

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
ANNUAL JOINT MEETING WITH HICKSVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, May 4th, 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. For the Township: Trustees John McCalla and Mike Green. Jacob Beverly was on a fire call.

The township brought council up to date on planned road projects, including the widening next year of Jericho Road from Clemmer to 49. The mayor brought up the possible abolishment of property tax revenue. It costs about \$100,000 per mile to replace/resurface roads. The township is working with the village to update to Fire/EMS contract.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn at 6:10 pm, seconded by Brian Zeedyk. All voted yes.

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order.

Mayor Barth said although Council had decided not to amend Section 505.13, he had spoken with Jessica Garrison who asked to speak to council again. He said she could have 5 minutes. She said her daughter McKenzie wanted to make a statement first. They both spoke about the importance of having a chicken farm in town to provide eggs for their family and neighbors, especially in light of the current economy. They urged council to rethink their decision.

Minutes from the April 20th 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 Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions: No meetings were held.

Council Committees: The Finance Committee met April 23rd to discuss 2026 budgeting. Minutes were in the packets.

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:

1. Water Distribution & Leak Detection

Following the biennial inspection conducted by **Aqua Line** on April 27–28, a critical leak was identified.

- **Location:** 121 Beech St (Main line).

- **Impact:** Estimated loss of **10,000 gallons per day**, discharging directly into the sanitary system.
- **Action Plan:** Repairs are scheduled for the coming days. Notably, this specific line is already included in current funding applications.

2. Sanitary System Maintenance & Compliance

Utility departments are currently conducting a comprehensive audit of the village's wastewater infrastructure.

- **Inspection:** Teams are jetting and visually inspecting lines to prioritize future replacements, lining, and separations.
- **Enforcement:** Strict enforcement of **ORD. 921.02** is underway regarding the removal of illegal downspout connections to the sanitary system to reduce unnecessary load and inflow.

3. Street Repairs & Paving

A formal site review is scheduled for this week with **ODOT** and **Ohio Asphalt** to assess deteriorating segments of Village roadways.

- **Primary Concern: Industrial Drive** is showing signs of structural failure and may require a total replacement.
- **Critical Zone:** The Eastern portion stretching from the ditch to State Route 49.
- **Next Steps:** A finalized strategy and cost estimate will be determined following the consultation with the paving contractor.

4. Infrastructure Improvements

Significant progress has been made on the **East High viaduct** enhancements.

- **Curbing:** Replacement is complete.
- **Handrails:** Fabrication by **Zuber Fabrication** is finished. Installation is expected in the next couple of weeks.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2026-04** by caption only to amend the appropriations. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2026-04 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Brian Zeedyk. All voted yes.

Second 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 to enter contract with DWA Recreation Inc to provide professional services for the Froggy Park Playground Project 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 2026-16 by caption only. Brian Zeedyk made a motion to approve, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: Mark Denning was absent. Sergeant Doctor had no report.

Fire Chief: Darrick Crochran was absent.

EMS Chief: Bruce Silcott reported the EMT class is done. The Medical Director will be here on the 21st. Landing Zone training will be at 7 pm. Eric Bassett asked if the superintendent's office can be notified when the landing of the helicopter is on school property. A CPR refresher class will be given soon. Silcott told council about a software program that works through Apple or Google maps that alerts vehicles through their GPS that an emergency situation is nearby. People do not always slow down or stop even when they hear sirens. The cost would be \$339.00 per ambulance plus a \$399.00 per year maintenance fee. 3 people were introduced tonight as having passed their NREMT certification: Sam Sell, Ava Methvin and Abby Snider. Sam is already an EMR/Fireman, but the other 2 would like to join the Rescue Squad. Eric Bassett made a motion to hire them, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

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

- Fund Status report and Cash Summary by Fund.
- April Utility and Income Tax Collections.
- Police Dept. and Mayor's Court Reports.
- Mediacom Franchise Fee Report.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Barth reminded everyone that Mother's Day is coming up. He 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. He reported the agreement with American Tower should be signed this week. Donnie Warner is drafting a Development Agreement for the property being developed behind Haver Drive. Kent Miller asked why we need an agreement with the developer if we are transferring the property to the CIC. The mayor ended by asking anyone who would like to become a foster parent to apply.

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Kent Miller made a motion to go into executive session for personnel disciplinary issues at 6:45 pm, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.

Council returned to regular session with no further action taken.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Cheryl Smith, Fiscal Officer

Michael Barth, Mayor