

Village of Clinton
Council Minutes
May 6, 2019

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

Members Present were President Doris Kemner, Carl Habrick, Larry Sines, Joe Orban, Bonnie Peters, Greg Michalak and Kevin Kelly.

Motion was made by Sines and seconded by Peters to approve the April 1, 2019 regular minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tamara Forro expressed concern regarding last month's Citizens Input on the limited use of the Community Center. She said they had 199 rentals in 2017 and 206 in 2018. President Pro-Tem Habrick asked what portion were regular rentals and which were non-profit annual rentals. Ms. Forro stated she has a breakdown of the rentals at the office and will get back with council.

Motion was made by Habrick and seconded by Kelly to approve the checks written for the period ending April 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Sines and seconded by Kelly to approve seven 2018 Senior Citizen Rebates in the amount of \$2,053.99. Motion carried unanimously.

The public hearing to discuss water and sewer rates opened at 7:15 pm.

An overview was provided by the Village Manager on the proposed water and sewer rate increases. The Village water and sewer sales have declined over the years with the loss of industry but the Village still needs to bring in enough revenue to maintain the systems. The Village has prepared 20-year Capital Improvement Plans and six-year budgets for the water and sewer funds.

The Village was not able to find a cost effective, low iron source of water near the well house. The Village therefore constructed an iron removal plant to treat the water from wells two and four. In about three years the outside of the water tower will need to be painted for an estimated cost of \$110,000, to prolong the life of the tank.

The Village's sewer plant treatment processes require pumps, motors, computers and other equipment to clean the waste water. The Village has recently spent over \$188,000 to perform preventative maintenance or replace some of those components that were at the end of their useful life. The Village needs to generate adequate revenue to pay for the operation, maintenance, staffing and debt service on the treatment plant.

The public hearing closed at 7:21 pm.

Motion was made by Michalak and seconded by Peters to adopt Resolution Number 2019-06 to amend the water & sewer rates. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Peters and seconded by Orban to purchase a new police vehicle for an estimated cost of \$43,384. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed the remaining abandoned Railroad Property, and a request by the property owners at 205 Litchfield (Jeff & Sandy Miller) to purchase a section of the property. The Village will work out the details and bring documents back to Council for final approval.

The Village Manager gave an update on the Village's Electric Energy and Capacity. The Village will ask Mr. Paul Beckhusen, General Manager, MSCPA, to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the Village's options. The Village is waiting on the engineer to provide more detail and will revisit the discussion for a decision by October 2019. President Pro-Tem Habrick commented on his concern with Hydro Electric and the environmental impact of Hydro Electric dams.

Motion was made by Sines and seconded by Habrick to approve Resolution Number 2019-07 to become an associate member of the Michigan Public Power Agency. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed the request by Police Chief Cuevas to establish a Department Awards Program, comprised of members of the Council to act as an independent review board. The Council President, President Pro-Tem and the Village Manager will be assigned to the Board of Awards.

Motion was made by Michalak and seconded by Kelly to approve the establishment of the Clinton Police Departments Awards Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed the Community Center Rezoning Request and Planning Commission's opposition to the use of the PMU code. The Planning Commission discussed different ways to address the request, without negatively impacting the community.

Motion was made by Sines and seconded by Orban to deny the Community Center's rezoning request from R2 Medium Residential to PMU based on the Planning Commission's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

Council would like the Village Manager to prepare the draft ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission to address the Community Center's request.

Council was updated on the Smith-Kimball Community Center's use of tax payer dollars for legal fees in seeking direction on the roles and responsibilities of the Board's functions.

Council was updated on the resignation of the Smith-Kimball Community Center President.

Motion was made by Sines and seconded by Orban to authorize the execution of the South Alley Project Easement Agreement, subject to final amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Habrick and seconded by Peters to receive and file the Council information packet. Motion carried unanimously.

The following comments were from Council: Carl Habrick asked for the status on the sand boxes at Tate Park, and if they are still in use. Bonnie Peters was supportive of the HEROS Motorcycle run which has planned stops at Veteran's Memorial Park. She would like to publicly thank Mrs. Patty Butzke for maintaining the Brown Street Parking lot flower gardens which look beautiful.

President Doris Kemner extended on behalf of Council her condolences to Mr. Kevin Cornish on the passing of his father. She thanked Police Officer Hillard and Matt Dorr who helped with the Sunset Drive flooding. The Village is working on measures to help reduce water flow into that area.

Motion was made by Orban and seconded by Peters to go into closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, to discuss an Attorney Client Communication. Motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Closed session started at 8:44 pm.

Motion was made by Habrick and seconded by Orban to go into open session. Motion carried unanimously. Open session started at 9:20 pm.

Motion was made by Habrick and seconded by Sines to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Jennifer Adams, Village Clerk

Date