

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 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. He opened the meeting with 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 Toni Egly, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, Charlie Martin, Kent Miller, and Rob Bailey. Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith was absent.

The agenda was amended to include a speaker. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Erika Willitzer (Defiance County CIC) introduced Justin Kuhn who explained a possible project that would involve the Defiance County Commissioners and the Village Council. The project would be to build a housing development on land he proposes buying. The talk is in the most preliminary stage right now, but the need for housing is severe and imperative. We have industry expanding or looking to build and nowhere for their new employees to live. Council agreed that the problem is real and they were very receptive to any idea Mr. Kuhn may bring before them.

Minutes from the December 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

**Boards & Commissions:**

**Notice of a Public Hearing** for a sign variance application will be held December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm in the Zoning Office at 108 N. Main St.

**Notice of a Public Hearing** for consideration of a lot split will be held December 19<sup>th</sup> in the Zoning office at 108 N Main Street at 6 pm. Surveys of the property were included in the packets.

**Council Committees:**

The **Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee** met on November 18<sup>th</sup> to hear an appeal for a request for a rate adjustment. Minutes were in the packets.

The **Personnel Committee** met on December 10<sup>th</sup> to consider Globe Life and a new company (HLS Occupational Health) offering on-site lab draws for a workplace wellness policy. Cheryl Smith will get more information on how this works, the cost, lab used, etc. 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](mailto: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:

**Project & Operations Update**

**Water Park Project**

- **Utility Infrastructure:**
    - AEP has completed the installation of the **new utility pole and transformers** in the park, marking a significant step forward in the development of the water park.
  - **Electrical Panel:**
    - The **NEMA 4X electrical panel** is scheduled for shipment on **February 25, 2025**.
  - **Pool Project Bidding:**
    - The water park pool project is out for re-bid, with **bids due by January 9, 2025**.
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**Leaf Pickup**

- **Completion:**
    - The **leaf pickup** for the season was completed as of **Friday, December 13, 2024**, with a total of **76 loads** collected.
  - **Leaf Machine Repairs:**
    - The **leaf machine** received **repairs**, including the replacement of the **fan and bearings**. Parts were delivered last week and are yet to be installed.
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**Sanitary Flow Issue at 105 West Hicks St.**

- **Problem Resolution:**
    - A sanitary flow issue at **105 West Hicks St.** was traced to the **Village main line**. The affected section of the pipe was **replaced** by Village utility workers last week.
  - **Yard Restoration:**
    - Yard work and restoration are scheduled for completion in **spring 2025**.
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**Plow Trucks & Snow Removal Preparation**

- **Truck Repair:**
  - The **2000 plow truck** was repaired at **Hot Shot Trucking**, with the **air brake chambers** replaced last week.
- **Truck Servicing:**
  - All trucks have been **fully serviced** and are ready for snow removal. Hopefully, there will be no need for them this winter 😊

**Solicitor's Report:** No new legislation

**Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** *No report.*

**Fire/EMS Chief:** *(Fire) No report. (EMS) Eric McClain started running tonight. Reminder: RSV, Pneumonia and COVID are all ramping up. Please wear masks if in doubt! He has reminded all EMS personnel to use protective items.*

**Park Director:** *No report.*

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

- Fund Status Report/ Cash Summary by fund.
- November Utility and Income Tax Reports
- Mayor’s Court, Police Department and K-9 Collections Reports
- Smith explained that the month is only half over, and this is the last council meeting of 2024. Department heads are concerned about payment of their invoices which should be from the 2024 budget, but will come out of their new 2025 budget if they are approved in January. Eric Bassett made a motion to pay bills still due in 2024, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

**Mayor’s Report:** Merry Christmas!

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

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Michael Barth, Mayor