

Village of Clifton Council Meeting
October 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alex Bieri. Roll call was as follows:

Ken Hensley	present	Ruth Rohrbacher	present
Paula Lazorski	present	A. Satariano, Jr.	present
Rob Moses	present	Robbie Tate	late

Also present were Christin Zerby-Leckey and John McDonald.

The minutes from the September meeting were approved following a motion from Lazorski, second from Satariano, and all members present voting aye. The September Financial Report was accepted unanimously following a motion by Lazorski and second from Moses. Payment of the bills was approved unanimously following a motion by Lazorski, and second by Rohrbacher.

Christin Zerby-Leckey, Opera House Manager, and John McDonald, volunteer at the Opera House, presented some proposals for future functioning of the Opera House and the performances. After studying a number of similar facilities in the region, they have made the following suggestions: In 2018 shows will take place mostly on Saturday evenings with some \$5 Friday nights and a Holiday Series. They would like to look into the possibility of including some wine tastings. Providing a dance floor would be appreciated by patrons. Lighting and equipment improvements should continue. They will focus a lot more time on marketing. Council was in favor of these ideas. In addition, John sought Council's permission for several things: to introduce himself as a volunteer/representative of the Opera House, to contact various organizations to have the Opera House listed among regional Opera Houses, to pursue grants and other resources to fund Opera House improvement projects, and to create email accounts, owned by the Village, dedicated to Opera House business and research. He plans to develop a database including information from continued research into regional facilities similar to our Opera House. Lazorski moved to grant permission for these activities. Hensley seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Advice will be sought as to whether there is a liability concern.

In Old Business:

In Village Repairs:

The electrician will soon begin the work needed to upgrade the **Opera House lighting**, etc. The Opera House **gutter** has been re-aligned. Windows damaged by the water run-off now need to be repaired. Hensley has been working to reinforce the wood on the **ramp**. Then it will be cleaned and covered with a sealer/stain.

The **holes** in the school yard should be filled in soon.

Repair of the **cement** pad in front of the **Fire Station** has been completed. The Senior Citizens are concerned about mold and air quality in the **Senior Center**. Council will look into solving this problem, possibly by doing work on the **chimney**. Repairs also will be made to the **fascia** and **gutters** on that building. Hensley moved to appropriate \$1,000 for these two projects. Rohrbacher seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

The **garage** was organized after the festival. There is now a sign-out sheet for anyone wishing to borrow items from the garage. Council members can be contacted for this. In addition, a council member must be contacted before any additional items are placed in the garage.

In Other Old Business:

Council will look into repairing the street by the new cement at the Firehouse and whether some of the **streets** can have cracks sealed with tar.

The removal of some dead **trees** is being planned.

Mayor Bieri reported on the meeting of the **Planning Commission**. The owner of the property at **88 High Street** has made sufficient progress on the property that no further issues need to be currently addressed. However, the Commissioners will keep an eye on the property. The property at **164 North Street** still has debris from demolition of the structure. The owner was expected at tonight's meeting, but is not present. Council believes he has been given sufficient time to remove the debris. Mayor Bieri will send him a written notice giving him 30 days to remove the debris. If it is not done, the Village will remove the debris and bill the owner for the expense. Rohrbacher moved to appropriate \$500 to hire out the work to be done. Tate seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

The Planning Commission examined the ordinances introduced last month concerning grass/weeds and litter/junk/junk cars. Some adjustments were suggested. Satariano moved to waive the tree readings for both ordinances. Lazorski seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor. Satariano moved to approve **Ordinance #17-10-01 dealing with Grass and Weeds**. Hensley seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Lazorski moved to approve **Ordinance #17-10-02 dealing with Litter, Junk, and Junk Cars**. Satariano seconded the motion and all members voted aye. These ordinances will be posted for ten days before they are enforced. Council is still looking at language in ordinances dealing with **chickens** and with **marijuana dispensaries** in the county.

In New Business:

After additional discussion and research, Council decided to deal with the **vacancies** that will occur at the end of the year by allowing Mayor Bieri to appoint council members after 30 days of vacancy at a postponed January business meeting to be held on February 1st. Those interested in being seated on Council will be asked to notify Mayor Bieri before that time. According to the Greene County Auditor, **temporary appropriations** can be passed to cover January 2018 expenses at the December 2017 meeting.

Mayor Bieri introduced Resolution **#17-10-03** in support of the **Yellow Springs Clifton Connector Trail**. Satariano moved to support this endeavor and to appropriate \$3,000 towards an engineering feasibility study. Rohrbacher seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

The Village Solicitor has been studying the Village **Charter** and Village ordinances. She has suggested that the Council look into revising the Charter and codifying the Ordinances. Council will begin a review of the Charter and will look at possibly asking a law school to make this a class project.

Lazorski moved to appropriate \$100 to publish another edition of the Village **Newsletter**. Satariano seconded the motion and all members voted aye.

Beggars Night was scheduled for Tuesday, October 31st. Notices will be posted. The Old Timers have offered help with the hayride.

In Special Projects Business:

Clifton **Calendars** are still available.

Some border plants have been purchase and will soon be planted at the **Clifton Garden Park**. It was suggested that the old "No **Parking**" signs be replaced with one allowing 2 hour parking. Council will get permission from the Fire department. Plans are in progress for a mural on the Firehouse wall.

The **Special Projects Committee** will meet in January or February to begin plans for the **2018 Festival**. As there was no further business, Satariano moved to close the meeting. Lazorski seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.