

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

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; Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith; Council Members Toni Egly, Eric Bassett, Kent Miller, Charlie Martin, and Rob Bailey. Councilman Ron Beverly was absent.

Resident Peter Greer was present to ask the council about the sewer line problem that resulted in his basement being flooded. His sump pump stopped working and had to be replaced. He also had to have a new furnace. He had asked the village for help with all the expenses incurred. The Water/Sewer committee approved paying the plumber and sent the rest of the cost to the village's insurance company. The determination was sent back that this was the homeowner's issue, not the village. Administrator Cory Wann said after getting the answer from the insurance company he gave contact information to Mr. Greer to call. Mr. Greer said he tried but has not had a response yet. Eric Bassett made a motion to pay for the furnace, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Minutes from February 3<sup>rd</sup> Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Rob Bailey. Bailey, Egly, Bassett and Miller voted yes. Martin abstained.

A list of bills to be approved was presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve the bills, with the exception of the bill for fencing at the park. He felt that replacing the fence along N. Main Street was unnecessary. He said the Finance Committee had discussed this with the administrator during budget talks. The back stop fencing for the softball fields is ok to be replaced. This motion was seconded by Charlie Martin. Egly, Bassett, Martin and Miller voted yes. Bailey voted no.

**Boards & Commissions:** No meetings were reported.

**Council Committees:** No meetings were reported.

*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 no written report: He did ask to hire a Park Director. He interviewed 4 people for the position and would like to offer it to Christine Tadsen. The mayor accepted his recommendation. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the hire, seconded by Rob Bailey. Bailey, Egly, Bassett, and Martin voted yes. Miller voted no.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Final reading of **Resolution 2025-01** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete or unfit Village personal property including by internet auction for the calendar year 2025. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Second reading of **Resolution 2025-03** authorizing the Fiscal Officer to prepare and apply to KS StateBank to finance turnout gear purchased from Phoenix Safety Outfitters and to execute contracts as required and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Tonu Egly. All voted yes. Final reading of **Resolution 2025-03** by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Second reading of **Resolution 2025-04** by caption only appointing Michael Barth and Cory Wann to serve on the Defiance County Tax Incentive Review Council on behalf of the Village of Hicksville and declaring an emergency. Rob Bailey made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Final reading of **Resolution 2025-04** by caption only. Rob Bailey made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2025-05** by caption only to approve the administrator to enter a contract with Rupp/Rosebrock Inc. for construction of a pool and pool house and declaring an emergency. Toni Egly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. At this point no vote was taken. The council decided to table this issue until all council members were in attendance. Eric Bassett also pointed out the Resolution needed to be updated to include the amended bid amount. Council asked if any contingency amount was built into the bid package. Wann will find out and report back. A Special Council Meeting will be held Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm when full council can be in attendance.

#### **Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** *Mark Denning had no report.*

**Fire/EMS Chief:** *(Fire) Darrick Crochran was absent.*

*(EMS) Bruce Silcott said Unit 510 will be going to the shop. It has been blowing white smoke and needs to be serviced. EMS classes will end next month. All 7 students are doing well. Silcott will be applying for a Zoll grant to purchase a "vent" device. They range from \$30,000-\$50,000. He and Mayor Barth have been going to Township meetings letting the trustees know how much more it costs to transport patients since CMH closed. When contracts come up there will be increases. The townships were very understanding. The squads received some new equipment they had bid on during the CMH auction. Michelle Davis from Medicount should be coming soon to do a report on the 1<sup>st</sup> year using Medicount to bill patients.*

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

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

- January Fund Status and Cash Summary Report.
- January Mayor's Court and Police Department Collections.
- Cemetery Board's request for an increase to be discussed in person. Smith will contact the board clerk to set a date.
- Mediacom Franchise Fee Report for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2024.
- Request by Dollar General for a liquor license approved by consensus.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor Barth read a Proclamation for Four County Career Center. February is Career and Technical Education month.

He reported March 7<sup>th</sup> will be Inclusion Day in Defiance County- everyone is asked to wear purple to show support for residents with developmental disabilities.

At 7 pm the Administrator asked for an executive session to discuss land acquisition. Eric Bassett made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

At 7:25 council returned to the regular session. No further business was discussed.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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

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Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

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Michael Barth, Mayor