

Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, November 9, 2023

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by DeAnna Jenkins and recited by those present.

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

Others Present: Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer; Jeff Ferjutz, Zoning Inspector; Solicitor Marshal Pitchford; DeAnna Jenkins, Joel Clark, Jake and Jared, and Ross Wymer, FD.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Goch made a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2023 as written, second by Mr. Rash.

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

Presentation: Mack Taff, Visual Edge IT

There were sound issues so the presentation didn't happen. Mr. Steiner shared with council about a presentation he sat through about IT security. The person we were using is no longer in business. Mrs. Gensimore also looked into an IT company as we need a new company and should not have an elected official doing it. She will reach out to this company to come in to council as well and give a presentation.

Solicitor Monthly Report – No report.

Police Monthly Report – No report. Will be at the next meeting.

Fire Chief Monthly Report

Chief Conroy could not be here but Ross Wymer spoke on his behalf regarding the fire department. Southeast won the bid on the new tanker. They met all the requirements the FD was looking for and will also serve as an engine also. The final cost was \$524,650. There is a 12 to 18 month turnaround time. The grant amount was around \$500,000.

Mrs. Gensimore thanked the fire department for their presence during Trick or Treat.

Street Commissioner Monthly Report

Mr. White reported that the new backhoe was received. It's at the garage if anyone wants to see it. Striping was done on Hickory and Second Avenue. He put 80 feet of pipe and catch basin in on West Comet Road. Also, some salting was done during the recent snow. However, we did not receive the grant for the new playground equipment but will reapply next year.

Mr. Rash brought up tar and chipping South Division and was advised the money was not available at this time for that as we are doing Clinton Road which is a cost of over 2 million. We do the roads as money is available. There are other roads as well that need repaired. Mr. Rash asked the attorney if we can get more money from the County, but was advised you would have to put on a levy to do more roads.

Mrs. Gensimore said this should go to a street committee meeting and discuss in detail. Mr. White said we established a program with the engineer as to what will be done in the next five years – what needs done first, second, and so on.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Sue Mayberry and Leah Weirick did training on the website today and will start updating soon.

Unfinished Business

Mayor McDaniel met with the gentleman from Visual Edge IT at Village Hall today and he is very well qualified but their method would not work with our bandwidth we have here. In one year with fiber broadband, it would be a good fit. Our system was installed in 2016 and it's time to get new equipment and we will see what happens.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor McDaniel advised the three draft letters regarding the Grade Crossing Elimination Program given to council to review need sent out and asked for approval to do so.

Mr. Rash made a motion authorizing the Mayor to send out the letters to the three designated Washington representatives, second by Mr. Goch.

Mrs. Gensimore said these letters do not commit the Village to do anything. Mayor McDaniel said this is a good first step. Mr. Steiner said 80% would be paid for and the Village would pay the rest and asked where are we going to get the 20%? This is no guarantee anything will happen. Solicitor Pitchford says per a recent Federal Law ruling, we can no longer fine the railroad for stopping on the tracks blocking the crossings.

Roll Call: Gensimore, no; Goch, Godwin, Conroy, Steiner and Rash voted yes. Motion passes.

Mayor McDaniel reported that he was at the Ohio Aerospace Institute for a meeting today. Michael Murphy spoke about pro soccer he wants to bring to Cleveland. They are looking for a place to build a training camp, but not close to here.

Tuesday was election day and Village Hall was packed. Mayor McDaniel spoke about Issue 2 passing and the ramifications. In Clinton, we have legislation that says you cannot build a dispensary. If you use, and want to buy a gun it is still a federal crime to have marijuana in your system.

NASA is planning to go back to the moon and Mayor McDaniel took a tour and saw several simulations.

He also heard that there are electric planes out there right now.

He met with Spectrum on the broadband and they are improving their networks and have programs for low-income housing for lower pricing.

There will be a candlelight vigil at the OVMP on Saturday.

Mayor McDaniel asked about the old fuel tanks and questioned what will be done with them. It was discussed about scraping or auctioning them. Solicitor Pitchford said to dispose we need to pass a resolution on the item and that it's obsolete, unneeded for municipal purposes and we can sell or take to a scrap yard. Sealed bids could be done, but not recommending that. Mrs. Gensimore asked if a community auctioned off anything like this. Maybe sell on GovDeals. Mr. White asked if you are going to auction them will the remainder of the fluid in the tanks need to be siphoned out? The scrap we have needs removed to make room for the excess salt we will be getting. A list will be made as to what we have to get rid of.

Mr. White said as of December 31, we have to acquire 200 tons of salt. We have no room but we can get tarps and put on the ground. A temporary shed made up of barriers can be done quickly as was previously discussed.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mr. Steiner sent records of proceeding of the last three Finance Committee meetings to members of council. He asked for approval of these minutes by the Finance Committee Members.

Mr. Steiner motioned for the minutes to be accepted, second by Mrs. Conroy.

Roll Call: Godwin, Steiner and Conroy voted yes.

Citizens Comments

Mr. Ferjutz introduced some individuals to Council. He was presented with an idea from them, and a plan was documented and given to council. No applications have been completed as more paperwork needs submitted and the Planning Commission needs to meet. Our engineer has been made aware as well as our solicitor. This is just a meet and greet.

Joel Clark explained what he wants to do with the property where the St. George church is located. His family bought it to ensure it is cared for. The land is not zoned for the business they want to put there. They are open to what council feels would be best and realize there would be variances needed.

Jake then addressed council and made comments on the concept they have in mind for this parcel. He indicated that the plans are for a landscape design business and the home base would be on this property. They will build a structure that is 100 x 60 to keep everything indoors. They also do snow removal and have bins for salt, mulch, gravel, etc. The property is 1.3 acres, approximately.

Mrs. Gensimore asked if this would develop into a business where many customers would be coming in and out shopping and buying things. She was advised that it will come down to what they are allowed to do. The church will be their administrative office and the new building for equipment and operational use. There will be a show room possibly in the church. Mrs. Gensimore said there will be a lot of hoops to go through on this. She advised that this needs to go before Zoning and Planning first.

Resolutions and Ordinances

No Second or Third Readings.

First Readings

Resolution No. R-23-24

A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign the July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 Summit County Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Job Creation and Tax Sharing, and Declaring an Emergency.

Resolution No. R-23-25

A Resolution Adopting the Annual Appropriations for the Current Expenses and other Expenditures of the Village for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024, and Declaring an Emergency.

Ordinance No. O-23-26

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. O-22-24, Establishing the Pay Rates for Certain Employees, Effective January 1, 2024, and Declaring an Emergency.

New Business – No new business.

Council General Discussion

Mr. Rash said on the 21st the donation program will take place at Village Hall. There will be turkeys available and other things and would welcome help from anyone who can.


Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. Steiner indicated the bills totaled \$150,554.89. The payment to OHM Advisors in the amount of \$24,000 was for the engineering of Clinton Road. We also made our last quarterly payment to New Franklin.

Mr. Goch made a motion to approve purchase orders and bills, second by Mr. Rash.

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


Mr. Rash made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 PM, and was seconded by Mrs. Gensimore. Meeting was adjourned.



Mayor Bud McDaniel



Kent Goch, President of Council



Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer