

Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Diane Gunter and those present.

Council Members present: Lewis Rash, Janice Godwin, Ellen Conroy, Marissa Gensimore, Kent Goch, and Matt Steiner.

Others Present: Tim Lawrence, President, Luna Lake Co., Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer; Kevin White, Street Commissioner/Superintendent; Jeff Ferjutz, Zoning Inspector; Diane Gunter, resident; New Franklin Police Officer.

Mr. Steiner motioned to amend the agenda and add Mr. Lawrence so he can address Council after approval of the minutes, second by Mr. Goch.

Roll call: Rash, Gensimore, Goch, Conroy, Godwin and Steiner voted yes. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Steiner made a motion to approve the minutes of June 20, 2023 as written, second by Mr. Rash.

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

(Police officer had to leave so spoke here)

Police Monthly Report – in packet.

The officer from New Franklin read his report for the month of June. Mrs. Gensimore questioned an item on the report regarding domestic violence and asked if the person responsible knew the people he broke into. She was told yes and responded that means the Village is not being targeted by a burglar. She also brought up how a lot of go carts running the Village without licenses and vehicles are not stopping at stop signs. There should be zero tolerances and she cited examples.

Tim Lawrence – Luna Lake

Luna Lake has an issue with geese control and is working with ODNR to resolve. They need to start hunting them and biologists say is the only way to control along with adding the eggs. This is compliant with the State. They will assess mid-summer and if the goose problem continues, hunting will start. He has talked to the game warden as well. New Franklin will be on board and letters sent out as a formality. A very limited number of professional duck hunters will be participating – a very controlled hunt. We will follow the Village Code and wanted to announce publicly the intentions of future control of the geese. Mayor McDaniel thanked Mr. Lawrence for bringing this to Council's attention.

Solicitor Monthly Report – No report.

Fire Chief Monthly Report – Report in the packet.

Street Commissioner Monthly Report

We got the new fuel tanks and they need wired in by the electrician. Paving was done on several streets/alleys and mowing was done throughout the Village. The salt shed was brought up and Mr. Goch indicated the person who was going to assist with this had a family issue. We need to get the transport of the barriers to the site. CUE has moved the date out for Clinton to take their remaining salt to December 31, 2023. By then we may not need to take anything. The County accepted making Clinton Road a county road. ODOT needs to approve and then other funding will be available.

Striping companies have been contacted regarding striping on Hickory Street. Mr. White will continue to work on this.

Zoning Inspector Quarterly Report

Mr. Ferjutz reported that 5 permits were approved - three were for residential builds. Six new houses have been built since last July. That's a great thing for the Village. People want to move here.

Four high grass notices were sent out and were complied with. There were a handful of repeat offenders that do not live here but he calls them and they do come out and cut the grass.

We had a demolition project on Hickory Street. It is not done. The owner will make the hillside look original.

The new owners of the OECA buildings are making great progress on the interiors. There are exterior projects that will have to go through zoning. Mr. Steiner feels that the Historical Society could have some input as well.

Mr. Ferjutz is working on some issues with council members and the mayor.

Fiscal Officer's Report – No report.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Steiner asked about the chemical/oil spill in the river. He assumed our fire chief was contacted. Mayor McDaniel said it was contained in Barberton, but Mrs. Gensimore heard there was a breach and was coming south. Mr. Steiner said we need to be proactive and stay on top of this. Mayor McDaniel said he will call Mayor Judge tomorrow.

Mayor's Communications

There is a "Helping Hands" 2023 raffle in September and he provided information if anyone was interested. He also said that in a few weeks there is a conference in Columbus, Ohio regarding 2023 State-Wide floodplain management. He provided information for that as well if anyone was interested in attending. Mrs. Gensimore asked who handles floodplain management for the Village. Our engineer may be the one who would handle these issues for the Village. Mr. Goch reminded everyone about the study that was being done about the flood gauges – many were involved and he asked if anything was going on with this. No one knew the status.

Mayor McDaniel said we are expecting a quote on the lighting outside of Village Hall.

Mayor McDaniel asked if the Village has road closure permits. Mr. Goch said it's something we just do. Mr. Ferjutz said Mrs. Gensimore was working on that.

Mayor McDaniel attended an event at the Akron Canton Airport and the Mayor of Green reported on the safety of round-a-bouts. This airport is growing and they are on 400 acres.

On June 15 he had a phone meeting about sewer updates. Septic systems are getting approved and if there are any issues, please let him know. Mr. Steiner asked about whether the health department is going to be doing more inspections to ensure compliance. We need more activity from the health department. The mayor will get a hold of them.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mrs. Gensimore said that Sue Mayberry reached out to her about a recommendation from our liability insurance company, USI. They questioned if there is a background check on driving records on employees who drive our vehicles. Since the fire chief is the head of that department, he should run the report for his drivers and the street superintendent should be done by administration. There is a \$5 dollar fee per record. It should be done once a year. Mr. Goch agreed with this process. Mrs. Gensimore will take this to the fire chief and Sue.

Mrs. Godwin said she is reconsidering her vote from the last council meeting - to change to the opposite. On Page 2, Mr. Steiner made a motion to rescind Ordinance No. O-23-02 (key policy to the street garage). On Page 3, the roll call vote, Conroy abstained, Steiner and Rash voted yes, Gensimore, Goch, and Godwin voted no. With the abstention going with the majority, the motion failed. Mrs. Godwin wants to change her vote to yes. Therefore, it passes as the abstention will go with the "Yes" votes.

Mr. Steiner reminded everyone that at the last meeting, Mrs. Vadas said if that were to be rescinded we would need to rescind the other motion clarifying the word "notify." It is a separate ordinance.

Mr. Steiner made a motion to rescind Ordinance No. O-23-15, second by Mr. Rash.

Mrs. Weirick clarified the reasoning of rescinding this one as well. Mr. Steiner added that by rescinding Ordinance No. O-23-02 and O-23-15, Ordinance No. O-19-11 remains as it was. No change.

Roll Call: Goch, no; Godwin, abstain; Conroy, no; Steiner, yes; Rash, yes; Gensimore, no. Motion fails. It was stated that this means we have an ordinance that references nothing.

Citizens Comments - No comments. Mayor McDaniel stated that Historical Society building is being repainted.

Resolutions and Ordinances – No readings.

New Business – No new business.

Council General Discussion

Mr. Rash said that because he is a veteran and cares deeply for those who have lost so much serving, he wanted to stress to the people of the Village and council about donating to the "Wounded Warrior Project." It is \$11 a month. They build special houses for veterans – those that may have no arms or legs. All of the money goes to the houses and furnishings.

Mrs. Gensimore said Mr. Steiner had reported on the property tax increase the county has planned for us. I have been saying for years that I feel the Village should look into seceding from Summit County and going into Stark County. She said she doesn't have all the pros and cons but has done some research. She wants to look at what we could do. Stark County does not do E-Check for one. Their property taxes are lower to start with. We would be able to get our rural rating back. Mr. Rash feels this would take a long time and should start with our attorney. Mayor McDaniel said it will be a ballot measure. Mrs. Gensimore said Village Officials need to start this by reaching out to Stark County. There is a lot to consider.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. Steiner stated this was an expensive month - \$238,000. We spent \$32,000 with OHM/Clinton Road, \$38,000 in paving on Third, Fourth and North. We spent less than a third of the total amount on our streets. We don't get enough for our streets. We spent \$91,000 on the police department – for two quarters.

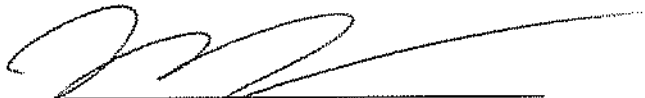
Mr. Steiner made a motion to approve the bills presented in the amount of \$238,000, second by Mr. Goch.

Mr. Rash asked about the Engineer, OHM. Mayor McDaniel said that is the engineering for the road - to increase the odds of getting the grants we need. And the County approved Clinton Road as a county road. Mrs. Weirick said now, we will be able to get Federal funding. The Village would still maintain. Next year we will do Clinton Road.


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

Mr. Rash made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 PM, and was seconded by Mr. Steiner.


Meeting was adjourned.



Mayor Bud McDaniel



Kent Goch, President of Council



Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer