

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday June 2nd, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Roll call was taken with the following present: Mayor Michael Barth; Council Members Toni Egly, Kent Miller, Ron Beverly, Charlie Martin, Eric Bassett and Rob Bailey; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; Administrator Cory Wann. Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith was absent.

Minutes from the May 19th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Minutes from the May 28th Special Council Meeting were presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions: No meetings were held.

Council Committees: The **Police/Fire/EMS Committee** met May 27th at 5 pm. Minutes were in the packets. The committee heard concerns from some firefighters about the chief. They were advised to handle it in-house.

The **Water/Sewer/Refuse** Committee met May 28th at 5:00 pm. Minutes were in the packets. They approved payment to a resident with sewer concerns upon signing a waiver against further requests for the same issue.

The **Personnel** Committee met May 29th at 3:00 pm. Minutes were in the packets. They spoke with EMS Chief Bruce Silcott about his pay increase since his 1st year is up. He had support from members of the EMS squad. It was agreed that he would get the 8% raise that all the EMTs received. Police Chief Denning was also present. He began with voicing issues with his pay, retaining officers and his opinion that the benefits and insurance offered are no good. The conversation became quite heated when Councilman Beverly tried to explain the money is just not there for what he wants. Denning began shouting about how council wastes thousands of dollars on a pool/splashpad but not on employees. The exchange was broken up and Denning stormed out the door.

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 reported 800 ft. of Oak Street has been checked. It needs a repair near the trailer court on Ogen St. but otherwise is ready to be lined.

Solicitor's Report:

- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-05** by caption only establishing fees for public records requests involving video recordings. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.
- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-08** by caption only amending Section 1165.09 of the Hicksville Codified Ordinances pertaining to parking and storage of certain

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

- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-09** by caption only amending Section 905.06 of the Hicksville Codified Ordinances pertaining to failure to comply; remedy of municipality. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller, All voted yes.
- Final reading of **Ordinance 2025-10** by caption only amending Section 505.13 of the Hicksville Codified Ordinances pertaining to keeping animals near dwellings. There were questions about the wording. Council would like it to cover a specific time frame to begin and to address grandfathering current animals. The vote was tabled at this point and will be brought back when the wording is amended.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning came in late. He said he had no report except his calls and cases reports.*

Fire Chief: *Darrick Cochran was absent.*

EMS Chief: *Bruce Silcott thanked council for his raise and asked if it was retroactive or would begin in 30 days from passing. Council thought it would be retroactive, but the Fiscal Officer said no, unless they approved it. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve making the raise retroactive to April 1st, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes. He reported we have had 57 runs so far this month, 51 EMS and 6 Fire. 37 were in the village and the rest out in the townships.*

Park Director: *Christina Tadsen was absent.*

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

- Current Fund Status and Cash Summary Report.
- May Utility and Income Tax Collections Reports.
- May Police Department Pay In Reports.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Barth reported preparations are ongoing for the 150th Sesquicentennial Celebration for Hicksville that will take place June 5th through the 7th.
- He sent out a big thank you to all the volunteers for their hard work.
-

At 6:16 Charlie Martin made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a possible land acquisition, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Council returned to regular session at 6:40 pm. The land acquisition matter is being referred for legal advice.

At 6:40 Kent Miller made a motion to go into executive session to discuss employee discipline, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

At 7:10 pm council returned to regular session. The personnel matter has been referred to the mayor for disposition.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor