

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday January 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Bill Murphy (HIX TV) said the phone line was down so this meeting would not be recorded for Channel 12 but would be live streamed to Hicksville YouTube.

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

The swearing-in of 2 newly elected and one reelected council members was first on the agenda. Toni Egly was sworn in for her new term, followed by Brian Zeedyk and Mike Villena.

Roll call was taken with the following present: Mayor Michael Barth; Council Members Kent Miller, Eric Bassett, Brian Zeedyk, Mike Villena and Toni Egly; Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith; Administrator Cory Wann and Solicitor Avery Demland.

Nominations were opened at 6:06 pm to choose someone to fill the empty seat on council. Residents who expressed an interest were Tori Guilford, Boyer Gonwick, Tom Luderman, Ed Garman, Brandon Altman, Dylan MacLeod and Tim Coon.

Brian Zeedyk nominated Boyer Gonwick, seconded by Eric Bassett. Nominations were closed at 6:10 pm. A roll call vote was taken. Bassett, Miller, Zeedyk, and Villena voted yes. Egly abstained. Boyer Gonwick accepted the seat (for the next 2 years) and was sworn in by Mayor Barth.

Council then was called to choose a Council President for the year 2026. Eric Bassett nominated Kent Miller, seconded by Toni Egly. Egly, Bassett, Gonwick, Zeedyk and Villena voted yes. Miller abstained.

Minutes from the December 15th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

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

Boards & Commissions: No meetings were held.

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:

- The Columbia/Hattery water project came in at \$600,000.00 and received a grant for almost \$500,000.00.
- Choice One is working on the TAP grant for the downtown corridor.
- The old pump house on the corner of Defiance and Oak will be demoed soon. The landscaping will be done in the spring.
- Wann would like council to reconsider their decision not to allow extra pay for the person who gets the license to spray the village each year. The license is required by the state, and we do not have anyone since Bub Schooley left.

- Wann would like to hire Dillon Fogle for the Wastewater Plant and promote Kody Burlingame from Level III to Level II. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve both, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2025-21** by caption only to amend appropriations. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2025-20 by caption only. Toni Egly made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had his list of calls and cases in the packets. He also had an end-of-the-year report.*

Fire Chief: *Darrick Crochran was absent.*

EMS Chief: *Bruce Silcott was absent but had an end-of-the-year report.*

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

- 2025 Fund Status report and Cash Summary by Fund.
- December Utility, Income Tax and Police Department Collections Reports.
- Email from State Fire Marshall: VFDF Annual Certification. Councilmen Eric Bassett and Mike Villena volunteered to sit on the Board for 2026.
- Ohio Division of Liquor Control - new license for Charlie's.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Barth wished everyone a Happy 2026.

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

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor