

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday April 21st, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Barth. He opened the meeting with a prayer by Pastor Steve Eyers and then the Pledge of Allegiance by all.

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, Kent Miller, Ron Beverly, Charlie Martin and Rob Bailey. Councilman Eric Bassett was late due to concurrent School Board meeting. He arrived at 6:15.

Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Minutes from the April 7th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Rob Bailey made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. Bailey, Egly, Martin and Miller voted yes. Beverly abstained.

A list of bills to be approved was presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Eric Bassett. Bailey, Egly, Bassett, Miller and Martin voted yes. Beverly voted no.

Boards & Commissions: A **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** was posted. It will be May 1st at 6 pm in council chambers. It will be to explain a zoning change requested for 125 N Main St. from Business to Residential.

Council Committees: No meetings were held. Street/Light/Property/Sidewalk will meet on April 29th at 5:30 pm in council chambers.

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: The speed limit on Spencerville St. from the corner of High Street to the curve at the park entrance will be 25 mph to be in compliance with O.R.C. 4511.21. Wann has contacted the Defiance County Engineer and our district representative from ODOT. They could find no documentation approving the 35-mph speed and have no objection to bring that stretch of road into compliance. The public will be notified by a "reduced speed ahead" sign as well as a notice sent out on HyperReach. Chief Denning is also in favor. Residents will have a grace period before officers ticket speeders. Kent Miller said changing the sign won't necessarily stop speeders. Rob Bailey asked if we have had any issues. Wann said he just wants the street to have proper signage to abide by the State of Ohio. Kent Miller made a motion to approve the change from 35-mph to 25-mph, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Solicitor's Report:

- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-03** by caption only authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.
- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-04** by caption only to amend appropriations. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2025-05** by caption only to establish fees for public records requests involving video recordings.

- First reading of **Ordinance 2025-06** by caption only rezoning 101 Bunnell from Business to Residential 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 Ordinance 2025-06 by caption only. Charles Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller. Egly, Bassett, Beverly, Miller and Martin voted yes. Bailey abstained.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning announced Alex Jackson is leaving the department. He has ads posted to hire a new officer.*

Fire Chief: *Darrick Crochran was absent.*

EMS Chief: *Bruce Silcott asked the mayor to recommend Phoenix Yochum be hired as a new EMT. She lives locally and was in class with our EMTs. The mayor made the recommendation. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes. Wilhelm, Coon, Salinas and Grant have all passed the National Registry. Wilhelm is ready to run as he has been a "ride-along" while he was in class. The others will still be running with seasoned EMTs for a while longer. Silcott also said we have had about 40 runs this month and 243 for the year.*

Park Director: *Christina Tadsen was absent.*

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

- Current Fund Status and Cash Summary Report.
- Police Department Collections Reports.
- Current Purchase Order listing.
- Updated contact list.
- Smith reminded everyone that the annual plant sale by the Beautification Committee will be Mother's Day weekend at the Multipurpose Building at the Fairgrounds.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Barth reported that the Fire Department will be holding a Breakfast during the 150th Celebration (June 5th through 7th). The new generator will be installed soon at the Fire Department. The Summer Concert Series will begin soon at the Huber. Cemetery Flags are being installed. Forms to fill out for your relatives are now available. You can get them from the Tribune or at the Village Municipal Building. The cost is \$30.00 each. The contracts for the Industrial Park project are being finalized. We are just waiting on the survey for the new road.

At 6:25 pm Ron Beverly made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss possible land acquisition, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes

At 6:50 pm council returned to regular session. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve having Administrator Cory Wann make a preliminary offer on the property, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor