

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2025**

Council President Matt Steiner called the meeting to order on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Diane Gunter and recited by those present.

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

Others Present: Diane Gunter, resident.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to approve the minutes of May 20, 2025, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

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

Mr. Steiner made a motion to accept the written record of proceeding of just those present on June 3, 2025. No quorum for a regular meeting. Second was made by Mrs. Joseph.

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

Mayor's Communications

Mr. Steiner indicated the County emailed the Village regarding inside millage. Inside millage is property tax that was unvoted on. Our property taxes did go up which is an unvoted on tax. With that said, Clinton has \$150,000 of our property tax coming to us, inside millage. There are state proposals out there to get rid of inside millage. If that happens the Village will be hit hard, losing \$150,000. The County will lose in the billions. The County is asking not to get rid of inside millage. Ilene Shapiro, the County Executive sent a letter to state representatives about what they would lose and what would need to be shut down. We could do a letter on the Village behalf as well. This will affect all municipalities in the county.

Salt bids came in for road salt. We will pay \$62.89 a ton. Last year we paid \$43.70. That's a 43% increase and an additional \$9,000 cost to the budget. This is through CUE, our buying group, which is why we get a lower price. Mr. Blankenship had questions as to what CUE requires us to purchase yearly and at the next meeting can be asked again when the street superintendent is present.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mr. Steiner reported he will be reporting on the upcoming budget meetings at the next meeting.

Mrs. Gensimore said the computer at the mayor's desk, one at the fire station, and one that runs this camera will be updated. The IT guy has a good idea of refurbished computers to replace the mayor's and the fire station's computer for around \$300 to \$400. The camera and computer we use to live stream to Facebook can be done using a different set up recommended - camera only - for what we need. These will be presented, and all of the prices are within the budget for the computers already approved.

Mr. Steiner said going back to Mayor's Communications, Kevin White and Jeff Ferjutz submitted a report to the Mayor for the Nuisance Board regarding the Sebe property and the mud on Cleveland Massillon Road. The meeting will be on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 10 AM and Matt Steiner is the Chairman. Summit Soil and Water was at the property and took pictures. Mrs. Gensimore said we had this issue on Van Buren years and Summit Soil and Water took care of it. Mr. Steiner thinks it's

gotten better but is not fixed. Mr. White cleaned the ditch on the south side, but the north side driveway pipe was not installed by the Village and it's high on the north end. Mr. Steiner thought the property owner buys the pipe, but the Village installs to ensure the pipe is installed correctly. The engineer should be at the meeting and will be asked to attend.

Citizens' Comments: No comments.

Resolutions and Ordinances: No first or second readings.

Third 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.

Mr. Steiner moved to accept Resolution No. R-25-04, second by Mr. Clackler.

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

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.

Mrs. Joseph motioned to adopt, second by Mr. Steiner.

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

This resolution is the \$158,000 for the street budget, and since we are not doing Clinton Road, the Street Committee met and listed the items they would do. Among the items were Van Buren, chip and seal, striping of Comet, and Fulton, Shadow Lane and Deibel. This money has been held in the general fund for the Clinton Road project and now we need to use on other projects.

New Business – No new business.

Council General Discussion

Mrs. Gensimore reported that our current web designer is not responsive. Sue Mayberry was to be trained to upload things, and training has not been complete. We will look into a different web designer. Mrs. Gensimore was given a couple of companies by our IT guy that would be more user friendly. The ability to use our current format will be looked into as we hold the information and they hold the program. We need to look into this and also discuss the contract with Seth Marcum.

She then indicated at the last meeting, coming up with a policy for safety issues, like power outages, etc. We used to hold workshops, committee of the whole, where we all get together and discuss ideas to come up with a plan suitable to help the residents. We may want to consider doing. It was stated this used to be done for the budget.

Mr. Blankenship said he got three phone calls asking why we rented a backhoe. Mr. Steiner said it was a bob cat, something small. Mr. White rents one from time to time as they looked into purchasing and renting was better to do than purchasing. Mr. Blankenship asked who gives him the authority to

rent stuff instead of using the backhoe we just bought. Mr. Steiner says Mr. White is operating out of his budget. Reasons mentioned as to why the new backhoe was not used were safety, smaller equipment that was less intrusive to traffic, etc. We will ask Kevin at the next meeting.

Mr. Blankenship asked if we paid the Wood Guy to cut up a bunch of trees. He thought that was Kevin's job. He was told that Kevin pushes them off the road and the Wood Guy removes them. Kevin may cut up the trees to get them off of road and push them to the side with the backhoe. Mr. Blankenship said he used the rental equipment as he got yelled at on the phone by someone who asked why we are renting if we have a backhoe and why are we paying someone else to cut up trees. Mr. Blankenship said we are nickel dining our community to death and we recklessly spend money all the time. Mr. Blankenship said the mayor was yelled at for the amount of money he spent on microphones, but Kevin can spend hundreds of dollars to get trees cut up and rent equipment we already have. Mr. Clackler asked where does all the wood go. Mr. Blankenship said we could sell it. Put it on Facebook as people want firewood. Mr. Clackler said we need to be careful if someone comes to cut trees on village property – liability.

Mr. Steiner added that Kevin is more about rotating equipment instead of running something till it dies. The old backhoe we had could not be trusted when salt was needed, or trees coming down on wires. Mr. Blankenship said there should be a log sheet on his equipment, maintenance, uses, etc. Mr. Steiner expected there to be a log sheet and when putting fuel in the backhoe. We can ask about this as he may give to Leah. Mr. Clackler asked if this is something the mayor is requiring Kevin to do. Mr. Blankenship said the mayor is scared to ask Kevin to do anything as he always gets grief.

Mr. Steiner responded to Mr. Blankenship that it's the mayor's job to manage Kevin. He's ultimately the boss. We all have questioned how that is being handled and that is where your questions are going tonight.

Mr. Blankenship said I'm just asking questions. I'm not saying Kevin has done anything wrong. Like I said, I've had three phone calls from people yelling at me. Mrs. Gensimore said Mr. Blankenship should invite them to a council meeting to ask questions so they can be on the record.

Mr. Clackler brought up the Sebe property issue and the rental of the bob cat. Mrs. Gensimore thanked Mr. Clackler as it reminded her that the rental of the machine Kevin rented is being billed to Sebe for cleaning out the ditch. Mr. Blankenship said she is trying to justify Kevin's actions. She denied justifying anything. Mr. Clackler's statement jogged her memory about billing Mr. Sebe for the use of the bob cat – it's not coming out of our budget. Mr. Clackler said this is a good response to the citizens.

Mr. Blankenship indicated the junk cars are still an issue and he has been trying to resolve this to see something actually done.

Mrs. Gensimore asked Mrs. Gunter how the pancake breakfast went on Memorial Day. She reported that not as many people came this year, but they did good.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. Steiner said the payment amounts of \$524,000 were listed twice. The first check was cancelled as it got lost in the mail. Our responsibility for the \$524,000 was about \$35,000, the rest was a grant.

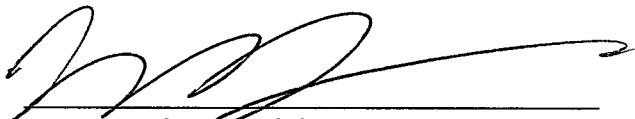
Mr. Steiner made a motion to pay the purchase orders and bills, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

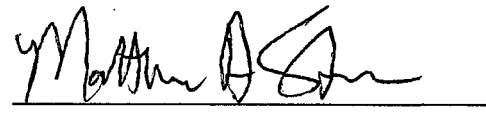
Roll Call: Clackler, Steiner, Gensimore, Joseph, and Blankenship, voted yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Blankenship asked how long we have to keep fire equipment we got with a grant, is there any stipulation on how long we have to keep it. Like if we sell in the first five years, we have to give the grant money back.

Mr. Steiner said the fire regulations/insurance like to see the truck rotated every 20 years. That's the expected life expectancy. We can't sell our old tanker to a fire department. Mr. Blankenship said if the fire levy doesn't pass again and we don't have enough to keep our fire department running, we are going to have to liquidate stuff and that's why I asked. Mr. Steiner didn't know the answer. Mr. Blankenship said it would be nice to know. The old tanker will be sold according to Chief Conroy. Same with the old ambulance. The really old ambulance will also be sold.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, second by Mr. Steiner. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.



Mayor Bud McDaniel

Matt Steiner, President of Council

Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer