

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, October 7th, 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.

Minutes from the September 17th 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. Charlie Martin made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions: No meetings were scheduled.

Council Committees:

The **Water/Sewer Committee** met on September 23rd. They discussed 2025 rate increases and instituting a Sidewalk payment per monthly bill. Minutes were in the packets.

The **Finance Committee** met October 1st to begin discussions on the 2025 budget. There will be weekly meetings until all issues have been worked out. 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. 2024 Valve Replacement Project

- **Contractor:** JDY Excavating
- **Current Progress:**
 - **Completed Valves:** 2 out of 6
 - **Remaining Valves:** 4
- **Substantial Completion Date:** June 30, 2025

2. Pool Project Bid Packet

- **Status:** Preparing for advertisement
- **Expected Advertisement Timeline:** Next couple of weeks
- **Financial Overview:**
 - **Original Engineer's Estimate:** \$3,336,500.00
 - **Current Estimate:** \$3,058,000.00
- **Exclusions:** Current estimate does not cover the revitalization of the parking lot.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2024-22** by caption only to amend the Investment Policy.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had the September Calls and Cases files in the packets. He has had one resume sent in for the open officer slot. The interview will be later in the week.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Darrick Crochran had no new business.*

EMS Chief Bruce Silcott reported:

There have been 13 calls in the last 4 days, with 3 calls Saturday within 5 minutes. He would like the mayor to recommend Rick Neville be hired as a new EMT Basic. He is certified in Indiana but is working on his Ohio reciprocity approval. Mayor Barth made the recommendation. Charlie Martin made a motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Silcott wants a Police/Fire Committee meeting. He will get with committee chairman Toni Egly to schedule.

Park Director: *No report.*

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

- Fund Status Report/ Cash Summary by fund.
- September Police Dept. collections report
- September Mayor's Court report
- September Utility and Income Tax Collections reports
- Smith asked the council to approve employee flu shots available from 8 am to noon on October 22nd and 24th at the Pharmacy. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Mayor's Report:

- Halloween Trick or Treating will be Saturday, October 26th from 4 pm to 6 pm.
- The contract with Verizon has been finalized and is waiting on signatures.

Resident Betty Guilford was present and asked the council for an update on the splashpad project. What is causing the hold up on opening? She was directed to the Administrator. He said the village is at the mercy of the contractors and subcontractors who have ordered supplies that were delayed. The delays were nothing the village could have anticipated or avoided. She was upset that a lot of money was donated and nothing to show so far. She thought the project would be completed by this time.

Charlie Martin made a motion to go into executive session to discuss employee discipline at 6:40. The motion was seconded by Ron Beverly. Egly, Bassett, Beverly, Martin and Miller voted yes. Bailey voted no.

The council returned to regular session at 7:20 pm with no further business.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:25 pm.