

**Village of Clinton
Council Meeting Minutes of
February 16, 2021**

Mayor Clarissa Allega called the meeting to order on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marissa Gensimore and recited by those present.

Roll call of Council Members: Present were Lewis Rash, Marissa Gensimore, Jan Godwin, Bud McDaniel, and Ellen Conroy. Kent Goch was absent.

Others Present: Mr. Joshua Pursley, resident; and Fire Chief Conroy.

Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2021

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the minutes as written, second by Mr. Rash.

Mrs. Godwin objected. She indicated on page 3 regarding the whole paragraph (middle of page) it looks like the solicitor was okay for the Police and Fire to be on one ballot if you wanted it together – not two separate items. Mrs. Weirick said the solicitor reported that you could do a Safety Levy, police and fire on one levy together, if you wanted to. Mr. Rash agreed. Mr. McDaniel said the minutes reflect accurately what was stated – that you could put police and fire on the same levy. Mayor Allega said, yes, but that was not what was discussed. Mrs. Godwin said it's confusing. Mayor Allega said Sue followed the comments made. Residents can get a copy of the meeting recording and watch Facebook Live. Mrs. Gensimore did say the minutes reflect the conversation that took place. Mr. Rash reiterated that when he brought it up, he said COULD we do that. The minutes are accurate in what was said about this issue that was raised.

Roll Call: Rash, Gensimore, McDaniel, Godwin, and Conroy voted yes. Motion passes.

Mrs. Gensimore would like to make a motion that council review and make a decision on the BZA applicant, Mr. Joshua Pursley, who emailed the Village (copy provided) desiring to be appointed to that board. He is her neighbor and she highly recommends this appointment. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion.

Mr. Pursley addressed Council about why he would like to be on the Board and a little bit about himself. He enjoys being here and wants to do more for the Village. He thinks this is a chance for him to do something for the neighborhood. Mr. Pursley's background is in car building.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion that Council appoint Mr. Joshua Pursley to the BZA of the Village of Clinton, second by Mr. Rash.

Roll Call: Godwin, McDaniel, Gensimore, Rash, and Conroy voted yes. Motion Passes.

Mr. Pursley was advised that there may be a BZA meeting coming up and briefly advised him of what to expect.

Solicitors Report: No report.

Police Report: The report is in the Council packet.

Fire Chief Report: Chief Conroy gave his verbal report for January. He also reported that they have a student who is going through medic school. Right now, Summa is offering, if you are a student going through their medic program, to use their Med skills at their job as long as you have at least one paramedic with you. It will count as your skills needed at the end of the year. This pandemic has caused a lot of fire departments to close the doors on students being able to come in. This is to help them out – learn to be a paramedic while at work. The Chief indicated he needed the contract signed to allow EMT's studying to become paramedics to work as he described in this Summa Medic Program. Mayor Allega will sign the paperwork.

The Chief and the Mayor had a meeting at New Franklin over a personnel issue. New Franklin does not want a particular employee working and request that if we don't terminate him, make it that he does not work shifts. I advised we will assign him as needed. It went downhill from there. Essentially, we talked about parting ways with the New Franklin fire department. We need to figure this out sooner than later. He would like the Safety Committee to meet the first Tuesday in March and go over this issue.

There will be a Safety Committee meeting March 2, at 6:00 PM to discuss this personnel issue and future operations.

Mayor Allega informed Council there is a dispute resolution process under the current contract with New Franklin. The chiefs will meet. If they can't come to a resolution, then the Mayors will meet. If they can't reach a resolution, then the mayors draft a statement of inability to resolve, and then present to respective councils to try and resolve the matter. We are in the process of drafting the statements. We were told this will be a sticking point on a contract renewal with them. We expected this and we will probably not be presented with a contract to renew if we do not do what they want. We will await their statement to Village Council. Mrs. Gensimore feels their council may have a different take on what the solution should be. Mr. Rash said it's not fair to cut this employee's hours. The Chief feels the same and Mayor Allega said New Franklin wants us to cut all of his hours – they don't want him working the joint station. When the statement comes from New Franklin, Mayor Allega will add her piece to it and it will eventually get forwarded to Village Council. Mr. McDaniel trusts our fire chief in this matter and feels New Franklin needs to look at the outside source and take it into consideration before taking rash moves. This will be continued and further addressed. Mayor Allega said she will have New Franklin's document in hand for the March 2 Safety Committee Meeting.

Street Commissioner Report: No report.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Rash said people watching us live cannot hear or understand us. Mr. McDaniel explained that Eric is working on a solution to this problem.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor Allega reported that the fire chief already discussed the meeting we had with New Franklin. The Summit County update on the COVID-19 vaccine is that it is still in extremely limited supply. Continue applying for receiving a vaccine and continue protocol of social distancing and washing hands, etc. She will attend the Public Health annual meeting on March 1 by zoom. All of the various healthcare contacts will be provided and will get to Sue if you want a copy.

Summit County's rental / utility assistance program has another round coming. It will be up and running early March. The website is summitcountycare.org. They are working with utility companies directly. If you got money before, you can still get it again.

The Shared Worker Program through Summit County is officially up and running. Norton was the first municipality to utilize it. Half their workforce was out due to COVID. Applications are still being accepted to hire worker for this program. Also, services may extend beyond snow plowing such as for sewer backups, downed trees, etc.

Mayor Allega attended the Northeast Ohio Mayors and Managers meeting held virtually. Congress may pass the next stimulus package which contains a large amount for state and local relief. On the State House side of things, legislation is pending at the State level to allow public bodies to continue to meet virtually, all the time, from here on out - amending the Open Meetings Act. The Mayor does not know if that is what we want to do here. This could impact us. We do not have to, but gives us an option.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mrs. Gensimore said she still needs articles for the Community Newsletter by February 22. The pancake breakfast is still on. The Historical Society will need help setting up. Even if the pancake breakfast does not happen for some reason, we will have a Memorial Day parade.

Citizen Comments: No comments.

Resolutions and Ordinances – No third readings.

Second Readings

Resolution No. R-21-03, Amended

A Resolution Adopting the Plan under the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program Administered by the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board of Participation by "eligible employees" of the Village of Clinton, Summit County, Ohio, and Declaring it an Emergency.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to set aside the three-reading rule, second by Mr. Rash.

Roll call: McDaniel, no; Gensimore, Conroy, Rash, and Godwin voted yes. Five affirmative votes are needed to set aside the rules, so the motion fails.

First Readings

Ordinance No. O-21-04

An Ordinance Amending the Codified Ordinance, Section 120.02, Council Rules of the Administrative Code for the Village of Clinton, and Declaring it an Emergency.

New Business

Mrs. Gensimore said she smelled natural gas Saturday on Chippewa Avenue. She called Dominion and they came out. There was a significant leak in one area. They returned and repaired the main leak. They did not contact the mayor, office or street superintendent before performing the work, which is protocol. But this was a Saturday and no one was in the office and it was President's Day. Mrs. Gensimore sent an email to Dominion asking for clarification on what happened and going forward the Mayor and/or Street Superintendent is to be notified before our roads are opened up. As it was an emergency Mr. McDaniel understands the urgency to get it resolved but the Village should have known.

Council General Discussion: Mr. McDaniel said it will be the coldest day of the year tomorrow.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

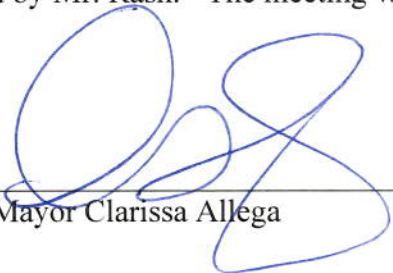
Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the purchase orders and bills, second by Mrs. Conroy.

Roll call: Gensimore, Goch, Conroy, Rash, Godwin, and McDaniel, all voted yes. Motion passes.

Motion was made by Mrs. Gensimore, second by Mr. Rash. The meeting was adjourned.



Leah Weirick, Village Fiscal Officer



Mayor Clarissa Allega



Bud McDaniel, President of Council