

VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday November 7, 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, Charlie Martin, Mike Barth, Taylor Klepper, Ron Beverly and Toni Egly; Solicitor Troy Essex; Administrator Cory Wann; and Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith.

Minutes from the October 17th Regular Council Meeting were presented. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Toni Egly. Barth, Beverly, Martin, Bassett and Egly voted yes. Klepper abstained.

A list of bills to be paid was presented. Taylor Klepper asked about the Pavilion and whether the renovations are complete. Cory Wann said the kitchen is done but he has more he would like to accomplish over time. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Charlie Martin. Bassett, Egly, Beverly, Barth and Martin voted yes. Klepper abstained.

Boards & Commissions:

Minutes from the meetings between council members Charlie Martin and Eric Bassett and the Hicksville Community Fund were presented. Kyle Jones from Standard Aquatics and Jim Schmidt from the HCF were present to answer any questions Council may have. Council was asked to provide a definitive answer about building a new pool as part of the project. The Splash Pad will be financed entirely by donations and the pool will need to be funded by the village. Council agreed that a new pool needs to be built. They asked Mr. Jones and Standard Aquatics to continue with the master plan so the splash pad can possibly begin construction in 2023. Specifics such as size and shape of the pool were discussed, as well as a "ballpark" figure of between 2 and 3 million dollars for the project. Also discussed was the cost to maintain the area after it is built. The Finance Committee will include preliminary funding in the new budget. The next step is for the master plan to be presented so more specific details can be worked out.

Council Committees:

The **Finance Committee** met October 25th at 3 pm with the department heads to go over their budget requests for 2023.

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:

- Wann announced that Friday, November 18th will be the last day for leaf pickup.
- He received an estimate to demo the pool and pool house for \$49,000.00.
- Ortman Drilling will not have to drill another test well after all. The report on well #8 was coded incorrectly and will not need to be relocated. They should begin drilling the wells soon. They are waiting on delivery of materials at this point.
- There was a water main break on October 31st at Maple Lane and Meuse Argonne.
- Homeowners on Spencerville St have asked that the right-of-way between 420 and 522 Spencerville be vacated by the village. It is approximately 60 ft. that was to become another entrance to the park. This didn't happen and the softball fields are now in the way of any future drive anyway. This matter was referred to the solicitor.

Solicitor's Report:

- First reading of **Ordinance 2022-09** by caption only to amend appropriations 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 Ordinance 2022-09 by caption only. Mike Barth made a motion to approve, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2022-10** by caption only to establish appropriations for 2023.
- First reading of **Ordinance 2022-11** by caption only to establish pay rates for 2023.
- First reading of **Resolution 2022-18** by caption only to enter contract with Choice One Engineering for the Maple Lane Sewer Separation and declaring an emergency. Taylor Klepper made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes. Second and final reading of Resolution 2022-18 by caption only. Eric Bassett made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.
- First reading of **Resolution 2022-19** by caption only to enter farm lease with Troyer Custom Farms LLC for farming the vacant land adjacent to the new wellfield 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 2022-19 by caption only. Charlie Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Mike Barth. All voted yes.

Department Heads:

Police Chief: *Mark Denning had his October calls and cases report in the packets. He asked Mayor Jones to recommend hiring Drew Wort as a part time police officer. He is currently a part time EMT and a volunteer firefighter. He has already been through the academy. The mayor made the recommendation. Ron Beverly made a motion to accept the mayor's recommendation, seconded by Toni Egly. All voted yes.*

Fire/EMS Chief: *Scott Cramer was absent.*

- *Asst. Chief Bruce Hart commended Chief Denning and Officer Jason Tate for their actions during a recent structure fire.*
- *He announced Feather Bingo will be held this Saturday, November 12th. Doors open at 4 pm.*
- *The new tanker should be ready for inspection next week. When asked if they were keeping the old tanker, he said no.*

Park Director: *Val Shull reported the park was winding down.*

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

- Fund Status / Cash Summary (Revenue & Expenditures)
- October Income Tax, Utility and Mayor's Court Reports
- 3rd Quarter Franchise Fee Report from Mediacom
- Notice of programming changes from Mediacom

Mayor's Report:

The mayor announced the village offices will be closed Friday November 11th due to Veteran's Day.

Tuesday is election day. Everyone should get out to vote. The polling place is on Meuse Argonne across from Industrial Park at the Empower Church.

The Girls Volleyball Team has made it to the Regionals. He wished them success.

Taylor Klepper was not pleased that the budgets were so slow coming in this year leaving council scrambling to get the appropriations approved. He then asked if the mayor had any more information on the Comprehensive Plan for the village. The mayor said the estimated cost could be \$20,000.00 or more, so he wanted to see actual examples before moving forward.

At 7:25 Ron Beverly asked for an executive session to discuss the sale of land, seconded by Eric Bassett. All voted yes.

At 7:40 pm council returned to regular session. With no further business to discuss Eric Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Martin. All voted yes.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer