

Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
of July 7, 2020

Mayor Allega called the meeting to order on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Conroy and recited by those present. Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held using Zoom to live stream council members choosing to meet from home. Residents watched via Facebook Live.

Village officials present in Council Chambers: Mayor Allega, Council members: Marissa Gensimore, Lewis Rash, Kent Goch, Ellen Conroy, Bud McDaniel, and Jan Godwin.

Others Present: Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer; Wayne Conroy, Fire Chief; Street Supt., Terry Siegenthaler; Marshal Pitchford, Village Solicitor (zoom); and a New Franklin police officer.

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the June 19, 2020 council meeting minutes, second by Mrs. Conroy.

Roll call: Mr. Rash, yes; Mrs. Gensimore, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Godwin, yes; Mrs. Conroy, yes; Mr. Goch, yes. Motion passes.

Solicitors Report: No report.

Police Report: The report was read by a New Franklin police officer. Mrs. Gensimore brought up the issue of how bad speeding still is in the Village. She indicated there are spots they should sit that would perfect to catch speeders. The officer stated that when he is in the Village and speeders see his car, they will slow down, and he did not dispute her comments and agreed that Clinton Road is a major speeding problem. More discussion on this issue continued and officials shared their concerns and the officer noted all that was relayed and the officer stated they will help us anyway they can.

Fire Department Report: Chief Conroy read his report aloud to Council. He added that if anyone receives disgruntled calls from the media, wanting names, that would be a HIPPA violation. Names are not given out.

Street Commissioner Report: The sidewalk needs replaced where they put in the gas line and he will make a call to East Ohio Gas. A light fell off the building as well. The Second Avenue bridge has received complaints but County won't close while Deerfield is closed. South Cleveland-Massillon is soon to be paved. If we wait too long to do paving in Clinton, they will be booked by August with enough work and won't be able to do some projects we scheduled. We need to know how our finances are soon to get on the paving schedule.

Mr. Rash asked what the cost of paving S. Division, 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets. He was told \$28,315. He also asked how much we have received this year in gas tax. Mrs. Weirick advised that so far, \$33,000. This is for street maintenance, repair, salt, etc. We budgeted \$50K based on revenue, and the money has not come in yet. We budgeted based on revenue. Mrs. Weirick explained the process of how our funds work and how we are being careful of how the money is spent. The roads department costs \$200K to operate – not counting what it costs to pave roads. More discussion continued on the condition of roads in the Village and the money it takes to maintain them.

Zoning Inspector Report: No report.

Mayor Allega reported that Mr. Funk resigned and his city possessions have been returned. We posted the job opening and the applications will be reviewed by the HR committee.

Fiscal Officer's Report

HB 481 money came in for COVID expenses and we received \$ 54,360.06. What we don't spend has to go back to the County by October 26. The audit for 2018 and 2019 is finished and council was given a copy of the audit report. RITA will no longer prepare income tax returns in person. They have a drive-up service in their Brecksville location where you drop off your information and they will then send it back to you. Calls are coming into to Village hall about the Community Garage Sales.

Mr. Rash asked how much did we use of the COVID money. She said her high estimate is around \$8,000. We can use this money only for the current pandemic. We cannot stockpile supplies for future pandemics or a second spike in this one.

Unfinished Business

Mr. McDaniel reported on the camera system for broadcasting meetings. Mrs. Weirick said she contacted the group overseeing spending this COVID money and they approved the quote we sent them and the camera system would be covered.

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the purchase of the quote from AHECS for the Camera Equipment tying it to the fire station down there should we need a backup to broadcast there. (No second made at this time)

Mrs. Gensimore said, ethically, I think you need to remove yourself from this. (Small exchange between the Mayor and Bud). You do get paid for working with Eric on other occasions. (Bud interjected that he doesn't get paid for anything done for the Village). Mrs. Gensimore said I understand that, but I'm just trying to cover the Village for you. I will cite the example when we had the doors put in, the door put in on the vault and that kiosk put in there. I did not vote on hiring the person that did it. Ethically, and I asked Marshal about it, because my brother, on occasion, worked for that person. My brother was not going to work on this project, but because my brother did gain revenue or gainful employment from that individual it wasn't ethical for me to vote on that situation or be part of that. So, I'm just cautioning you that maybe you should apply the very same thing here so that can be no question.

Mayor Allega restated to Marshal Pitchford, who was on Zoom, the situation that was being talked about regarding AHEC. Bud occasionally works for this company and Mrs. Gensimore feels Mr. McDaniel should abstain from voting on this matter. Mr. Pitchford said the safe, easy way to go is to abstain on it – he's not saying it would be a violation if he participated in the vote – sit quiet.

Mrs. Weirick noticed this equipment is refurbished and we should get new as this will come from COVID funds. We are going to send money back so we should get new equipment. Mr. McDaniel will ask Eric to requote.

Mrs. Gensimore suggested we have Eric come in on Zoom to talk to Council and all agreed.

Mr. McDaniel also brought up the need to get a lap top or a tablet for the zoning inspector. He discussed the prices he received and what all came with the equipment. Leah Weirick will check with Verizon on a cell phone as well.

Regarding the purchase of a tablet or laptop for the zoning inspector, Mr. Rash asked if this is something we need or want? Mayor Allega said our former zoning inspector strongly suggested we get one for the next inspector.

Mr. McDaniel advised that the new Domain Name is up and running. Emails coming in to the old address will automatically go to the new name. Mrs. Gensimore stated the last time emails were changed she lost emails and contacts and wondered if that could happen again. Mayor Allega stated she didn't lose anything this time.

Mayor's Communications

Summit County partnered with the United Way and they are using \$6 Million of their CARES ACT funding for a rent/mortgage assistance program. The application period opened on July 6, 2020 until July 17, 2020. You must be a Summit County resident and your household income must be under 300% of the Federal poverty level. That is a huge amount of income they are letting an average household have to be eligible to apply. Most programs are 100%. Their website to apply is summitcountycares.org. This will be offered until the money runs out.

The Village's response rate for the 2020 CENSUS is at 66.6%. They are not out canvassing door to door yet. A hard copy was mailed, but it directs you to go online, and some do not use computers. We are one of the lower response rates in the County. This helps us get Federal money so the more who respond will benefit this Village. We could meet residents at Village hall and help them if they wish.

The County is still waiting on State guidance for use of CARES ACT funding.

Survey funding is coming from the Federal government to get the Army Corps approval to do the survey of the Tuscarawas River. This will help with the first step of flood mitigation. Mike Cunnington and Anthony Gonzales's office would like to address council of the progress on this funding at a future council meeting – zoom or in person depending on the guidelines.

Summit County Public Health did a community wide testing at the House of the Lord in Akron. There was a 4.5% positive COVID rate in the community. We may move into the RED level in a week or so. Summit County may make face masks mandatory if it does.

As of today, our application for CDBG funding goes to County Council for final approval in August. This will go towards our generator.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mrs. Gensimore reported that the HR Committee interviewed a gentleman for the zoning inspector position. His name is Jeff Ferjutz and has been a zoning inspector for 4 years and it is the recommendation of the HR Committee to Council that we hire Mr. Ferjutz as our new zoning

inspector. He will work 4 hours per week.

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion that Council vote to approve that recommendation, second by Mr. Rash.

Roll Call: Gensimore, McDaniel, Godwin, Conroy, Goch, and Rash all voted Yes. Motion passed.

His will start very soon.

Mayor Joe Schultz called Mrs. Gensimore that the Community Newsletter will go to the publisher by August 1. Articles will be needed by July 27 from Village officials if they have something they want in the newsletter. Sadly, the Applefest is cancelled.

Community Yard Sales are normally the 3rd Saturday in July. It was decided after consulting with the solicitor during the meeting that the Village will not officially advertise for yard sales, however, residents if they choose to have one at their place of residence, are welcome to do so.

Mr. Rash spoke with Mike Weant about the sewer status. He said it still looks like a go but they are still waiting to hear from Stark County.

Mr. Rash asked how behind is the Village on income tax collections. The answer was \$55,000. Once in August she will know where we really stand.

Resolutions and Ordinances - No third or second readings.

First Readings

Resolution No. R-20-13

A Resolution Authorizing All Actions Necessary to Accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2020 Energized Community Grant.

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

Roll Call: McDaniel, Godwin, Conroy, Goch, Rash and Gensimore, all voted Yes. Motion passed.

Mrs. Gensimore made motion to adopt, second by Mrs. Godwin.

Roll Call: Godwin, Conroy, Goch, Rash, Gensimore, and McDaniel, all voted Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution No. R-20-14

A Resolution Amending the Annual Appropriations for the Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2020, and Declaring an Emergency.

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

Roll Call: Conroy, Godwin, McDaniel, Gensimore, Rash, and Goch, all voted Yes. Motion passed.

Mrs. Gensimore made motion to adopt, second by Mr. Goch. This is the appropriations for the CARES ACT funds.

Roll Call: Godwin, McDaniel, Gensimore, Rash, Goch and Conroy, all voted Yes. Motion passed.

New Business

Mrs. Gensimore made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Contract with Infinite Reality to continue our web service, second by Mrs. Conroy.

Mr. McDaniel has received a slow response to a request he made to Infinite Reality and ended up changing himself. He expects better responsiveness.

Roll Call: Gensimore, Rash, Goch, Conroy, Godwin and McDaniel, all voted Yes. Motion passed.

Council General Discussion

Mr. Rash said the telephone pole has been replaced and it looks great. The one by the fire station was addressed as well.

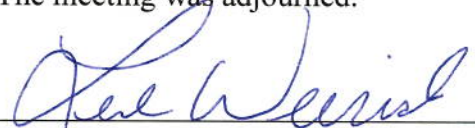
Mrs. Gensimore said that she witnessed a tree fall at a restaurant and if the table beneath had anyone at it, they would be dead. Our trees in the Village need to be looked at.

Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

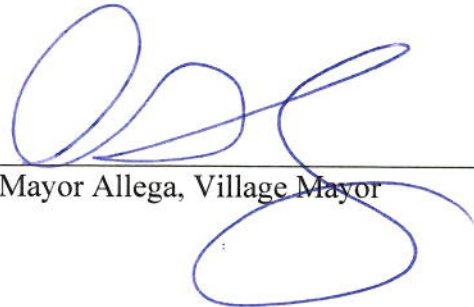
Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the purchase orders and bills, by Mrs. Conroy.

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

The meeting was adjourned.



Leah Weirick, Village Fiscal Officer



Mayor Allegra, Village Mayor



Bud McDaniel, President of Council