

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 18, 2025**

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Henry and recited by those present.

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

Others Present: Diane Gunter, Ellen Conroy, John Henry, Gordon Shobe and Tom Knepper, residents.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Godwin made a motion to approve the minutes of November 6, 2025, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

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

Unfinished Business

Chief Conroy reported on the legislation regarding the fire investigation for clarification. It is an MOU, we understand what they are asking us to do. There is no real end date to it. It is a specialty team to join and we have one who wants to do this. Chief Conroy explained the details. We pay this individual wherever he goes. Others on this team are paid by their own department. This is a good faith deal, per the Mayor. A mutual aid agreement and it says this in the MOU. This person is under our pay and care by the Village when he is doing this. A year ago was our last fire. Mrs. Gensimore said one of the concerns was that we would be paying for an investigator to go to multiple fires in other municipalities at the cost of the village. Chief Conroy said this person may not be able to go to the other fire calls outside the village and he does not have to go to every fire and is according to the money allocated in the budget. He won't go into overtime.

There was more discussion on mutual aid and how it works.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor McDaniel went to the NOPEC general assembly and heard what has been done this year. He explained how the rates have increased 20%. It happened not due to summer usage, but on the cost of the data centers, the Cloud, backup, etc., that burns a lot of electricity. NOPEC is working on ways to make our lives better and reduce the cost of electricity. Mr. Steiner said this is a community aggregation program. NOPEC needs to bring us a good price. Since things went up residents are jumping from NOPEC to third party services. NOPEC needs to be competitive to keep residents on board. Mrs. Gensimore said we have received grants from NOPEC as well. The Village has benefited from being with NOPEC. It's up to the residents to decide what they want to do. If they do nothing they are under NOPEC. If they opt to leave, they are not in the program. NOPEC does the shopping for you.

Mayor McDaniel said there is a community forum in Summit County in a couple days at the Akron Urban League to talk about food benefits, childcare, SNAP issues, etc.

Mayor McDaniel said fiber is coming into Clinton and the Planning Commission will be meeting soon to consider waiving the fees. Mrs. Gensimore said Council has not voted on anything pertaining to this or coming to Village Hall. Mr. Steiner said it is a County Program. How can this happen

without council approval. Mayor McDaniel said it will only be electronics here which will give us free internet and access to Fairlawn data center. There is a lot of potential here. He will call Summit County about having someone here to explain more to us. Mrs. Gensimore said we need more knowledge on this since we are going to house something that is not ours – legal ramifications – insurance.

The mayor will call Holly Miller to come to the next meeting. At some point this can be a competitor to Spectrum. Not this phase.

Mr. Steiner said Planning needs to approve waiving the permit fees. There is no meeting scheduled as of yet. We are going to have the cart ahead of the horse and they have not paid the fees and need to waive before they start. We can always refund their fee – not cash the check. We cannot put Planning in this spot. They should not start before we have the fee issue answered.

Mrs. Gensimore said the Planning Commission was not given enough information to form a decision on why the fees need to be waived. So far, we have only heard all the other communities are waiving them. County individuals need to attend this meeting. Mr. Steiner said he saw workers here today.

Mayor McDaniel said Kevin White called Jeff Ferjutz, and Jeff called him and it was a joint decision of all three of us to go ahead and start. Mr. Steiner said that's the cart ahead of the horse.

Mayor McDaniel reported on what the County has done for us over the years – moneywise. Mr. Steiner said that is not the important question, as there is a process and we are not following it. The county should know this – we are doing it at the eleventh hour. Mrs. Gensimore said three citizens on the Planning Commission are saying it's happening whether we waive the fees or not. It's hard asking for money after the work is already done. Mr. Steiner said putting Kevin and Jeff in a position on this issue of letting them start is not good. Mayor McDaniel asked Kevin what does he recommend – he said let them start. Mr. Steiner said they are not the decision makers. Planning and Council is.

Mr. Clackler said the County is working hard on this fiber project and a lot of cities are willing to do this. If we postpone it, we don't know when they will come back.

It was decided to get a Planning Commission together on this and members who needed to be there will be called to attend.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mrs. Gensimore said the Community newsletter will have a 2026 schedule she informed the City of Canal Fulton that she will not be on Council next year. The new council will be the ones to make the decision. The first issue deadline date is February 1 for articles. If this council wants to make a decision on this now they can. She said we can revisit at the next meeting. She will get numbers for us. She will reach out to see if we wait till the new council is installed if we miss this opportunity to be part of it.

Mayor McDaniel asked if this newsletter was a benefit to our citizens. Mr. Steiner said absolutely, this is our only way of reaching our residents. It is vital we continue with it. Mrs. Gensimore explained the work involved in getting the Village articles together, proofed, and submitted to the City. They want an answer by the end of the year. Mrs. Gensimore will report again on this at the next meeting.

Mr. Steiner reported on the Finance Committee meeting and the appropriations amendment legislation on the agenda for the adjustment of the 2025 budget year. He explained the reasons for the amendment to our budget. Questions were asked and answered regarding the ambulance grant and tanker cost.

Citizen's Comments

Resolutions and Ordinances

First 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.

Second 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. Gensimore asked for clarification on this. The fee schedule for services is for five years, regarding inspecting outfalls. She wondered about the charges on this during the contract term, if done only once a year. There were several questions and concerns that needed answered. Mayor McDaniel will reach out to Jason Popiel or the health department to attend the next meeting and explain this MOU.

Third Readings

Resolution No. R-25-11 (Tabled)

A Resolution Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding the South Summit Fire Investigation Unit and Declaring an Emergency.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to take this resolution off the table, second by Mrs. Joseph.

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

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to adopt, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

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

Resolution No. R-25-12

A Resolution Adopting the Annual Appropriations for the Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2026, and Declaring an Emergency.

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to adopt, second by Mrs. Godwin.

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

New Business – No new business.

Council General Discussion

Mrs. Gensimore stated that if there are residents interested in getting packets emailed to them via email, contact our Village Admin and give her your email address and ask to have one emailed to you. The agendas are on the Facebook page as well. You can also just ask to receive via email, the agenda.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

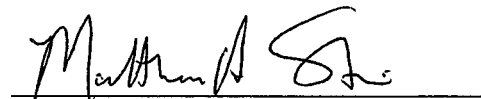
Mr. Steiner pointed out the payment listing and the OHM Advisors cost, approx. \$7,000, for our MS4 requirements. The County used to do Stormwater. Now the Village does it. This is an ongoing expense. The police payment was pointed out as well as our salt purchase.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$80,433.78. Second by Mrs. Joseph.

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

Mr. Steiner motioned to adjourn, second by Mrs. Gensimore. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.



Mayor Bud McDaniel

Matt Steiner, President of Council

Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer