

**Village of Clinton  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, December 2, 2025**

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gordon Shobe and recited by those present.

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

Others Present: Seth Marcum, Solicitor's Officer; Officer Zampelli, New Franklin PD; Ron Matkowski, Assistant Fire Chief; Holly Miller, Summit County Assistant Director of Community and Economic Development; Diane Gunter, Ellen Conroy, Gordon Shobe and Tom Knepper, residents.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2025, second by Mr. Clackler.

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

Mayor McDaniel requested the agenda be amended to add Holly Miller, Summit County.

Mr. Steiner made the motion to amend the agenda, second by Mrs. Joseph.

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

**Solicitor Monthly Report**

Mr. Marcum reported that he assisted the zoning inspector on some issues on how our ordinances work in a couple areas regarding records requests.

**Police Monthly Report**

Officer Zampelli read his report.

**Fire Chief Monthly Report**

Assistant Fire Chief Matkowski read the report. Mayor McDaniel asked him about open burning. Ohio laws are different throughout the year. A three-month period in the spring and then one in the fall.

Mrs. Gensimore asked about what could be burned during a burn ban, and she was advised you can burn food to eat, ceremonial, if building a house, you can burn in a barrel for warmth, etc. The bans are for bigger burns and no wires, garbage, etc.

**Street Commissioner Monthly Report** - No report.

**Fiscal Officer's Report** – No report.

**Presentation – Holly Miller**

Mrs. Miller explained that about three years ago, the County started the project that is called Summit Connects Middle Mile Fiber Project, and the intent of the project was to run 130 miles of fiber connecting all 31 communities in Summit County at a public safety point. The designer of this project

is called Thrasher. They laid out the route, path of least resistance, to connect all 31 communities all the way up north and all the way down here to the Village of Clinton. During that design, the designer picked the town halls as the connection point. If a town hall or a Village or community wanted that changed, that would have had to been discussed with the designers as they were having community meetings. Some town halls did change it to their police or fire station, as long as they were pretty much on the route and in the same parking lot. They could not change it if they were going to go over complicated crossings, which would be your railroads and Metro Parks or anything that requires them to get permits outside of the local authority.

Henkels and McCoy are the contractors for this project and they have been vetted and have obtained their insurance and Federal requirements. Bonds were also acquired that would be for all communities in this project and during the community meetings, fees were asked to be waived. They will add the communities to their bond and to their insurance, which they will provide each community as they come into the community. The County is paying for the run of the conduit, the pull of the fiber, and then all the equipment that will be located in each one of the municipal buildings - the switches and anything to connect that building to the fiber. It is not actually paying for the internet. Mrs. Miller checked the electricity that it would use on a monthly basis is the cost of an incandescent lightbulb. They will place it in an open rack that you have and if we don't have an open rack, it will actually be attached to a piece of plywood. We will sign an MOU with the County because the County does all equipment, so you will sign an MOU with the County as they own the equipment and they take responsibility if anything happens to that equipment or if it needs to be fixed or serviced. It will need to be behind a locked store for cybersecurity reasons.

The Village Planning Commission approved waiving the fees for this project. This fiber hookup is only for the connection of one building in each community as a public safety point. The County does not connect residents to the internet, it is for public safety. Another provider will have to do that in the future. They will want to run their own fiber. She also explained some options with the Fairlawn Gig regarding internet services and some prices. There was more discussion about what options could be considered down the road if desired.

Smart Traffic Signals was brought up and the service would be at a lower price. The Village would need to know the pricing for all of this. There is no cost to connect to a Juniper switch. Once installed and we only connect to the intranet, it will be a nominal fee.

Mrs. Gensimore asked about the email the council received from Mrs. Miller and wanted clarification about all communities agreeing to waiving the fees. Mrs. Miller said a community meeting of the whole made that decision.

There will be restoration of the property when running this fiber in the Village.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mr. Steiner indicated Council was sent an email regarding an EMS rate increase. This was discussed with the Fire Chief.

Mr. Steiner made a motion to approve the increase, second by Mr. Blankenship.

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

Mr. Steiner advised that we started to review our emergency plans and Mr. Conroy is researching a text system for emergencies. Sue Mayberry is going through and checking emails and phone numbers for contacts. She will be marking up the plan for council and the fire chief to review. This will also be put under Unfinished Business on the agenda.

## **Mayor's Communications**

Mayor McDaniel reported that there is now an opening on the Planning Commission. If anyone is interested, please submit your request for consideration. This will be posted at the normal posting places in the Village.

The Mayor said he had an on-line meeting with Amelia Syke's office, and sewers came up. Clinton road also came up and the fact we have already done work on Clinton Road helps it when applying for funding. We are having a meeting on December 11, 2025 to discuss the sewer. He has talked to Mike Viney's office and the sewers may come back to the table.

Mayor McDaniel said regarding the fiber optics, Lumos Fiber contacted him and they would like to bring fiber and internet to the Village for the residents. We may get fiber to the residents sooner than getting fiber to Village Hall. The Mayor explained what Lumos Fiber is going to charge and they will be sending out letters. The Mayor indicated Lumos Fiber will fill out our required permit. The fees will apply but will be talking to the Planning Commission about making them reasonable. Mayor McDaniel said he will come back to Council after the first of the year.

Mayor McDaniel indicated that Santa Claus will be coming to Village Hall this Sunday. He also asked everyone to bring a covered dish to the next council meeting for the Christmas Party.

## **Council Communications and Council Committee Reports**

Mrs. Gensimore said she passed out information to council members of the numbers from Applied Engineer Services, Steve Chicatelli, to service the Village on the website. She indicated that he and Bunny got together and formed their own company. She asked him to send us an official contract for his services. Once fiber comes to the Village that maybe we could have a server in the building and then they would host not only us, but others around. If this happens, it could be done at half price. She asked council to look over the numbers and she will advise council when she gets the official contract. The current web designer is not responsive.

The Our Community News newsletter will continue and our cost per page is \$800. This covers printing and distribution to our residents. Articles are needed by January 6, 2026. They would be dropped off at the post office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. There would need to be a new liaison from the Village as Mrs. Gensimore will no longer be on council. She did ask for an extension. She said she would help with the first submission. She also writes the articles for the Historical Society and events.

At the last meeting we tabled the MOU with the Summit County Health District and we all got emails explaining this.

Mr. Blankenship asked if the server that could be brought into Village Hall by Mr. Chicatelli when we get fiber, cause problems should it be used for anything not legal. Mr. Marcum understood his concern and said that would be a very bad decision on his part in a government building. He would structure a contract in such a way that he would be responsible, and Mr. Marcum would prepare paperwork to protect the Village if this happens. The Mayor has talked to Mr. Chicatelli about this and feels confident with using his services.

## **Citizen's Comments**

Mrs. Gunter said Santa will be in Town Hall this Sunday, at 2 PM. On Dec. 14, the Historic Harter House will be open 2 to 4 PM.

## **Resolutions and Ordinances**

**First Readings** - None

## **Second Readings**

**Resolution No. R-25-14**

A Resolution Authorizing and Appointing Varney, Fink & Associates as Village Fiscal Officer and Authorizing and Directing the Mayor to Enter into a Three-Year Contract and Declaring an Emergency.

**Resolution No. R-25-15**

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.

## **Third Readings**

**Resolution No. R-25-13**

A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Summit County Combined General Health District and the Village of Clinton, and Declaring an Emergency.

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to adopt. Second by Mrs. Gensimore.

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

**New Business** – No new business.

## **Council General Discussion**

Mrs. Gensimore stated for the last 34 years, Jan Godwin has served on Village Council. The next meeting will be her last meeting. She has served also as Council President. She has given the Village a lot of good years. We need to show her our appreciation as it is not always easy. If you see Jan, please let her know how much you appreciate her and her service.

Since COVID, everything shut down. The restrictions had an affect on our events. Mrs. Gensimore indicated that for Memorial Day, she had been arranging for the speakers, getting parade marshal, contacting ministers, etc. After this year, someone will have to take this on and I can provide someone with a list of what I have done to follow.

Mr. Blankenship questioned if council is in favor for bringing fiber here. He was told yes, and we only needed clarification which Holly Miller provided. For use of the building we normally have to give approval. Why we didn't this time, was not known. The County Executives wish to have all communities connected and we want to be a part of this. Mrs. Godwin said this effort has been in the works for quite a while. Mayor McDaniel explained how the fiber will be run. Originally it was going to be two different roads from New Franklin on the small section of Van Buren to here. They cut out one side so there will be only be a single path to here which does leaves it open. In the future we need to come out of our building across the tracks and connect to the ring in Norton so that if it gets cut we are still in business. If it gets cut, it will need repaired right away. It's not a full duplex ring.

Mrs. Gensimore brought up an issue on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The residents have created a parking area for themselves. It is not public parking. The residents can't get along. The police have been called to

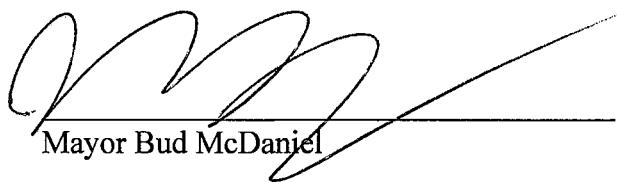
that area. The area used to be all tree lawn. There is alley behind the houses that residents used to use to access their garages. They want to park in front of their house - right angle parking. This is a civil matter. We can tell them to parallel park and put grindings in the alley for them to use to park. Now, shoveling snow has become an issue. This issue may come before council. The Mayor and Street Superintendent will go over and take a look at it. Seth Marcum will look into this as well.

**Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval**

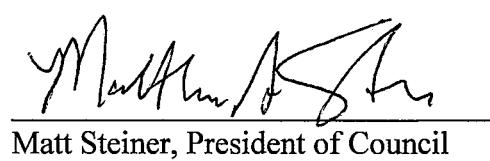
Mr. Steiner made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$23,002.30, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

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

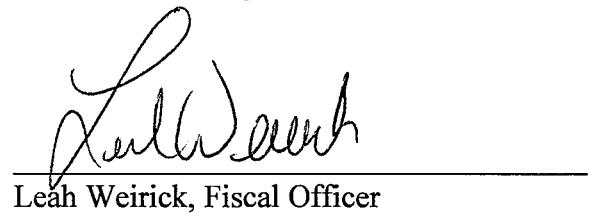
Mr. Steiner motioned to adjourn and was seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.



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Mayor Bud McDaniel



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Matt Steiner, President of Council



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Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer