning to build a new salt bunker at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to move it away from the ditch. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) has expressed concerns about potential salt runoff into the ditch from the current location.
- **Timeline:** Project will be initiated and completed within the next month or two.
- **Next Steps:** Begin construction of the new bunker and ensure compliance with OEPA regulations to prevent salt runoff.

9. Pool Grant Agreement:

Current Status: Received the grant agreement for the pool and sent it to Rachel for review.

Completion Deadline: Project completion must be by June 30, 2026, or earlier.

Next Steps: Review the grant agreement with Rachel, finalize any necessary preparations, receive the updated engineers estimate and get the project out to bid.

Solicitor's Report:

Final 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. Rob Bailey made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. Ron Beverly asked if a yes vote meant you were against allowing marijuana business into Hicksville and was told yes, that is correct. Bailey, Beverly and Bassett voted no. Egly, Miller and Martin voted yes. Mayor Barth voted yes as well to break the tie.

Final reading of **Resolution 2024-13** by caption only for recovery of monies expended for indigent legal counsel. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-21** by caption only authorizing the Administrator to apply for a OTSCIF grant 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 Resolution 2024-21 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

A **Motion** was presented accepting the 2025 Local Government Fund amount. Rob Bailey made a motion to accept, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had the August Calls and Cases files in the packets. He was absent tonight.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Darrick Crochran had no new business. He said the fire engine is out of service and has been taken to Brown's for a quote on repairs. Engine 503 will be used as the reserve in the meantime. He has found a company that has a 60-90-day turnaround on new gear. He has been working on repairs and maintenance of both the Fire Hall and equipment. 9 new recruits have passed their first class - two are still having to retest. Charlie Martin reminded the Chief he can delegate responsibility to his officers and firemen. Crochran responded by praising his men. They have all stepped up and offer to help out all the time. He said from Day #1 his main goal has been to improve the culture of the department. He would like them to "lead together." He is all ears for anyone with ideas. When asked about the ladder truck (quint) that is being discussed - he said a 75 ft. ladder would be plenty for the village. He has spoken with Mickey Smith about the FEMA grant and Mr. Smith has also been in contact with Charlie Martin.*

EMS Chief Bruce Silcott reported:

Thank you to Council - the new ambulance is a very nice machine. On the 1st run they discovered if left running for awhile it shuts itself off. It has been taken to Jim Schmidt's to see if it can be disabled. The new squad's maintenance includes an oil change every 3-5,000 miles. Silcott wants a Police/Fire/EMS meeting. He would like to get 2 new cardiac monitors (they are \$60,000.00 each). His supplies will cost about \$1500.00 a week. Some money from billing has come in. The Medical Director will be here tomorrow for training. Silcott has ordered catering by Lupita's. Last Saturday training was done on drowning and airways. Finally, sometimes as a leader hard decisions need to be made. He would like an executive session to discuss.

Park Director: *No report.*

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

- Fund Status Report/ Cash Summary by fund.
- August Police Dept. collections report
- August Mayor's Court report

Mayor's Report:

- Halloween Trick or Treating will be Saturday, October 26th from 4 pm to 6 pm.
- The United Way reported helping 60 families with the "backpack program"
- A site visit will be conducted Wednesday at 11 am to look at the Justin Kuhn property behind Casa Grande.
- The village owns property on Antwerp Drive and in Oak Park that could be sold.

Ron Beverly made a motion to go into executive session to discuss an employee resignation at 7:05. The motion was seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Council returned to regular session at 7:45 pm with no further business.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:50 pm.

