

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
of May 5, 2020**

Mayor Allega called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Louis Rash and recited by those present.

The following Village officials were present: Mayor Allega, Council members: Marissa Gensimore, Lewis Rash, Ellen Conroy, Bud McDaniel (live streamed in), and Jan Godwin. Kent Goch was absent.

Others Present: Leah Weirick, fiscal officer (live streamed in), Solicitor Marshal Pitchford (live streamed in), Fire Chief Conroy, and member of New Franklin PD.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to approve the April 7, 2020 council meeting minutes, second by Mrs. Conroy.

Roll call: Mrs. Gensimore, Mr. McDaniel, Mrs. Conroy, Mr. Rash, voted yes. Jan Godwin Abstained. Motion passed.

Solicitors Report: He had no report.

Police Report: The report is in the packet.

Fire Department Report: Mr. Conroy read his written report out loud.

Street Commissioner Report

Cleveland-Massillon Rd. was supposed to be closed but the gas line has not been moved yet. ODOT called and Deerfield will be closed between Warwick and Marshallville for 3-1/2 to 4 months as they are replacing the bridge on 21.

Village Hall lost electric to half of the building. A squirrel took out that part of the transformer and the electric company was called and electric was restored.

Mr. Siegenthaler received a call from a business owner about the railroad crossing at South First on other side of the tracks. When there is a train stopped there (switch station), that's the only in and only way out. It was suggested at South First and Second to extend the road if Corman would agree, we could get a road in and gate to be used for emergency only – a second way out. We only need to provide gravel. This will be looked into further and Corman will need contacted.

The tractor we use to mow grass along the road needs repair and he asked to get it to the Akron Tractor. Motor bolts need fixed as they are stripped. A hydraulic line broke last year as well. He is not sure how much it will cost to fix it. Mr. McDaniel agreed to get this done as he's looked at the mower. Mrs. Weirick said we will look into this

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion authorizing the street superintendent to get an estimate to repair the mower as discussed in an amount not to exceed \$6,000, second by Mr. Rash.

Roll call: Mrs. Gensimore, Mr. McDaniel, Mrs. Godwin, Mrs. Conroy, Mr. Rash, voted yes. Motion passed.

Mrs. Gensimore brought up summer help for the street superintendent. It wasn't budgeted for this year. There is a small amount (\$3,400) and an adjustment can be made if he needs the help. He gets 4 weeks of vacation and will take it and there is a freeze on till May 15. He is trying to work around projects that are going on. Mrs. Gensimore said this will be looked into as something needs to be done. We will look at the

applications we have on file and see if someone is still interested.

Mr. Rash asked if anyone was complaining about trees. He asked if he has driven through the Village with the zoning inspector and the answer was no.

Zoning Inspector Report – No report. Mayor Allega asked if anyone got a list of the new address citations he obtained and was supposed to provide. No one received a copy of the addresses. Mr. Pitchford was told to provide the legislation he was working on regarding assessments.

Mr. Rash asked the solicitor on the process of assessing properties. Mr. Pitchford will provide the legislation.

The Board of Zoning Appeals met via Zoom and the minutes will be transcribed.

Fiscal Officer's Report – No report.

Unfinished Business – None.

Mr. McDaniel will have a report on our new Domain names next month.

Mr. Pitchford asked if we had our new codified ordinances on the website yet. The link is posted on the website. It's the new Municode.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor Allega reported that a resident business qualified for a County COVID grant – Clinton Hardware. This is not a loan. The County has received its \$94 million dollar share of Cares Act Funding. It is not to be used for revenue replacement. It can be used for any non-budgeted expenses incurred due to COVID-19. We have a spreadsheet on what we spend at the Village as a result of the virus that is non-budgeted. The County EMA has disaster funds available as well but are more restricted. You have to have a certain threshold spent to apply.

Regarding property tax bills, the County fiscal officer is really pushing the Current Plus Program. If you cannot pay your bill when they come due in July, if you are current on your taxes, you can split that payment over three months with no interest.

The Census continues to progress and they are seeing good response rates. Our response rate in the Village is 61.3% - almost our 2010 response level. The census takers will be going out sometime in June and should get us higher than the 2010 response. Keep responding! The paper forms are out in the mail.

Phone calls are continuing with groups to obtain information as to what is going on with COVID-19 on updates and funding and other issues surrounding this pandemic. Some municipalities will not come out of this – some will fold. Residents need to appeal to the State call our representatives to get money to local government or change the Cares Act. Now is the time to contact your local congressman – we need Washington's help.

New Franklin submitted a quote for the new police contract - \$181,829.25 for a four-year contract. The number is higher than the prior number. They also gave us a price for a two-year contract in case we can't afford the other – there may be room for negotiations. Mayor Allega explained how New Franklin arrived at the numbers. Mr. Rash expressed his concern about this situation and how the increased cost is not acceptable to him. New Franklin dispatches our police and fire, and this new contract price includes dispatching services. Our current contract is just under \$127,000. There was more discussion on this issue among the council members and the Village will reach out to other entities, and an option is the sheriff and state police. We have time to get this sorted out and look at our options. The Safety Committee is scheduled to meet on May 19 and even though Village Hall is closed at this time, if this committee desires to meet, they can do so.

Mrs. Gensimore indicated the Historical Society cancelled the pancake breakfast. As far as the Memorial Day Parade, we have to follow the Governor's orders at this time, and is upsetting we cannot honor our veterans. She is looking into what we can legally do according to the guidelines – maybe a memorial/July 4th event.

Facebook Livestream stopped working and efforts to restart were successful.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mr. Rash asked about the land we had for sale. Can we put in on the market? Mr. McDaniel explained this was the three parcels of land the Village obtained through the Landbank. The front parcel is where two houses were. There were plans on what we were going to do with this land, and Mr. Pitchford said we could sell for fair market value. There are other things we can do and executive session would best serve this discussion. Mr. McDaniel suggested we put off discussion on this topic until we can begin to meet in person and have village hall open to the public. All agreed.

Mr. Rash updated council on the sewer issue. It's moving slowly but looks good. There is progress.

Mrs. Gensimore said she was working with Fire Chief Conroy on procedural issues and they worked through quite a few things to get a good job description working towards getting more information into the employee handbook. Our web service has the chief's email is up and running. Mrs. Gensimore and LEK worked on getting the other fire department personnel emails up and running as well.

Village closure signage is still an issue regarding the residents abiding by the signage.

Third Readings - None.

Second Readings

Ordinance No. O-20-05

An Ordinance Establishing Section 505.18 of the Codified Ordinances Regarding Unlawful Feeding of Feral Cats on Public and Unauthorized Properties, and Declaring an Emergency.

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

Roll call: Mrs. Gensimore, yes; Mr. McDaniel, no; Mrs. Conroy, yes; Mr. Rash, abstain; and Mrs. Godwin voted yes. Five affirmative votes needed. Motion to suspend the three-reading rule failed.

Ordinance No. O-20-07

An Ordinance Amending Codified Ordinance 0-19-11, Adopting Amended Policies for the Village of Clinton Full-Time and Part-Time Employees, and Declaring it an Emergency.

First Readings – None.

New Business - No new business.


General Discussion

Mrs. Gensimore asked about the status of the service garage camera. Mr. McDaniel said it is in stock and will be installed next week.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the purchase orders and bills, the second made by Mrs. Godwin. Roll call: Mr. Rash, Mr. McDaniel, Mrs. Conroy, Mrs. Godwin, and Mrs. Gensimore voted yes. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned.



Leah Weirick, Village Fiscal Officer



Mayor Allegra, Village Mayor



Bud McDaniel, President of Council