

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, May 8, 2025**

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Noon and recited by those present.

Council Members Present: Jan Godwin, Rita Joseph, Marissa Gensimore, Matt Steiner, Keith Clackler, and Ross Blankenship.

Others Present: Ken Noon, Summit Memorial; Erin Rader; Chuck Clark, Seth Marcum, Solicitor's Office; Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer; Kevin White, Street Commissioner/Street Supt.; Fire Chief Wayne Conroy.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Steiner made a motion to approve the minutes of April 15, 2025, second by Mrs. Godwin.

Roll Call: Joseph, Gensimore, Steiner, Godwin, and Clackler voted yes. Blankenship voted no. Motion passes.

Solicitor's Monthly Report

Mr. Marcum said any zoning issues or questions from council members have been responded to about zoning enforcement. Ordinances have been prepared and presented to the requesting parties.

Police Monthly Report – In the packet.

Fire Chief Monthly Report

Chief Conroy read his report to council and is attached to the minutes. The soffit work is being done on the fire house and siding done by the end of next week.

Street Commissioner Monthly Report

Mr. White said he's been mowing a lot and will start road side mowing next week. He met with CAS for the striping on North, Comet and Fulton roads. Met with Melway for chip and seal on Diebel and Shadow Lane. Got a price for Van Buren to move forward. The crack sealing price has not been provided yet.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Mrs. Weirick reported that four (4) Fiscal Officer records boxes and ten (10) General Administration boxes, approved for destruction, were picked up and shredded by Absolute Shredding.

Unfinished Business

Regarding the Church monetary donation for signs, Mr. Steiner reported that he met with Bev Wasman and Mrs. Weirick and have narrowed down to two signs. They will get with Mr. White and Spencer Electric about additional cost in mounting and will report to council.

Mrs. Gensimore reported on the updating of the computers. The fiscal officer's computer has been updated and replaced with a new one, and her old one went to the fire station so one of theirs is Windows 11 compliant. Mrs. Gensimore passed out a quote for the administrative assistant's new computer which is the work horse of the Village. SBT is looking at other used computers to replace

others at Village Hall that don't get used as much. The laptop is Windows 11 compliant that can be used as well.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion for the approval of the computer for the admin assistant suggested by our IT company, second by Mr. Steiner.

Mr. Blankenship feels the cost for the new computer is very expensive. The cost of \$1,135 is high and felt we need another quote. Mrs. Gensimore said we can do that. Mr. Steiner said he shopped three or four computer companies before we decided on this. We need Windows 11. We have the funds to replace the computer for the administrative assistance and for the others needing upgraded as well. We are in a good spot financially. Mr. Blankenship said we can't keep spending money on other things when there are issues yet resolved that are needed at the street garage.

Roll Call: Gensimore, Steiner, Godwin, Clackler, and Joseph voted yes. Blankenship voted no. Motion passes.

Mayor's Communications

The Mayor has been getting complaints about pot holes. He asked that if you come across a pot hole needing attention, please send him the name of the street where it is.

At the last Mayor's meeting there were a couple speakers. One spoke on the new rules and laws on marijuana. It is only bringing in 10% revenue - not bringing in as much revenue as was expected. There are some changes in the rules and laws in replacement levies as well.

NOPEC was also represented at the meeting. The electric bills will be going up. The mayor explained what the PJM auction is and how it works usage wise. He has pamphlets and information on this.

Mr. Steiner said as a resident of Luna Lake, he said they were on the Summit County Aggregation program and should not be. We will be dropped from this program. NOPEC told him that residents will not automatically go on the Village's aggregation program. He is going to send the residents a "how to" letter for getting on the Village's aggregation program. They can go with a third-party provider and those already on a third-party affected. But those who didn't do anything and were on the County's aggregation program will now be on the provider's program which is not very good.

Mayor McDaniel said we do get grants from NOPEC.

Mayor McDaniel attended a Norton Aquinas prayer breakfast on May 1.

We have been invited to be in the Olde Canal Days Parade and Council may join if they wish.

An email about America 250 Ohio was received and the Mayor asked if we can submit something regarding Lock 2. This needs done before May 15.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mrs. Joseph reported about the gun ordinance that will be updated to ensure safety measures are in place, like higher backstops and adding to the ordinance specific days to be able to discharge a firearm. There will be a meeting soon about this to discuss these issues. At one time, there was no discharge of firearms in the Village, but changed. Mr. Marcum read what was in the Village code regarding the discharge of firearms. The State of Ohio uses NRA standards and the Village should as well. The Mayor said we don't have an acreage limit.

Mrs. Joseph scheduled a Laws and Ordinances Committee meeting for Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 5:00 PM.

Citizen's Comments (Matt Steiner was asked to run this portion of the meeting)

Chuck Clark thanked council for what they do. He will be moving out of the Village soon but still will be involved. He resigned from being the citizen record keeper. He indicated the railroad tracks are getting very rough, physically, the way he leaves town. They need repaired. He is wondering how moving the OVMP from where it's at is going to benefit the veterans, community and the Village. The Mayor said he was not aware of it being moved – there was a few people that mentioned stuff but it's not going to happen.

Mr. Steiner said the railroad tracks are the responsibility of the railroad. Not the Village. The Mayor said at one time, the tracks were so bad, an individual lost an oil pan under their car because of the condition of that portion of the tracks. CSX was called and they were repaired. Mr. Clackler will call the railroad.

Ken Noon asked the Mayor if he did or didn't take Mr. Kindig and Mr. Stevenhagen to look at the property behind the fire station. The Mayor said he did.

Mr. Noon said last year he was contracted by the City of Norton to build a memorial. The OVMP had six (6) monuments that needed to be put around their flagpoles. When he was doing the Norton memorial, he suggested to the OVMP about ordering their six (6) monuments along with the six that the City of Norton needed; could save them some money, which they voted to do. He ordered all the granite and Norton's monuments all came in. But unfortunately, 6 did not make it and Mr. Noon said he didn't know that at the time. He put all the monuments at the OVMP as Norton was not ready for them. He had the foundations dug and ready for the monuments and to get them out of his shop, he placed them at the OVMP. He went back to his shop to start the other six and they were not in. He called the supplier and then he told Norton their six monuments would not make it for Memorial Day. Then he thought he could use the ones he had at the OVMP. Mr. Kindig, who was president of the OVMP, was contacted and asked to have their six monuments taken to Norton as the OVMP was not going to have any events. Mr. Noon could then pick up, take to his shop to engrave and then take to Norton for their event. The OVMP board met and had a contract put together for Mr. Noon to sign but the contract he was asked to sign had nothing to do with moving the memorials. The letter was drafted by Mayor McDaniel and Mr. Noon said he could not sign, because it sited things about being sued and that he could not come to the park. They voted to give him the monuments as long as I not step foot back in the park. He refused to sign. Mr. Kindig is no longer the president, Mayor McDaniel is. The city of Norton has questions about the Village of Clinton was against them having the memorial. Now, Norton is postponing this event until July. This town refused to let Norton honor their veterans. This is a shame. Mr. Noon said the OVMP would have gotten their monuments when they came in.

Mr. Steiner understands the issue with moving the stones and feels the OVMP took advantage of this situation in the contract clauses that has nothing to do with moving stones. He added that the solicitor has advised the Mayor that being part of both the OVMP and Village of Clinton, he has to separate himself from these duties. But we are seeing that citizens don't separate the Mayor from that. Norton sees the Mayor as not letting them get their stones. It would be better if the Mayor was not on this board. This is not in the best interest of Clinton. This is hurting us. Mr. Noon said he wants things the way they were meant to be.

Mrs. Gensimore added that this is an OVMP organization issue with the mayor Clinton Association. It's not a Village issue. When multiple people from other communities that the Village of Clinton is

doing things, that's when it's a problem. We can't take one side over the other. Council can hear what you have to say. Mr. Noon said wait till the Attorney General gets involved. We've been there. Nobody wants that.

Resolutions and Ordinances

First Readings

Resolution No. R-25-04

A Resolution Amending the Annual Appropriations for the Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025, and Declaring an Emergency.

Resolution No. R-25-05

Resolution No. R-25-05 Authorizing the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Street Fund ("Project Fund") of the Village of Clinton, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

No second or third readings.

New Business – No new business.

Council General Discussion

Mrs. Gensimore stated in light of what has been going on, and that Mr. Steiner has tried to talk to the Mayor about stepping down at the OVMP, she feels that Council needs to take an official something on this. Other communities are talking about this.

Mr. Blankenship said this is the first time hearing about this.

Mrs. Gensimore wondered about reaching out to the City of Norton, she doesn't know.

For the record, Mrs. Gensimore said (and repeated again after discussion) that due to the past and recent conduct especially concerning the conflict of interest with his position at the OVMP, I motion for a vote of no confidence in Mayor Bud McDaniel concerning his involvement as the President of the OVMP, seconded by Mrs. Joseph.

Mr. Steiner said it is unfortunate that people don't separate the fact that you are the President of the OVMP and Mayor of Clinton and they take your higher position and that we are guilty by association. That's the issue for me. We have all done a good job saying that we are not part of the cemetery or the OVMP – they function independently but here we are talking about the black marks on Clinton. I wish Norton could have said, yes, Clinton stepped up and helped us out and we are forever grateful. Down the road we may find ourselves in a similar position. Mrs. Godwin said this happened once before when Mrs. Rossi was doing things that made the headlines too with the Wall and Village. It turned into a big mess. This is worse.

Mr. Blankenship stated so Mr. Noon orders three pieces of granite when he's supposed to order six, and now we are going to vote a no confidence for our Mayor. Instead of six granites, he got three. He installed them down here; he wanted to take them to Norton and now Clinton is destroying Memorial Day for Norton. Mr. Blankenship said that Mr. Noon is upset he only got three granites

and he installed them at the wrong place. I would like to go to Norton's next council meeting and ask them.

Mr. Steiner responded that the OVMP agreed to send the stones to Norton. They took advantage of the situation and added all the legal stuff.

Mrs. Gensimore said that because of his position at the OVMP, and also being the Mayor of Clinton, people are not separating the two. There is so much turmoil and casting aspersions on the Village of Clinton. It's a conflict of interest.

Roll Call: Steiner, Joseph and Gensimore voted yes. Blankenship and Clackler voted no. Godwin abstained. Motion passes.

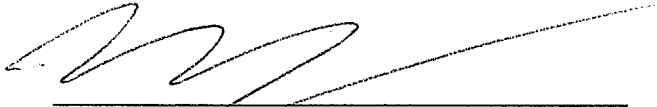
Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. Steiner said Mrs. Weirick moved \$250,000 out of Star Ohio into the Firemen Fund to purchase the ambulance that we have in the garage. We will have \$20,000 for the tanker that is built and once grant money is released, they will deliver. We paid for the cameras in the Village park.

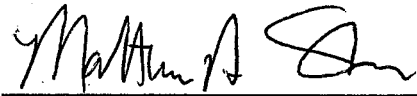
Mr. Steiner made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$50,304.77, second by Mrs. Godwin.

Roll Call: Godwin, Clackler, Blankenship, Joseph, Gensimore and Steiner voted yes. Motion passed.


Mr. Steiner made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, second by Mrs. Joseph. Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.



Mayor Bud McDaniel



Matt Steiner, President of Council



Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer