

Clinton Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting

July 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

The Following board members answered Roll Call Trustee Jim Distel, Trustee William McKinney, and Fiscal Officer Steve Welter.

Guests: Jeff Hohman, Dennis Kingseed, Andy Kimmet, Chris Hafley, Ray Bishop, Dan Schmitz, and Rob Chappell.

Trustee Distel asked everyone to recite the pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Kuhn entered the meeting.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on June 29th 2026 were read and approved.

Correspondence

Fiscal Officer Welter reported receiving an email from a Morgan Metzger from Seneca County Conservation District with their newsletter information. It was forwarded it on to the trustees. We received an email that from Ohio Means Jobs. The road worker ad we had in for thirty days has expired. We received another estimate from A&D Excavating, that was forwarded on to the trustees. We received an email from Julie Atkins about the budget. A reminder that the twenty twenty-seven budgets, excluding school districts, must be filed with Senate County Auditor's office no later than Monday, August 17th, 2026. In addition, beginning August the first, the Budget Commission certificates will no longer be distributed by mail. Instead, they will be sent electronically. We also received an email from road worker Andy about some road lengths for the issue one project. The Trustees were copied on that email We also received an email from a gentleman in Montreal, Georgia requesting patches from the department or organization. Fiscal Officer Welter reported sending a copy of the 2027 Budget to the Trustees for them to look over.

Tiffin Fire Chief Rob Chappell gave a report on responses for Clinton Township and brought a new contract for the 2027, 2028 year for the trustees to review. Chief Chapel reported that they had 398 responses in the Clinton Township for 2024. In 2025 they had 493. Chief Chappell reported that for 2025 the contract was for twenty-two thousand dollars for EMS services. When he first become chief six years ago, Trustee Baugher came to our office. We had a conversation with then the administrator, Dale Thornton, and he had mentioned, that typically, the contract was always based on about one hundred dollar per incident cost. And we discussed at that time how one hundred dollars per call really doesn't pay for our people rolling out of the station anymore. But you know, we're, we're willing to work and try to keep it close to that. So, with the 25 call volume based off the \$42,000.00, worked out to \$85.00 per incident. In 2026 that increased to \$44,000.00. We've had 295 responses so far this year into the township, which would set a pace for about 550 calls. If that holds true, then we'd be looking at about \$80.00 per incident. With all the talk going on with the future of property taxes and everything, I have been in communication with the city administration, we're not looking to make our bank off of Clinton Township for the, services we provide. We're happy to do it. We enjoy the interaction

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that we have with the volunteer fire department and everything and helping out at the scene. So, what we're proposing is a new two-year contract locked in at fifty thousand for each of those two years. That would still be based on what the expected call volume would be, only about ninety dollars per incident. But again, there's too many things that are kind of uncertain with what the future of property taxes. We don't want to put the township in some sort of financial hardship by trying to push that number too high, too fast. It's something we can always revisit in the future as the situation dictates. I'm happy to say right now our services continue to be very strong. We have thirty-two of our forty firefighters that are certified as paramedics. We have two additional in the school right now that should be finishing up here by the end of summer, and five more that are going to be enrolled.

Dennis Kingseed asked if the City makes money from insurance claims from residents. Chief Chappel reported that they do bill insurance when they are able. It has been shown that even private ambulance services do not survive without some sort of subsidy. Chief Chapple reported with the passage of the Affordable Care Act, it really changed a lot of the rules of the game and how ambulance companies, especially the private ones of course, were able to collect revenues back from, Medicare, Medicaid, etc. Private health insurance followed right along with that. So yeah, I mean we pretty much lose money on every call we respond to and then go on the calls where you treat but don't transport. A diabetic person, for example, we start an IV, we give them their medication to bring their blood sugar back up. We're there with them for, you know, twenty, twenty-five minutes maybe, and then they're like, "Oh, I feel better now. I don't want to go to the hospital," and we just pack up and leave. But we may be used seventy-five dollars in supplies on that call, and we can't recoup any of that. The state, and the government, well, I should say federal government, does not allow for us to bill any time we do not transport a patient. So, it's a give and take, and it's a crapshoot. But at the end of the day, it's about providing good service to our citizens and making sure that they're taken care of when they need it. Dan Schmitz thanked Chief Chappel for what they do for Clinton Township. Chief Chappel gave a copy of the new contract to Fiscal Officer Welter and then left the meeting.

Chief Hafley reported that for 2026 as of July 11th they have had 343 runs. In 2025 as of July 11th that had 260 runs. Up 83 runs from last year an increase of 28%. Trustee Distel asked why is that. Chief Hafley said he does not know why it is up but it is up nationwide. What we do at Seneca County is something I've been looking at here, because it does cost us to send a guy out to an EMS call. What's worse yet is we go out to an EMS call, they get there, and Tiffin gets their blood sugar up, and they say, I don't want to go to the hospital. So, what we can do on motor vehicle crashes, we can charge them a response fee, two hundred dollars. It will help cover our man power expenses. But, there again, we have to come up with a process on how we're, going to bill it. Do we run it through a billing company? In Seneca County, we charge for anytime we're on the scene, you refuse, you get a two-hundred-dollar bill. I look at all the bills through the billing company. When they send it, I have to approve every one of them, and I read them. Every run report, I've got eighty-six to read now that I was on vacation last week.

If the squad pulled up, the people of the accident or whatever said, I'm good. I don't need any help, and they don't perform any function, other than talk to them, I'll disregard that bill.

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But if we take them to the back of the squad and they're complaining of chest pain or something like that, we'll put them on our cardiac monitor and stuff like that, and then they refuse, they're going to get a two-hundred-dollar bill. A lot of people get upset about it, but we just used about thirty-five dollars' worth of equipment, and disposable supplies on them. But there are a lot of refusals. And that's across the board all over the nation. Everyone's having the same thing over and over again.

Trustee Distel said so you're thinking about doing this in our department? Chief Hafley said yes, he is also thinking about charging for reinspection. He said there have been a number of times where they have to go back on inspections several times to make sure something has been corrected. He said any fees would have to be passed as a resolution by the Trustees. Chief Hafley said he has to talk to the other inspectors yet.

Dan Schmitz reported that the two properties that we have been having issues with were looking pretty bad again. Township Road 130 and Township Road 122. Trustee Distel reported that Township Road 122 property attorney called him and said all of the vehicles were plated and running. Dan Schmitz reported that the property on Township Road 130 looks like it has not been mowed at all this year.

Trustee Distel made a motion 2026-07-1 to declare the property a nuisance. Trustee McKinney seconded. Trustee Kuhn Y, Trustee Distel Y, Trustee McKinney Y. Motion carried.

Dennis Kingseed said he agreed with Chief Hafley that we should be sending invoices for late inspections and Ambulance Runs. Discussion was held on the number of calls the department has and the type of calls.

Zoning Inspector Hohman asked if a Tiny House is ok. He said he did not see any minimum dimension for a house in the zoning code. It was determined that there was no minimum dimension in the zoning code. It was mentioned that they would still have to go through the usual approvals with the health department for septic approval.

Road worker Andy reported that the driveway on Township Road 132 was completed. Road worker Andy explained some of the information on the estimates from A&D Excavating.

Trustee McKinney said he has not received the information for the road salt. He said he has contacted another salt vendor that will be sending him information.

Trustee McKinney asked if we needed to talk about the revised estimates for the issue one project. Trustee Distel said that was just to let us know that the bill was going to be higher than what the Engineers estimates came in at. Trustee McKinney asked about Township Road 15 and the berm washing out. Road worker Andy said that he did go out and scraped the berm so it would not be higher than the road.

Trustee McKinney asked what they wanted to do about the Estimates from A&D. Discussion was held on the estimates from A&D. Trustee Distel said that the crossover has to be done and Township Road 130 has to be done. Trustee McKinney made a motion to accept the estimates from A&D. Trustee Kuhn seconded. Trustee Kuhn Y, Trustee Distel Y, Trustee McKinney Y. Motion carried.

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Trustee Distel asked about the Safety Council that we joined to save on workers compensation. He said we are paying \$360 for the year to save on Workers compensation fees. He asked if we still need Sedgwick since their fee is higher and what are we paying in Workers Compensation fees. Fiscal Officer Welter reported that we paid \$3,953.00 in 2024, 2025 we paid \$5,027.00, this year we paid \$4,221.00, Discussion was held on our current group rating and the Safety council being separate. Discussion was held on wither Zoning Inspector Hohman can represent us and his business. He will inquire with them.

Trustee Distel asked when the Issue one road estimates have to be turned in. Fiscal Officer Welter reported that the email said estimates have to be turned in to the engineers office by July 31, 2026, and then we have to have the actual application has to be turned in by September 18th.

Trustee Distel reported that he went down to the recorder's office, and got printouts of the setbacks, so to make sure what we had is actual, and it is recorded as the twenty-foot, fifteen-foot-wide drainage easement and the utility easement. So that is all stamped and registered at the recorder's office, so I can call those Honey Creek people and have them come and just have those printouts here to show them.

Trustee Distel reported that he and Zoning Inspector Hohman reported that they meet with the prosecutor on July 9th to discuss the zoning meeting that Mr. Jeff Stockner was at. One thing that Mr. Stockner questioned was Mr. Distel asking if they would be using local builders and Derek said that he could. You have to ask to know if you want to back them in the recommendation letter. Mr. Stockner said that Mr. Distel should not have signed a letter as township trustee and put it in the residence mail boxes that I did not have the other trustees permission. Mr. Devine said that I probably could have found a better way to do it. I am not allowed to use the mail boxes unless it is mailed. He said he could write a letter and do anything you want to inform the public of what I feel is in the best interest of the public. Mr. Devine said that I could not share that information with the other trustees outside of a meeting. Mr. Devine said that with regards to the signs that Mr. Distel did not put up himself there is nothing wrong with that but it could be perceived as an ethical thing. Mr. Devine said that he did not need to recuse himself from the meeting. He also said that when he told Aaron Smith he could not speak because he was not an attorney was not correct. It a public meeting anyone can speak. Trustee Kuhn said no matter what would have happened there is no way you could have changed anything. Zoning inspector Hohman said that the zoning board only approves on what was presented on the application. The Trustees have the right to make adjustments.

Trustee Kuhn said he had to remove a tree branch from a road form the storm. Trustee Kuhn asked about this years Issue one roads. It was pointed out that the bids have not been awarded yet.

It was determined to look at the issue one roads for next year at the next meeting. Along with the budget that was sent out.

The following bills were presented to be paid:

		OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT	
154-2026	6/30/26	SYSTEM	\$12.70
155-2026	7/13/26	AT & T (Long Distance Sve)	\$47.93

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156-2026	7/13/26	Turco & Sons	\$58.00
157-2026	7/6/26	AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO	\$21.00
158-2026	7/6/26	Culligan of Tiffin	\$86.75
159-2026	7/7/26	TREASURER OF STATE OF OHIO	\$481.14
160-2026	7/7/26	Ohio Deferred Compensation	\$1,090.46
161-2026	7/8/26	COLONIAL LIFE	\$132.20
162-2026	7/8/26	EFTPS	\$2,294.09
		OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT	
164-2026	7/8/26	SYSTEM	\$2,606.68
14312	7/13/26	JAMES K. DISTEL	\$0.00
14313	7/13/26	ANDREW W KIMMET	\$1,603.36
14314	7/13/26	Randy D Kuhn	\$1,027.57
14315	7/13/26	WILLIAM D MCKINNEY	\$1,003.31
14316	7/13/26	JOHN M SCHUMACHER	\$580.79
14317	7/13/26	Stephen E Welter	\$1,627.25
14318	7/13/26	LOWE'S	\$77.10
14319	7/13/26	LOYAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	\$49.80
14320	7/13/26	CITY OF TIFFIN	\$22,000.00
14321	7/13/26	Heidelberg Materials Midwest Agg, Inc.	\$226.10
14322	7/13/26	O'Reilly Auto Parts	\$22.99
14323	7/13/26	KUHN SALES & SERVICE	\$9.87
14324	7/13/26	SENECA CO. EMA	\$610.00
14325	7/13/26	TIFFIN FARMERS CO-OP	\$38.50
TOTAL			\$35,707.59

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Trustee Distel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m., seconded by Trustee Kuhn, Mr. Kuhn – Y, Mr. Mr. Distel, Mr. McKinney Y. motion carried.

Randy Kuhn, Ch., Trustee

Jim Distel, Trustee

William McKinney, Trustee

Steve Welter, Fiscal Officer