

January 2, 1945

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Clifton was called to order by the Mayor at the Council Hall at 8 p.m., with the following members present:

Mr. J. B. Cross, Mayor Mr. Maurice Davis, Councilman
Mr. Elmer Ayre, Councilman Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk
Mr. J. A. Vernon, Town Sargeant

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Clerk and duly approved.

Mayor Cross presented the resignation of Mr. Vernon as Town Sargeant effective as of the first of December last, due to removal of his residence to Fairfax. It was moved and seconded that this resignation be accepted with regret. Carried.

The Mayor reported that the recent street improvements had been inspected with the contractor and the work being satisfactory the down payment has been forwarded to him; balance of payment is due June 1, 1945.

Following bills ~~was~~ presented and duly approved for payment:

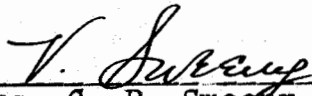
Town lighting, December \$30.00

The Mayor reported that there were two applicants for the post of Town Sargeant, Mr. Bryan Walton and Mr. Clint Ambler. Mr. Walton being present at this time was presented to the Council. After a short discussion the Mayor appointed Mr. Walton to fill the vacant position. The secretary was instructed to provide the new Sargeant with a regulation police billy; handcuffs, badge and gun were turned over to him by the retiring Sargeant.

The question of having periodic trash collections for a small fee was discussed, and action on this matter left for later decision.

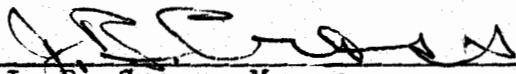
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Town Clerk

Approved:



J. B. Cross, Mayor

February 6, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Clifton convened at 8 p.m. at the Council Hall, with the mayor in the chair and the following members present:

Hon. James B. Cross, Mayor	Maurice Davis, Councilman
Elmer Ayre, Councilman	Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk
J. Beasley, Street Comm.	
Mrs. Wickliffe Buckley, Treas.	

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly approved.

Following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

Town lighting	\$30.00	
Town Sargeant	<u>10.00</u>	\$40.00

The problem of formation of a Committee to Aid Returning Servicemen was taken up; membership and duties of such a body were discussed, and the mayor was asked to invite membership on the body, report to be made to the Statewide organization when the membership had been settled.


The Treasurer inquired what action should be taken in several cases of delinquent taxes, and it was arranged that these people should be contacted by the mayor. Following treasurer's report was accepted:

Balance on hand January 1 . . .	\$1763.80
Taxes collected during January	89.91
Disbursements for January	<u>\$1032.00</u>

Balance on hand February 1, 1945 \$821.59

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it stood adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



 Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:



 James B. Cross, Mayor

March 6, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va., was convened by ~~the~~ Mayor at 8 p.m. in ~~the~~ Council Hall, with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor
Elmer Ayre, Councilman
J. Beasley, St. Comm.

Mrs. Wickliffe Buckley, Treas.
~~Mr.~~ Maurice Davis, Councilman
Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

The clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved as read.

The following bills were duly approved for payment:

Town lighting, February	\$30.00
Town sergeant, February	10.00

The Mayor announced the appointment of Carl Ambler and John Gunther as members of the Clifton Veterans' Rehabilitation Committee; the mayor will act as honorary chairman of this body.

It was announced that hearings would be held on revision of the state, county and municipal tax structures ~~of~~ this state on March 14, 10 a.m., at the Alexandria Courthouse.

The necessity for surfacing some roads and opening ditches was discussed.

A plan to hold a town meeting in order to encourage civic pride and the demolition of unsightly structures, was also discussed.

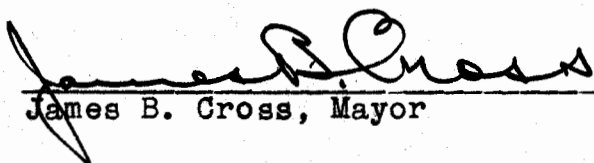
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:



James B. Cross, Mayor

April 3, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va., was called to order by the Mayor at 8:15 p.m., with the following members present at the Council Hall:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor
Elmer Ayre, Councilman
J. Beasley, St. Comm.

Mr. M. Davis, Councilman
Mrs. W. Buckley, Treasurer
Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk
B. Walton, Town Sergeant

Minutes of previous meeting were approved as read by the Clerk.

The following bills were duly approved for payment:

Town lighting, March	\$30.00
Town Sergeant, March	10.00

The Mayor read a letter from the State listing the surplus commodities which would shortly become available for purchase by municipalities.

April 12 and 13 were designated Spring Clean-Up Days; notices will be circulated immediately. Because of the shortage of labor, a truck has been donated by Mr. Frank Gray, and work will be done by members of the Council who have volunteered for this duty.

It was announced that the week of April 23 to 28 has been declared Citizenship Week for Fairfax County, during which time citizens are asked to encourage registration of all qualified voters. The month of May will be Statewide Citizenship Month; there will be a rally at the Fairfax Courthouse on May 20, at which Gov. Darden will present certificates of citizenship to all voters coming of age in 1945. April 24 there will be an election of delegates to the State Convention to amend the Virginia Constitution.

There was some discussion of the problem of keeping culverts open at points where closed by driveways; It was suggested that the Town Sergeant be hired to clean ditches and haul away the dirt. It was decided that members of the Council should meet with the T.S. to inspect all ditches and arrive at an estimate of the cost involved.

Treasurer reported as follows: Balance on hand, March \$808.21
Taxes collected 11.59

Balance on hand April 1 \$819.80

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Sweeney

Mrs. C. P. Sweeney, Clerk

Approved:

J. B. Cross

J. B. Cross, Mayor

May 3, 1945

The regular meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va. was called to order at the Council Hall at 8:00 p.m. by the Mayor, with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor	M. Davis, Councilman
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.	Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk
B. Walton, Town Sergeant	

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The mayor announced that a survey by councilmen showed that the cleaning of drainage ditches in the corporation would require several weeks, and use of a dump truck. It was decided to contact several men having such equipment.

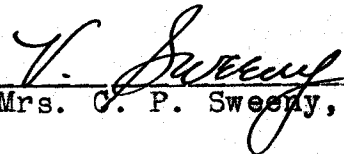
The Department of Highways in Richmond has requested a map of the town and pertinent facts regarding the corporation and its environs. The planning commissions of all municipalities are invited to attend a meeting May 11 at Alexandria.

Following bills were presented and duly authorized for payment:

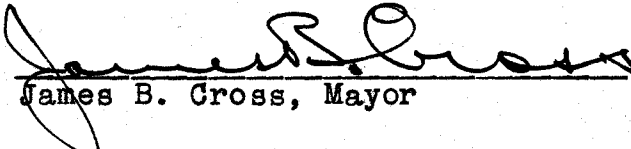
Truck hire for clean-up day	\$4.00	
Unloading and spreading cinders	57.75	
Town lighting, April	30.00	
Town sergeant, April	10.00	\$97.75

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it stood adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:


James B. Cross, Mayor

June 15, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va., was called to order by the mayor at 8 p.m. at the Council Hall, with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.
Elmer Ayre, Councilman

M. Davis, Councilman
Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Minutes of the May meeting were read by the Clerk and approved.

The mayor announced that he had not been able to obtain a satisfactory map of the whole corporation, and the Clerk was instructed to inquire of the County Surveyor whether such work could be undertaken by his office.

The following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

Town Lighting, May	\$30.00	
Town Sergeant, May	10.00	
Final payment to Carper Bros.	<u>261.00</u>	\$301.00

The mayor was appointed to see the Town Sergeant and outline his full duties, so that he might be fully informed of these.

It was decided to contact Mr. Smith again relative to the possibility of the ~~XXXX~~ County improving the drainage ditches on the county road adjacent to the Taylor property; the corporation does not have machinery needed to do this work.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Beasley be authorized to arrange for mowing of sidings in the corporation. Motion carried.


Consideration was given to the amended electrical ordinances to go into effect in the County on July 1; it was decided that no vote would be taken ratifying this action until the next meeting, and that the County Electrical Inspector be asked to attend that meeting and give further explanation and details of the changes.

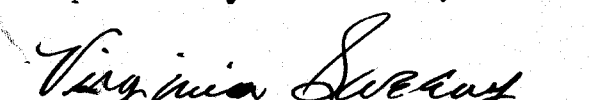
It was announced that the WPB had given permission for the erection of a freezer plant at Manassas under management of the Prince William Electric Cooperative, and that complete processing and storage facilities are expected to become available within sixty to ninety days.

There being no further business to come under advisement the meeting stood adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:


James B. Cross, Mayor


Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

SHORT SKETCH OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE TOWN OF CLIFTON

The present Corporation of Clifton, Virginia, is situated on land owned originally by William Beckwith, well known freeholder of the Federal period. At his death most of this estate was will to his many slaves, and through sale part of it came into the hands of the Otis and Hetzel families, of New York and Louisiana respectively; the remainder was long held by the Harris family, colored, legatees of Billy Beckwith.

The oldest remaining building in this vicinity is said to be a part of the present home of Mrs. Clara Tumor, colored, on Church Street, which was one of the log dwellings on the Harris property. Two other very old buildings still remain in a portion of the house on School Street owned by Mrs. Iona Koontz, which was once a school, and part of the rebuilt Clifton Hotel, north of the Southern Railroad tracks on the Centreville Road.

It was in the 1880's that Harrison Otis built this hotel, which he contemplated called "Devereau", but later decided to call "Clifton" after his native town in New York State. The Clifton Hotel became a popular and fashionable resort for New Yorkers, and later gave its name to the settlement which grew up in the vicinity.

Both congregations now active in the town were established during the 1870's, the Clifton Presbyterian Church being built on the slope northwest of the railroad, and the Clifton Baptist Church being built on Main Street on land donated by George Tillet (the present building was rebuilt on the same sight).

Acacia Masonic Lodge, chartered in 1877, is the second oldest lodge in the county, having been organized during the period of Masonic expansion after the Civil War, following the Henry lodge of Fairfax (founded 1868):

When the town became a station on the Southern Railroad and the post office was moved there from its old location at Union Mills, the town expanded gradually. In 1902, at the suggestion of Commonwealth Attorney Vernon Ford, leading businessman applied for a charter of incorporation from the state, and the first Council meeting was held April 7 of that year. Mayor R. R. Buckley presided, and councilmen M. M. Payne, A. J. Kidwell, J. B. Cross (father of the present mayor), and Lewis Quigg, were sworn into office by Justice of the Peace A. W. Robinson. R. M. Kivett and W. H. Mathers were elected Town Sergeants and sworn into office, also.

Among the licensed businesses appearing on the first assessment list are: R. M. Kivett, Butcher; J. L. Fristoe, General Merchandise; S. H. Detwiler, Livery; M. M. Payne, General Merchandise; Southern Railway Express; Western Union Telegraph Co.; F. G. Mayhugh, Bar; and Buckley Brothers, General Merchandise.

The year of 1903 was started off with a bang by the building of a new lockup, costing \$12.75--a far cry from the new Council Hall now in use for official business--which had the misfortune to be burnt down onedark night by a lady tramp. During this same year the Council apointed a committee to stake off land for a school and estimate operating expenses. This first school in the Corporation was situated on the lot next to the present resident of the Elgins on Main Street. It continued to house the grammar school and two years of high school until the present school was erected in 1915 on the hill north of the Railroad.

In March 1938 the Virginia General Assembly reapproved the charter of the Town of Clifton, establishing the present system of government with a mayor and five councilmen elected bannially, and Town Sergeant and other necessary officials appointed by the mayor and council.

J. Dickey
May 1945

June 20, 1945

A special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Clifton was called to order by the Mayor at 8 p.m. at the Council Hall with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.
Elmer Ayre, Councilman

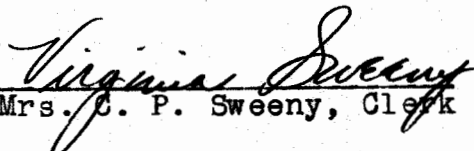
Mrs. Wickliffe Buckley, Treas.
M. Davis, Councilman
Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

This special meeting was convened to talk over with the Fairfax County Electrical Inspector, Mr. Sagendorf, details of the new amended county electrical ordinance which is due to go into effect July 1; it would be desirable to have this ordinance approved by all municipalities.

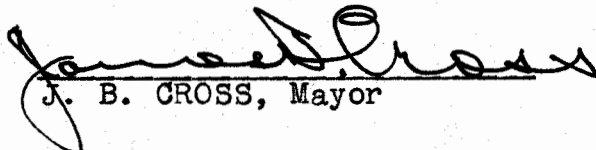
After discussion of the various details involved in enforcement by the county, it was decided to delay action until the July meeting in order that copy of the ordinance might be posted in the corporation. Mr. Sagendorf was also asked to inquire of the Commonwealth Attorney, Mr. Marsh, whether it is necessary to advertize such an ordinance before approval by the Town Council.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:


J. B. CROSS, Mayor

July 6, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton was called to order by the mayor at 8:30 p.m. at the Council Hall with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, mayor	Mrs. Wickliffe Buckley, Treas.
Elmer Ayre, Councilman	M. Davis, Councilman
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.	Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk
B. Walton, Town Sergeant	

Minutes of the regular June meeting and of special meeting of June 20 were read by the Clerk and approved without correction.

The mayor announced that the County Engineer has already fixed mainroad ditches as requested, and that sidings are in process of being mowed. The electrical inspector has not yet reported on final form of amended electrical ordinance.

Following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

Town lighting, June	\$30.00	
Town sergeant, June	<u>10.00</u>	\$40.00

Council members were requested to discourage bicycle riding on the sidewalks whenever possible.

A request was placed before the Council to assist financially in improvement of the Popes Head Baptizing Hole for use as a public swimming pool. It was decided that this would have to be a private enterprise, and it was advised that Commonwealth Attorney and property owners be consulted, as well as the Health Department.

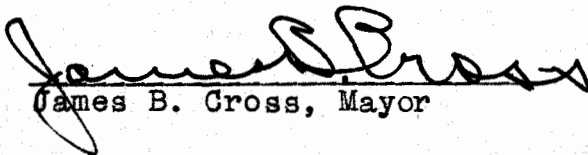
Due to the current expenditures on roads and sidings the Town Sergeant agreed to act for the balance of the tax year for the sum of \$5 per month. It was also suggested that the Town Sergeant report any infringement of red lights at railroad crossing to the railroad authorities.

Short Sketch of the Background of the Corporation of Clifton, as furnished recently for inclusion in Fairfax County history being compiled by Fairfax High School students, was read.

There being no further business before the meeting, it stood adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:


James B. Cross, Mayor


Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

August 7, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton was held in the Council Hall at 8 p.m. with the Mayor presiding. The following members were present:

James B. Cross, Mayor
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.

Mrs. W. Buckley, Treasurer
M. Davis, Councilman

Following bills were presented and approved for payment:

Town lighting, July	\$30.00
Town sergeant, July	5.00

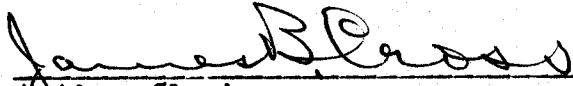
Mr. Beasley mentioned that Mr. Earl Mathers was violating the Town ordinance concerning raising hogs within the town limits. Council suggested that the Mayor investigate the matter, and if conditions were found as reported, take necessary action.

Mr. Beasley was authorized to employ labor to have ~~weeds~~ mowed on the streets.

The Mayor mentioned that the premises around the Ice Cream Parlor were becoming littered with ice cream cups and other trash that should be cleaned up; he agreed to take necessary action to see that the appearance of the property would be kept as neat as possible.

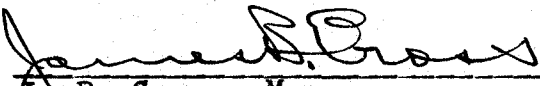
Nothing further coming before the council the meeting stood adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Acting Clerk

Approved:



J. B. Cross, Mayor

September 4, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va., was called to order by the Mayor in the ~~Council Hall~~ ^{home of Mr. Beasley,} at 8 p.m., with the following members present:

J. B. Cross, Mayor	Mrs. W. Buckley, Treasurer
Elmer Ayre, Councilman	M. Davis, Councilman
J. Beasley, St. Comm'r.	Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

The Clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved as read.

Following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

Town lighting, August	\$30.00
Emlen Bryant, mowing	11.75
Town sergeant, August	5.00

Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$ 370.30.

The Mayor reported that the hogs had been removed from Mathers property, and that trash had been cleaned up around Sinclair's.

It was suggested that the clerk write to the Prince William Electric Cooperative asking how soon it would be possible to complete installation of new lighting fixtures in the Corporation.


It was suggested that the State Engineer be asked to trim the roadsides between Clifton and Centreville.

The Council decided to inquire of Carper Bros. an estimate on cost of work needed on streets and ditches.

~~Was requested to frame an ordinance~~


There being no further business to come before the meeting, it stood adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:



J. B. Cross, Mayor

October 2, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of Clifton, Va., was called to order by the Mayor at 8 p.m. at the home of Councilman Beasley, with the following members present:

Hon. J. B. Cross, Mayor	Mrs. W. Buckley, Treasurer
Elmer Ayre, Councilman	M. Davis, Councilman
St. Comm. J. Beasley	Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The mayor reported that Carper Bros. could not do necessary street repair work; also that the electric fixtures and three new street lights had been installed by the Prince William Cooperative, and that another light was needed on Harris Street; the roadsides have been mowed between Clifton and Centreville; also tax assessment statements have been received.

The treasurer reported as follows:

September balance on hand	\$323.55
Taxes collected	26.50
ABC check	<u>529.49</u>
Balance on hand October 1 . . .	\$879.54

Following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

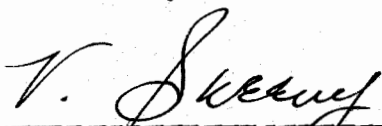
Street lighting, Sept.	\$30.00
Town Sergeant, Sept.	5.00

It was decided to meet on Thursday evening October 4 to make out tax bills for the corporation.

There was a discussion of means of pushing completion of Route #29 from Manassas to Annandale, which would pass through Clifton, Fairfax Station and Burke by way of the Newman Road. It was decided that representatives of the Council should meet with Mr. Gothwaite of Manassas to discuss methods of procedure and possibilities of a public meeting including citizens of these three towns.

There being no further business on hand the meeting stood adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mrs. C. P. Sweeny, Clerk

Approved:



J. B. CROSS, MAYOR

November 6th, 1945.

The regular meeting of the Clifton Town Council was held at the home of Mr. Joseph Beasley at 8:00 P.M. with all members present except the clerk, Mrs. Virginia Sweeney.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved as read, a general discussion of the possibility of opening the ditches was held, also the repair of the holes in roadway maintained by the State. The Mayor offered to interview Mr. Smith, the County Resident Engineer, and request him to have repairs made as soon as he could arrange same.

The Council decided to meet on the street leading to the Presbyterian Church to make plans to repair same.

Treasurers report:

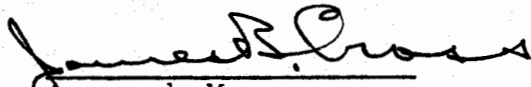
Balance on hand Oct. 1st.	\$879.54
Expenditures - - - - -	35.00
Taxes collected - - - - -	229.50
Balance - - - - -	<u>-\$1074.04</u>

Mr. Beasley was authorized to hire someone to clean out ditches.

The following bills were presented and duly approved for payment:

Street Lighting for October 1945	- - -	\$30.00
Town Sergeants salary " "	- - -	5.00
Postage for Treasurer	- - -	5.00
		<u>\$40.00</u>

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.


Approved: Mayor


Acting Clerk

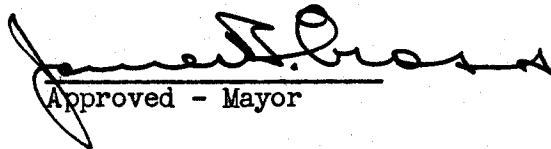
December 4th, 1945.

~~NOTE:~~

The regular meeting of the Clifton Town Council to be held this date was postponed until the regular meeting date in January by order of the Mayor, due to the Flu and Cold epidemic.

The regular monthly bills were ordered paid by the Mayor, which were as follows:

Street lighting for November 1945	\$30.00
Town Sergeant salary " "	5.00
Extra Officer for Halloween "	2.00
	<hr/>
	\$37.00


Approved - Mayor