

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, March 2nd, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Eric Bassett made a motion to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Boyer Gonwick. All voted yes.

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

Minutes from the February 17th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve seconded by Boyer Gonwick. 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: 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 Defiance Avenue Lift Station project has been completed except for yard restoration and driveway stone placement. These remaining items will be completed later this spring.

We will be going out to bid this spring for the Columbia & Hattery Water Main Replacement Project, with anticipated completion in 2026.

Looking ahead to next year, I am hopeful to replace the water main on Beech Street and the 400 block of South Bryan Street. We are also exploring the addition of storm water separation in the following areas:

- 400 & 500 blocks of South Maple Street
- Wendell Avenue
- East Hicks Street
- 100 block East Edgerton Street

The Parks Director and I met with Midwest Recreation to discuss a possible full replacement of the Froggy Park playground system for summer 2027. We are currently working with Representative Klopfenstein to pursue grant funding for the project, potentially utilizing the State Capital Improvement Grant the Village has already been selected for.

This spring, four new pickleball courts will be added to the tennis court area. Materials have already been ordered. In addition, the Field 3 baseball field will receive all new backstop fencing later this spring.

There was damage to park property caused by contractors working for American Electric Power (AEP) while replacing power poles along the railroad tracks behind the park. The Parks Department will complete the necessary yard repairs, and the cost of repairs will be billed to AEP.

In the early morning hours of Thursday, February 26, there was an automobile accident in the westbound lane of the East High Street viaduct, causing severe damage to the handrail and concrete curbing. The Street Department has removed the bent and broken handrails and cleaned up the damaged concrete. I will be obtaining repair estimates for the curbing and replacement of the westbound handrail later this week.

As of Friday, February 27, I have not yet received the crash report from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Once received, it will be forwarded to the Village's insurance carrier, Ohio Plan. Ohio Plan was notified of the accident the morning it occurred.

Solicitor's Report:

Second reading of **Ordinance 2026-01** by caption only to amend Chapter 515.03 pertaining to keeping animals near buildings.

First reading of **Ordinance 2026-02** by caption only to split into 3 plots, and rezone 18.015 acres in Industrial Park from agricultural to heavy industrial.

Second reading of **Resolution 2026-03** by caption only to authorize the mayor to approve the Letter of Intent between the village and Jefferson South Holdings LLC.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-05** by caption only to enter into contract with integrated Payment Solutions LLC (PayStar) to provide professional services to the utility department for ACH and credit card services and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2026-05 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-06** by caption only authorizing the Village Administrator to apply for a One Time Community Strategic Investment Fund (OTSCIF) grant and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2026-06 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Villena. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-07** by caption only to adopt a new procurement policy for the Fire Department and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2026-07 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-08** by caption only authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit an application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the construction of the Beech Street Water Main Replacement Project and declaring an emergency. Kent Miller made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2026-08 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-09** by caption only authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit an application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the construction of the East Hicks Storm Sewer Extension and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mike Villena.

All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2026-09 by caption only. Brian Zeedyk made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Miller. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had his cases/call reports.*

Fire Chief: *Darrick Crochran reported a 6 am to 6 pm burn ban is in effect for the next 3 months. After 6 pm is at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The primary engine is in the shop with engine problems. The cost as of today was up to \$10,000.00. The secondary has been moved up to primary.*

EMS Chief: *Bruce Silcott reported 42 runs for February - 38 medical and 4 fire. Prior year 64 runs. The ODPS grant application has been sent in.*

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

- Fund Status report and Cash Summary by Fund.
- February Income Tax and Utility Collections
- Police Department Pay Ins
- Smith asked the mayor to recommend Gina Romo be hired as the assistant clerk at 30 hours a week to start. Toni Egly made the motion to hire Gina, seconded by Boyer Gonwick. All voted yes.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Barth reminded all employees of the Health Fair at the Eagles March 5-7 from 6 am to 10 am.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Boyer Gonwick. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor