

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, April 20th, 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.

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

Jenn Kimpel and Steph Mazur from the Hicksville Community Service Center were on the agenda to address the park programs for kids. They gave a presentation of past practices that were overseen by the HCSC with parent volunteers. They used to have a morning doing arts & crafts, then lunch and afternoon swimming at the pool. It was one day a week, called Monday Funday. Since that is no longer an option, they need help to establish a similar program. Council had many suggestions from schoolteachers, college students, or high school students doing projects. Mazur said there has to be someone who qualifies for the liability insurance. She was qualified since she has training in first aid, CPR and had a background check. The program typically runs from June to August (Fair week) and is one day from 8 to 3. It has been as short as 8 to noon with no lunch. Lunches were provided by area churches. The ages are pre-K to 4th graders. Older kids can sign up as well and become mentors for the smaller kids. Toni Egly said she would like to see the program reinstated and would be in favor of a "paid volunteer." Sandi Brown ran the program for years. She could support someone who would like to step up. If anyone is interested, please contact the HCSC.

The agenda was amended to include Resolution 2026-16. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Villena. All voted yes.

Minutes from the April 6th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Villena. 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 no written report.

- He reported the recent storms have caused roof damage to the N Main garage, the municipal building and the police department.
- Ohio Asphalt will be in the village repairing /patching streets. Wann will be working with ODOT for repairs to the state routes.
- His employees will be putting up America 250 banners soon. The next project will be for veterans banners. The village does not have brackets for the wooden poles around town. Wann has to abide by AEP rules when adding brackets as the poles are owned by AEP.

- Eric Bassett has been contacted by a resident who had questions about the process of notifying residents about downspouts. Wann said the project is handled by WWTP Superintendent Joel Jacob. There have been 50+ letters sent out so far and another 25 to go. Downspouts cannot be hooked into the sewer system. If they are they need to be removed and directed to another source. If anyone receives a letter and has questions, contact Joel Jacob at the plant to discuss the issue. He will work with the resident to resolve the issue. If an extension is required, it can be approved. The resident with questions was asked if he had been able to contact the Superintendent and said he has not received a call back yet.

Solicitor's Report:

Final reading of **Ordinance 2026-01** by caption only to amend Chapter 515.03 pertaining to keeping animals near buildings. Brian Zeedyk made a motion to approve. There was no second. The Ordinance Amendment was defeated. The original Ordinance stands.

Final reading of **Resolution 2026-10** by caption only authorizing the sale of unneeded, obsolete or unfit village personal property including by internet auction for the calendar year 2026. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-15** by caption only adopting the Hicksville Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bylaws.

First reading of **Resolution 2026-16** by caption only approving an employment, training and reimbursement agreement between the Village of Hicksville and Joshua Myers and declaring an emergency. Since Mr. Myers is paying for his classes personally the contract was deemed unnecessary.

Department Heads:

Park Director: Christina Tadsen was present to show council the plans for the new playground for Froggy Park. She is working with Administrator Cory Wann as they get quotes for the new equipment. The current playground is over 20 years old and has become hazardous due to age, damage and vandalism. Tadsen and Wann are hoping to use the existing grant the village was awarded for a different project to help with the cost of the new playground. The new Froggy Park will be ADA compliant, all-inclusive area for children from toddler age and older. The old equipment will be sold, probably on Gov.Deals. The timeline will be after the first of the year. The old equipment will not be removed this year. Tadsen asked council to decide if they want her to proceed with the plans, knowing nothing has been set in stone yet and discussion will continue during the 2027 budget. Brian Zeedyk made a motion to continue with the plans, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Zoning Official: Brian Demland was on hand to update council. He has been learning the different aspects of zoning. He has also gotten a new software package he is very happy with. He invited council to stop by his office to check it out. Currently he is working with the new owner of the Defiance Avenue property (formerly "Charlie's") being renovated. He is also working in the Perry Street and Ogen Street areas for property cleanups. He wants to assure the public he is not targeting anyone. He is working to make the village a great place to live. His job is to enforce village ordinances.

Police Chief: Mark Denning reported he met with P&R Communications about upgrading our sirens to MARCS. The deadline is Dec. 31, 2028. The cost was estimated to be \$12,000. Cory Wann is going to get an estimate from Federal Field Services. Denning reported Garrett Franz has left. He wishes him success in his new venture joining the City of Defiance

Police Department. Office Shane Balser is staying. Officer Andrew Fritch has said he will probably leave around June after he and his wife have their baby. They want to move closer to her parents. Denning wants to hire Joshua Myers full-time while he is in the academy. He will begin training by learning to become a backup for Clerk Jennifer Caryer as well as other administrative duties. Toni Egly made a motion to hire Joshua Myers, contingent on a physical and background check, seconded by Mike Villena. All voted yes.

Fire Chief: *Darrick Crochran was absent.*

EMS Chief: *Bruce Silcott was absent.*

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

- Fund Status report and Cash Summary by Fund.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Barth reminded everyone to check on their neighbors during bad weather. He also announced that Heritage Days will be held June 5th through the 7th. The annual plant sale by the Beautification Committee will be held at the Fairgrounds on May 8th and 9th.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor