

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday November 3rd, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

Minutes from the October 20th Regular Council Meeting and October 23rd Special Council Meeting were presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve seconded by Ron Beverly. Miller, Bassett, Egly, Martin and Beverly voted yes. Bailey abstained.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions: **Nuisance Board** met twice. Not on board and no minutes presented. **Planning Commission** met October 30th. Minutes were on the table tonight. They approved changing the lot sizes on Demuth Dr from 100 ft width to 60 ft width. **CRA Committee** met September 24th for their annual meeting and an approval of 105 Old Mill Rd, which is a new structure and will receive a 75% tax abatement for 7 years on the new construction.

Council Committees: No meetings were held.

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:

Summary of Recent Work:

- **Electrical Work:** Electrical service to the wet well was trenched in on Wednesday, October 29.
- **Concrete Work:** The concrete slab for the electrical panel was poured the same day.
- **Wet Well:** Construction of the wet well is nearly complete. The remaining task is pouring the floor for the valve vault. Once that is completed, the wet well and valve vault work will be finished-anticipated by the end of next week.

Upcoming Work:

- **Force Main Connection:** The force main is scheduled to be tied into the Oak Street line within the next week or two.
- **Electrical Hookup:** Final electrical hookup by AEP is pending scheduling.

This will be a key factor in determining the overall completion timeline.

Projected Completion:

- **Estimated Completion Date:** End of November 2025 (subject to AEP's electrical connection schedule).

Remarks:

Progress continues steadily. The project remains on track for late-November completion, with coordination ongoing to ensure timely AEP service connection.

Project: Columbia and Hattery Street Water Main Improvements

Funding Source: 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Update:

We wanted to provide an update regarding the 2025 round of CDBG-funded projects. At this time, we are still waiting for official award notifications from the **Ohio Department of Development (ODOD)** for the submitted projects, including the Columbia and Hattery Street Water Main Project. Eng. Estimate (\$605,818.00) \$470,000 Grant App.

As soon as we receive confirmation of the awards, we will notify you immediately so that planning and implementation for the approved projects can begin.

Remarks:

We understand the delay in the award process can be frustrating, but the wait should not be much longer. Thank you for your patience as we await ODOD's final decisions.

Wann asked the mayor to recommend Jed Hullinger to be hired as a Laborer I for the Street Department. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2025-16** by caption only to amend pay ranges for 2026.

First reading of **Ordinance 2025-17** by caption - Annual Appropriations for 2026.

First reading of **Ordinance 2025-18** by caption only to amend appropriations and declaring an emergency. Rob Bailey made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2025-18 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning had no report. Calls and Cases Reports were on the table tonight.

Fire Chief: Darrick Crochran was absent.

EMS Chief: Bruce Silcott had written report with October statistics. He asked the mayor to recommend hiring Paramedic Noah Welch. He will need a reciprocity certificate from Ohio. He is from Indiana. Charlie Martin made a motion to hire Mr. Welch, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Silcott announced Bob Meyer will be retiring from the EMS after 45 years. His last day is December 31, 2025.

Park Director: Christina Tadsen was absent.

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

- Current Fund Status and Cash Summary Report.
- October Utility and Income Tax Collection Reports.
- Mediacom 3rd Quarter Franchise Fee Report.
- Letter about inside millage and information about levy.
- Medicount notice concerning the government shutdown.

Mayor's Report:

- Feather Bingo will be November 8th - Fire Hall doors open at 4 and games begin at 6.
- He thanked the downtown business owners who attended the meeting about a downtown revitalization project. There appeared to be no positivity and lots of negativity. Council will not pursue the ODOT grant.
- Tomorrow the polls will be open. Please get out and vote.
- He reminded citizens we will have one open council seat January 1st. If anyone is interested let a council member know.

At 6:25 Kent Miller made a motion to go into executive session to discuss possible property acquisition, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

Council returned to regular session at 6:45 pm. Council had received information that the medical facility they were counting on to lease part of the property in question backed out Friday (the day after the Special Council Meeting). The Administrator gave the Receivership a notice of termination and withdrew our offer the same day. The Receivership asked the village to extend the due diligence period until November 8th as there was another medical facility reaching out for a lease. Rob Bailey made a motion to decline the offer and opt out tonight, seconded by Eric Bassett. The motion was repeated with council members being instructed that a YES vote meant they were out and no longer wish to make the purchase (with a loss of \$50,000.00 earnest money, and loss of the grant of \$750,000) and a vote of NO meant they want to take the extension. Bailey, Egly, Bassett, Miller and Martin voted yes. Beverly voted no.

At 6:55 pm Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor