

**TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE  
#1211-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON IN HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY DESIGNATING “APGAR LANE” AS THE OFFICIAL NAME FOR A DEAD-END GRAVEL ROAD THAT RUNS IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION FROM COKESBURY-CALIFON ROAD TO THE COMMON PROPERTY CORNERS OF BLOCK 11, LOTS 3, 4, 5 & 7 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON**

**WHEREAS**, in an unpublished opinion entered December 14, 2014 in the matter entitled *Francis R. Synder a/k/a Frank Snyder v. Estate of Robert Benson, et al.*, in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Special Civil Part, Hunterdon County, Docket No: HNT-DC-2003-13 (the “Court Decision”), the court determined that an old road that runs in a southwesterly direction from Cokesbury Califon Road to a grass strip that must be crossed to get to Highbridge-Cokesbury Road, and that has been referred to as “old Cokesbury-Califon Road or old Highbridge-Cokesbury Road and at the northeastern end as Apgar Lane” [Court Decision, p. 3] (the “Old Road”) is a public road. The court further found that the Old Road dates back to the 1800s; that there is no record of the Old Road being dedicated to the Township, it having been established prior to the Township being founded; and that the Old Road had never been vacated; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 12, 2015, the Mayor and Council adopted Ordinance No. 1071-15, which vacated and abandoned all public rights and easements in that portion of the Old Road that begins at the common property corners of Lots 3, 4, 5 and 7 in Block 11 on the Clinton Township Tax Maps (conditions rev. as of 2015) (“Tax Maps”) approximately 1,269 feet from Cokesbury Califon Road and runs from there in a southwesterly direction to the Old Road’s terminus (the beginning point of the vacation is marked on Exhibit A, attached herewith and made part hereof, as “Common Property Corners of Block 11, Lots 3, 4, 5 & 7,” and is also marked on the excerpt from the Tax Maps attached herewith and made part hereof as Exhibit B as the “Common Property Corners of Block 11, Lots 3, 4, 5 & 7.”), with the exception any stormwater rights-of-way crossing the premises, and privileges currently possessed by public utilities and/or cable television companies, if any, to maintain, repair and replace existing facilities in, adjacent to, and over or under the portion of the Old Road being vacated; and

**WHEREAS**, the portion of the Old Road between Cokesbury-Califon Road and the common property corners of Block 11, Lots 3,4,5 and 7 remains a public right-of-way; and

**WHEREAS**, this public portion of the Old Road has historically been referred to informally as “Apgar Lane,” but has never officially been named as such; and

**WHEREAS**, formally establishing a name for this portion of the Old Road is needed for emergency services and is in the best interests of the public and the residents whose properties front on the road; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40:67-1k expressly authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances that “[p]rovide for the naming and changing of streets and highways, and erection thereon of signs, showing the names thereof, and guideposts for travelers”;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The findings set forth in the preamble to this ordinance are hereby incorporated as if restated in full.

**SECTION 2.** Pursuant to the authority set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:67-1k, the ±33-foot-wide dead end right-of-way that runs in a southwesterly direction from Califon-Cokesbury Road to the common property corners of the parcels designated as Block 11, Lots 3, 4, 5 & 7 on the Clinton Township tax maps is hereby named and shall henceforth be known as “Apgar Lane.”

**SECTION 3.** At least one week prior to the date of the public hearing, the Acting Township Clerk shall send a notice of the public hearing via regular mail or personal service, together with a copy of the within ordinance, to the record owners of the properties designated as Block 11, Lots 3, 4, 7, 7.01, 27, and 28 on the Township tax maps.

**SECTION 4.** Following the adoption of this ordinance, the Township shall install signage in appropriate locations displaying the name of the road.

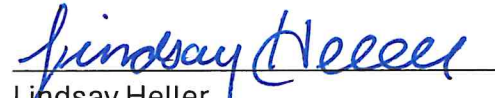
**SECTION 5.** Following the adoption of this ordinance, the Acting Township Clerk shall cause a signed and certified copy of the ordinance to be provided to the following:

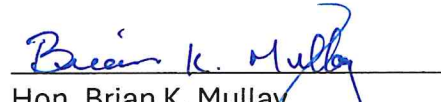
- The record owners of the properties designated as Block 11, Lots 3, 4, 7, 7.01, 27, and 28 on the Clinton Township tax maps
- The Township Tax Assessor
- The Director of the Township’s Department of Public Works
- The Chief of the Clinton Township Police Department
- The Chief of the Clinton Township Fire Department
- The Chief of South Branch Emergency Services
- Such other individuals or entities as deemed necessary or appropriate.

**SECTION 6.** All ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies only.

**SECTION 7.** If any paragraph, section, subsection, sentence, sentence clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision of such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining paragraphs or sections hereof.

**SECTION 8.** This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after final passage in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:69A-181.

  
Lindsay Heller  
Acting Township Clerk

  
Hon. Brian K. Mullay  
Mayor

Introduced: May 28, 2025  
Public hearing: June 11, 2025  
Adopted: June 11, 2025

The foregoing ordinance was introduced on first reading at the May 28, 2025 meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton. It will be further considered for final passage following a public hearing thereon to be held on **June 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**, on the third floor of the Clinton Township Public Safety Building, 1370 Route 31 North, Annandale, NJ 08801, at which time and place anyone from the public wishing to be heard will be permitted to ask questions or offer comments regarding the ordinance. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting and public hearing, copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost during regular business hours in the Office of the Township Clerk for members of the public who shall request a copy of same. The ordinance will also be available on the Township's website at <https://clintontwpnj.gov>.

The purpose of the ordinance is to establish "Apgar Lane" as the name of a currently un-named dead-end gravel road that runs in a southwesterly direction from Cokesbury-Califon Road toward County Route 639.