

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, February 5th 2024, 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 Michael Barth, who followed by an invocation. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was read with the following in attendance: Mayor Michael Barth; Council Members Kent Miller, Toni Egly, Eric Bassett, Ron Beverly and Charlie Martin; Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith; Administrator Cory Wann and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith.

Mayor Barth called Robert Bailey III forward to recite the Oath of Office. He will replace Barth on the council for the 2 years left of his term.

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

Boards & Commissions: No minutes were submitted.

Council Committees: The Police/Fire/EMS Committee met January 30th - minutes were in the packets. Chairman Toni Egly gave an oral report. The committee was given a preliminary report by Bruce Silcott outlining a plan for the future of the department. Kent Miller asked about the projected transport income. How does that work? He was told he should ask Bruce Silcott to explain (he couldn't be here tonight). Beverly said at least we don't have to replace 511. Miller asked if Silcott was confident he could find the paramedics needed per his report? Beverly asked about outside billing. It has been discussed in the past. A representative of a billing company has been invited to the council to talk about what they can do for Hicksville. Eric Bassett asked about the internal investigation report. Mayor Barth said on the Solicitor's advice it was only available to the Police/Fire/EMS committee members. Beverly said it should be public record. Police Chief Mark Denning said he didn't think internal investigations had to be public records. Bassett said if the council doesn't know what went wrong, how can they fix it? The mayor said it can be discussed in executive session.

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 presented a written report:

- On Wednesday January 3rd we had another water service line break at 122 Meadow Lane that took approximately 6 hours to repair. A section of the road had to be removed in order to complete the repair. This makes for 7th repair since June 2021....since I started with the Village.
- We have received a grant from CDBG for \$150,000. This grant will help pay for the 6 water main valve replacements and the demo of the old water tower downtown. These projects will be completed this summer.

- *Choice One has sent the proposal for engineering of the water main valves and water tower demo, their proposal is for \$8,800 for both projects. Choice One has also sent a proposal for engineering services for water service line replacements on Meadow Lane at a cost of \$6,000.*
- *A second grant application has been submitted to the Ohio Senate Capital Budget for construction of the pool, as well as the previous grant submittal to the State Capital Improvement Program.*
- *All of the agreements and contracts with Vernon Nagel Inc have been signed as of January 9th 2024. The amount of the contract is \$869,000.00. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for January 29th at 2pm via zoom.*

Solicitor's Report:

Second reading of **Ordinance 2023-19** by caption only to amend the appropriations ordinance and declaring an emergency. Charlie Martin made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Final reading of Ordinance 2023-19 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

First reading of **Ordinance 2024-04** by caption only authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-04 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Second reading of **Resolution 2024-02** by caption only to enter contract with Choice One Engineering to provide professional services for the Meadow Lane/Beverly Drive Water Service Replacement and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Final reading of Resolution 2024-02 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-03** by caption only to enter a contract with Choice One Engineering to provide professional services for the Valve Replacement project and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2024-03 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2024-04** by caption only to enter a contract with Choice One Engineering to provide professional services for the Water Tower Demolition 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 2024-04 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had his January reports of Calls and Cases. A new Durango is on hold with Enterprise Leasing. It could be delivered in April or May. Toni Egly asked if it would be the K9 unit. Denning said one of the 2021's will be converted.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Bruce Hart was present. He said Ambulance 511 has been repaired. It was a short in the electrical system. Community Memorial Hospital was on diversion all weekend. Eric Bassett reminded Chief Hart the ladder truck needs inspected. RB said that should be a priority annually. Hart said he didn't know who to call. Beverly said he'd give him numbers after the meeting.*

Park Director: *The park has closed down for the year.*

Joel Jacob, superintendent at the Wastewater Plant was present to update the council. The Haver drive lift station activity is up 250 percent. At least 3 residences are sources of storm runoff. All the numbers are up, with Industrial Drive being the exception.

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- Hicksville Union Cemetery 2023 Financial Report and 2024 Budget
- Donations Report (new)
- January Revolving Loan Status Report
- January Utility and Income Tax Collections Reports
- Mediacom 4th Qtr. 2023 Report
- Approval of Maumee Valley Planning Organization contract. The council has asked to invite Dennis Miller to answer questions about the new terms. Smith will call him and set it up.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Barth reported there will be a New Council Training session in March. If anyone wants to attend, contact him or the Fiscal Officer.

February is Technical Education month and is celebrated in Four County. Mayor Barth read a Proclamation for the event.

Barth asked the council how they felt about making the council positions non-partisan. It cannot be done by any sitting member. It has to be a resident who gathers the requisite petition signatures. It would eliminate the need for any midterm elections, which cost the village a lot of money.

The mayor gave an update on the Industrial Park issue concerning the easement at the Verizon Tower. Nothing is happening at this time. Do we want to begin litigation?

At 6:50 pm Ron Beverly made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel employment, seconded by Rob Bailey. All voted yes.

At 7:25 pm the council returned to regular session. No action was taken.

Charlie Martin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Council adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer