

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, November 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Council met in Council Chambers. If not fully vaccinated, please wear a mask.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Jones, followed by an invocation. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was read with the following persons in attendance: Mayor Ron Jones; Council Members Taylor Klepper, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly, Mike Barth and Charlie Martin; Administrator Cory Wann; Solicitor Troy Essex and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith. Councilman Toni Egly was absent.

Minutes from the October 18th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Eric Bassett. Klepper, Bassett and Beverly voted yes. Barth and Martin abstained.

Mayor Jones introduced Erika Willitzer from the Defiance County CIC. She was present to address the council on housing in Hicksville. She handed out copies of a "Hicksville Housing Addition Analysis" report to each member. She spoke about various reasons for how and why to develop the 20 acres behind Haver Drive. She explained the direct, indirect and induced impact for the village with such a development. Her organization will work with the village using aggressive marketing tools.

Boards & Commissions: A **Notice of Public Hearing** was posted. The **Planning Commission** will meet November 16th at 6 pm in the Zoning office to hear a request by Nemco to rezone 301 Meuse Argonne from A-1 Agriculture/Public Use to B-1 Central Business, B-2 Local Business, B-3 General Business.

The Board of Zoning Appeals met October 18th and minutes were in the packets. The request for a sign variance was voted down. Minutes were in the packets.

Council Committees: The **Finance Committee** met October 23, 24 and November 2. The meetings were held to discuss the 2024 budget. Minutes were in the packets.

The **Personnel Committee** met November 2nd and minutes were in the packets. The meeting covered the following subjects:

- Unused vacation time payout.
- Increasing village funded life insurance for full-time employees.
- Increasing probation on new police officers from 6 months to one year.
- Chief Denning's proposal for a K-9 unit.
- Updating the Park Director position and whether full-time, part-time or seasonal.

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: had no report. He told council the valves at the water tower will be set next week.

Solicitor's Report:

First reading of **Ordinance 2023-17** by caption only establishing pay ranges for village employees.

Second reading of **Resolution 2023-25** by caption only to enter a contract with Hohenbrink Excavating LLC for the water main replacement project at Cornelia and Rock Streets. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Final reading of Resolution 2023-25 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2023-26** by caption only to enter a contract with Vernon Nagel Inc for construction of the pool, splash pad, pool house and pump house and declaring an emergency. Council decided on a first reading only. They want Resolutions to separate the 2 projects.

First reading of **Resolution 2023-27** by caption only to hire Rachel Hammersmith as Village Solicitor.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had a Calls and Cases report. His clerk, Julie Cleland's last day will be November 30th. He has advertised for a replacement and has had a lot of applications.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Bruce Hart reported the Feather Bingo was a success. The Fire/EMS levy will be on the ballot. He asks everyone to vote for it. Mike Barth thanked him for the Halloween party held on October 28th.*

Park Director: *Val Shull had no report.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- October Income Tax, Utility and Mayor's Court Collections reports
- Mediacom 3rd Quarter Franchise Fee report
- September and October Revolving Loan Fund reports
- Letter from NOCAC

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones had the following remarks:

He is very pleased with the increase in income tax.

He encouraged everyone to go out and vote tomorrow. Polls open until 7 pm.

Veterans Day is Saturday. Thank a Vet for their service.

Taylor Klepper thanked the Beautification Committee for donating \$3,000.00 towards the trees planted by the Trail Association. Thanksgiving dinner will be held at the Gathering Place again this year from 11-1. Takeout meals are available. Eric Bassett asked about the placement. Klepper said they were within the parameters.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer