

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, August 16th, 2021, 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 the invocation given by Pastor Steve Eyers, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Legislation was added to the agenda. Mike Barth made a motion to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Mayor Jones asked Police Chief Mark Denning to give an account of the rescue of a resident from a house fire by two of his officers. The mayor then called Officers Jason Tate and Shane Bostic to come forward for recognition by Council. He said in a time when the police often receive bad press, he wanted to remind residents that we are fortunate to have officers protecting us at the risk of their own lives. They were alerted to a house on fire, gained entry and carried the owner out. The Fire Department arrived to contain the fire and the EMS transported the patient for treatment. The homeowner was the uncle of Councilman Mike Barth, who added an emotional thank-you to the officers on behalf of his family.

A representative from Energy Optimizers USA was on hand to present information on the company's ability to provide an energy audit on the wastewater treatment plant. There were questions from council members who are interested if the cost (\$22,500.00) can be budgeted.

Minutes from the August 2nd Regular Council Meeting were presented. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.

Minutes from the August 11th Special Council Meeting minutes were presented. Larry Ridgway made a motion to accept as written, seconded by Mike Barth. Barth, Beverly, Ridgway, Martin and Klepper voted yes. Bassett abstained.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Ron Beverly made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

Boards & Commissions:

The Planning Commission met August 5th to approve the lot split application by Judy Blalock at 330 Meuse Argonne. Minutes were included in the packets.

Council Committees:

No committee minutes were presented.

The **Street/Light/Property Committee** met tonight before Council. Minutes will be written. The **Police/Fire Committee** will meet on the 19th at 5:30, and **Finance** is scheduling a meeting as well.

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 meetings are shown on YouTube.

Administrator's Report: Wann did not have a written report. He gave an oral report on the West High Street project. The contractor will need to cut across High Street but will allow semis through. He expects restoration in about 4 days. Ron Beverly said the catch basins need to be raised before any paving is done.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2021-12** by caption only amending Section 921.01 of the Codified Ordinances regarding curb and road excavation.
- First Reading of Resolution **2021-15** by caption only to assess delinquent utility bills and declaring an emergency. Larry Ridgway made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2021-15 by caption only. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2021-16** by caption only to assess delinquent sidewalk repair bills and declaring an emergency. Larry Ridgway made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2021-16 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes.

- First reading of **Resolution 2021-17** by caption only to assess Street Light millage and declaring an emergency. Eric Bassett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2021-17 by caption only. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2021-18** by caption only to enter agreement with Defiance County Commissioners to recover monies expended for providing legal counsel to indigent persons for the calendar year 2022.
- First reading of **Resolution 2021-19** by caption only for the mayor to submit an application to OPWC, execute documents, and declaring an emergency. Ron Beverly made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2021-19 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Chief Mark Denning had no report.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer had no report. Larry Ridgway asked about the possible contract with Scipio Township in Indiana. Cramer is working on it.*

Park Director: *Mike Altman from the Park Board reported the pool has been closed for the year.*

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

- Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones reported the next meeting will be held on Tuesday due to the Labor Day holiday.

The Defiance County Fair begins Saturday. Volunteers are needed to work on Senior Day serving lunch from 11 to 1.

Saturday will mark the 100th anniversary of St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Trick or Treat is set for October 30th from 4 to 6 pm.

School starts soon - watch out for kids and busses. The new Academic Complex is having an Open House.

At 6:40 pm Ron Beverly asked for an executive session to discuss possible employee discipline. Taylor Klepper seconded the request. All voted yes.

Council returned to regular session at 7 pm with no further business to discuss.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Larry Ridgway. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer