

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting**

Tuesday, May 7, 2026

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 7, 2026, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Diane Gunter and recited by those present.

Roll Call: Council Members Present: Mike Boggs, Rita Joseph, John Henry, Ross Blankenship, and Kent Goch. Tom Knepper was absent.

The Mayor asked if Council wanted to give Mr. Knepper an excused absence as this was talked about years ago. Mr. Blankenship said Mr. Knepper contacted him about not being here. He wondered if excusing for missing a meeting means anything as you have to miss ten meetings in a row to get kicked off. One meeting won't hurt anything.

Others Present: New Franklin Police Officer; Assistant Chief Matkowski; Kevin White, Street Commissioner/Supt.; Atty. Seth Marcum, Village Solicitor's Office; Diane Gunter and Michael Heiney.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Joseph to approve the minutes of April 21, 2026, and was seconded by Mr. Blankenship.

Roll Call: Boggs, Joseph, Blankenship, Goch, and Henry voted yes. Motion passes.

Solicitor Monthly Report- No report.

Police Monthly Report

The New Franklin Officer read his report (in the packet).

Mayor McDaniel asked about the issue of feeding the cats and our ordinance is about public property and Luna Lake is private. He also asked about the speed sign cart. The officer said one broke down and one was being purchased but will check into this issue. The Mayor would like to have one placed around town as it does make a difference.

Fire Chief Monthly Report

Assistant Chief Matkowski read the report (in the packet).

Street Commissioner Monthly Report

Mr. White reported this month there has been a lot of mowing, and has cleaned up some trees that were down. Mayor McDaniel asked about the signage a resident requested at the last meeting. The deer crossing and hidden drive sign is on order. The flagpole is on order as well and it will take two people to install. We did get the flag already.

Mr. Boggs asked about Van Buren, and Mr. White said he met with the paving company about the issue brought up at the last meeting. It is believed there are underlying issues we could not see and with the hard freeze and thaw, it cracked. Some experimental stuff may be done to see what holds up better.

Fiscal Officer's Report – Financials are in the packet.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Boggs asked if there is anything new happening regarding the 250th America Celebration. He asked if all the effort and volunteers brought in might be a lot of work and attendance will not be there. He just wants to spare some people's feelings. It's a holiday weekend. He thinks it will not be a big draw. We need to do something but thinks we could do something else. Mayor McDaniel said there will be articles in the next Community News about the celebration at Warwick Park and believes it will be successful.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor McDaniel was contacted by Summit County Retro Parks regarding rounding up geese and removing from our area. This is not definite. It may be in June if it does happen.

He attended the Norton Kiwanis prayer breakfast. The guest speaker, John Kaminski, a former pro football player. He has created several programs to help those who can't afford football camp, and he also started a non-profit, Blessings in a Backpack, and shared how those in recovery need to start exercising to help them break an addiction.

There is a group gathering signatures to get the property tax issue on the ballot this November. Four hundred thousand signatures are needed. So far, they have 301,000 signatures. They still have to be verified. He feels the property tax issue is dead at this point.

He reminded Council that the Olde Canal Days Committee needs to hear from us about being in their parade.

Mayor McDaniel shared meeting minutes discovered about the alley by the drive thru from years ago. There was an agreement that the closing of the alley was contingent upon the drive thru completing an addition they requested, If it was completed in six months, they would get the entire alley. If not, the alley would be split between the Village Hall property (then the bank), and the drive thru. He shared the ordinance that was passed as well on this issue. He thinks the entire alley was given to the drive through. Mr. Goch would be interested in knowing who handled the filing with the County on this. Mayor McDaniel gave Mr. Goch all the information he had on this issue. We should own half of the alley, but Mayor McDaniel thinks they have all of it. Mr. Blankenship said if the drive through didn't do their part per our legislation, that's null and void.

Mayor McDaniel stated from reading meeting minutes from back in the 90's there were a lot of alleys that were vacated. Mr. Marcum said technically, you can just record utility easements on paper alleys and vacate them.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports – No reports.

Citizens Comments

Mr. Heiney asked if the Mayor came out and looked at the pipe on Nettle Road. Mayor McDaniel didn't but he said he spoke to the Street Superintendent, solicitor, and called another person who lives there. The Mayor said we do maintain the public right of way. In this case, because it is a private drive and the entrance comes out of Lawrence Township and at best, is responsible to repair this. The Mayor did say he would look at it. Mr. Heiney explained the history of the issues of this areas.

Mr. Blankenship said because this is private drive, once we start doing anything for this area, would set a precedent to doing other things in the future, which we can't. Same as Luna Lake. He thinks all 6 residents should get together and pay for this repair.

Mr. Goch said there is an upcoming Lawrence Township meeting that he can attend.

Resolutions and Ordinances

No legislation.

New Business

Mr. Boggs brought up the email Leah Weirick sent to council about renewing the service/maintenance policy on our generator for five years. It would cost \$1,200.

Mr. Blankenship said he would like to see what they do for that \$1,200. Mr. White said they call me when they plan on coming to service. Mr. Blankenship thinks this is a good deal depending on how often they come.

Mr. Boggs said we had lapsed on the coverage but would grandfather us in. They would cover the gap.

Leah's email was brought up and read and they then discussed the details she sent them.

It cost the fire department \$8,000 to replace theirs. The motor went out. That generator is also serviced by Generac. More discussion continued about this issue.

Mr. Blankenship motioned to decline the extended warranty, second by Mr. Boggs. All members present said yes to not pay.

Council General Discussion – No discussion.

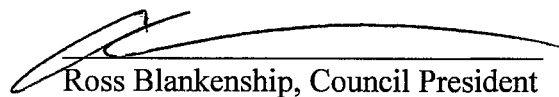
Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

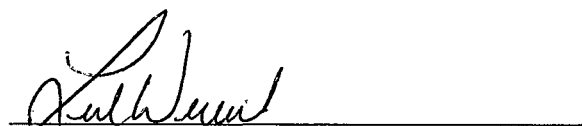
Mr. Goch made a motion to pay the purchase orders and bills, second by Mrs. Joseph.

Roll Call: Henry, Goch, Blankenship, Joseph, and Henry voted yes. Motion passes.

Mrs. Joseph made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Boggs. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.



Mayor Bud McDaniel

Ross Blankenship, Council President

Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer