

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday, August 1, 2022, 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. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the July 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes.

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

At 6:05 pm Mike Barth made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Economic Development, seconded by Ron Beverly. All voted yes.

At 6:30 council returned to open session.

**Boards & Commissions:** None

**Council Committees:**

The **Finance Committee** met July 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the future of the pool. Also attending were Administrator Cory Wann, Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith, Mayor Jones and Jim Schmidt and Greg Slattery from the Hicksville Foundation. Their organization has been fundraising to build a splash pad at the park. They wanted to discuss how this project could mesh with building a new pool at the same time, if council was in favor. The Foundation is offering to provide a "master plan" that would be available to the village council for no cost. Funding scenarios/possibilities were outlined. The committee is wholly in favor of a new pool vs patching or replacing the liner in the old pool (it was built around 1965). They will take their recommendation to council at the meeting on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

*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](mailto:hixcs@defnet.com). All council meetings are shown on YouTube and minutes are on the website.*

**Administrator's Report:** the report contained the following items:

A update on the wellfield - Bryan Excavating is almost done with the access road and the well foundations. Ortman Drilling can begin work next week. September 12<sup>th</sup> is the date set by CSX for Bryan Excavating to drill under the railroad tracks.

Bid opening for the water tower is at 10 am Tuesday (August 2) in council chambers.

The pavilion kitchen remodel begins September 19 and ending on October 6.

Ron Beverly asked why we are remodeling the kitchen when we have a leak. Wann told him the leak is in the restroom and is due to infiltration from the surrounding hill.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Final reading of **Resolution 2022-07** to sell Lot 55 of Edgerton's First Addition. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mile Barth. All voted yes.

First reading of **Resolution 2022-09** authorizing the mayor to submit an application to the OPWC and execute contracts as required (for the East Cornelia/Rock Street Water Main Replacement) and declaring an emergency. Charlie Martin made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Taylor Klepper. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2022-09. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

**Department Heads:**

**Police Chief:** Denning was absent.

**Fire/EMS Chief:** Cramer reported the new truck chassis is completed. He asked Mayor Jones to recommend Darrick Crochran be hired as Firefighter. He already has a Firefighter II designation. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

**Park Director:** *Val Shull reported she is closing the pool due to losing the lifeguards. She said most, not all, have quit already and scheduling is too difficult. August 5<sup>th</sup> will be the last day it's open. She was asked about the numbers of people who use the pool – she did not know but will get the numbers around. She was asked if council approves a new pool will she still have trouble keeping lifeguards?*

**Fiscal Officer Report:** The following reports were submitted to Council:  
Fund Status Report / Fund Summary Report (Revenue and Expenditures)  
Letter from Mediacom with rate increases.

**Mayor's Report:**  
The Huber Summer Concert Series continues Thursday from 7 to 9 featuring Sarah Brosch with Rotary providing food again (free will donation).

Mayor Jones thanked the Summer Concert Series sponsors: Hicksville Bank, SMTA, Klepper Building and King Kreg Insurance.

At 7 pm Ron Beverly asked for an executive session for Economic Development/ possible land sale, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

At 7:25 council returned to regular session.

Eric Bassett reported the Finance Committee has discussed possible financing a new pool and pool house. One possible scenario would be to combine a loan and a levy. The levy would have to be voted on by the residents and it's too late to put it on the November ballot. They will look at the May ballot, but if this is the single item, the village would have to pay 100% of the election cost. November of 2023 is a possibility. The Foundation has offered to provide the entire "Plan" which would include a rendering of a pool, splash pad, and pool house. Hopefully their fundraising efforts will cover the cost of the splash pad and part of the cost of the pool house that both areas will share. The council is in favor of this plan going forward.

Eric Bassett brought up an issue that was reported to him by a resident. It has to do with a flooding issue after new construction by a neighbor. There are reports of flooded basements, garages and dying trees. Council and Solicitor Essex talked about liability. Is this a civil issue between neighbors? Did the village drop the ball before, during or after construction? Essex advised that if it is a natural flow, there is no liability. That only occurs when the flow is caused by someone's specific actions (building a wall or dam or directing the flow in some way.) Taylor Klepper would like our permitting process looked at. Council agreed having a trained engineer would be nice, but not cost effective. Ron Beverly suggested an engineering student fresh from college.

Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Mayor

Fiscal Officer