

Mayor Schaumburg called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Insel, Kovach, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mayor Schaumburg read the following statement: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided, indicating the time and place of the meeting and the proposed agenda, which notice was posted, made available to newspapers, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Clinton in accordance with Section 3(d) of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the minutes of January 10, 2006 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the Tax Collector is and Treasurer’s Reports for the month of December as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Whitney Wetherill, West Main Street, questioned the procedure for commenting on agenda items. Public Comment is early on the agenda and some matters of concern take place during the meeting. Mr. Cushing explained that the Town of Clinton has always had an open policy and people with concerns may speak up at any time during the meeting.

Patty Hatalla, 35 Spruce Run Road, and Town of Clinton Web Mistress, encouraged everyone to sign on to the Town web site “Resident Notification” feature to receive updates via email.

Fire Chief, Tim Langston, discussed the meeting with the contractor regarding the renovations to the Fire Department. Will have construction figures for the Council budget meeting of February 2, or the next Council meeting, February 14, 2006. Pre-construction meeting scheduled for January 31 to review the specifications of the new truck. Communications complaints are being registered with Communications in Cherryville. Any complaints should be forwarded to Councilwoman Garber.

Todd Pender, Center Street, asked if the 1932 Hunt’s Mill stone on the current Halstead Bridge would be preserved? Mr. Cutter said he will make an inquiry to the County prior to construction.

MAYORS COMMENTS

1. American Heart Association is encouraging “Wear Red Day” on February 3, 2006 to encourage heart awareness.
2. Pat Goehle, Chair of the Shade Tree Commission, has recommended the appointment of Kitty Colognato to the Commission. Mayor Schaumburg accepted the recommendation and named Ms. Colognato to the position.

DEP COMMISSIONER- BRADLEY CAMPBELL

At a recent meeting, Councilwoman Kovach recommended to Council that Bradley Campbell be invited to attend a Council meeting and be presented with a proclamation for his assistance in the Town of Clinton’s award of a \$914,000 grant. The grant monies are to be used for the reconstruction of the Dam and Dike along the South Branch. Mr. Campbell attended this evening’s meeting and graciously accepted the Proclamation. Mr. Campbell wished to thank everyone especially the hard work of Mayor Schaumburg and Mrs. Kovach for bringing the attention of DEP to the matter. Mr. Campbell stated it was a bi-partisan effort which included the efforts of former Mayor, Matthew Holt, and said the project result was the work of great partners.

RESOLUTION #33-06 – ENGINEERING SERVICES

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to adopt Resolution #33-06 authorizing Robert Clerico, the Municipal Engineer, to prepare Requests for Proposals for engineering services to evaluate the steps necessary to rehabilitate the Clinton Dam and Dike.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

RESOLUTION #34-06 - DEER MEADOW PUMP STATION

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt Resolution #34-06 authorizing a Sewer Agreement with Clinton Township Sewer Authority regarding the use of the Deer Meadow Pump Station. Mr. Cutter gave a brief explanation of the properties along Route 31 and Moebus Place that are interested in connecting to the Deer Meadow Pump Station.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

KATHLEEN OLSEN

Mayor Schaumburg introduced Kathleen Olsen who will be hired as Chief Financial Officer on March 1, 2006 to work with CFO for a month and will be appointed CFO on April 1, 2006. Ms. Olsen will be filling the position upon the March 31, 2006 retirement of Nancy E. Smith, who has been employed by the Town of Clinton for 31 years as of January 15, 2006. A motion to approve the hiring and appointment of Kathleen Olsen was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Kovach.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #06-02 – INDEX RATE

Present legislation allows a municipal operating budget to increase by 2.5% for those appropriations within “CAP”. Other allowed increases will be granted for new construction. The Town of Clinton is allowed an additional 1.0% in increased appropriations within “CAP” if an index rate ordinance is passed. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber to adopt Ordinance #06-02 on first reading as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

The Ordinance will be published in the February 1, 2006 edition of the Hunterdon Review. The second reading and public hearing will be held February 14, 2006.

(A copy of this Ordinance is attached to these minutes)

HALSTEAD AGREEMENT

Mr. Cutter gave a brief overview of the reconstruction project planned for the Halstead Bridge. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Agreement for the Reconstruction of County Bridge N-2 located on Halstead Street with the County of Hunterdon.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Council is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Hoyte Baucom, resigning from the Environmental Commission and a letter of resignation from Chris Lindsay, resigning from the Board of Adjustment. A motion to accept these letters of resignation with regrets was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. De Cleene.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. A letter from the Clinton Fire Department requesting the Town of Clinton waive the permit fees for the renovations of their building. The total amount of fees that can be waived total \$2,411.00. Ms. Wetherhill questioned the amount of fees. Mayor Schaumburg read the letter from the Fire Department. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to waive the fees as requested.

ROLL CALL: De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Insel, Kovach, Ragozine, Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

3. A letter of appreciation has been received from the Law Offices of Burton and Thatcher thanking the Town for their quick response to the replacement of a street sign at the corner of Route 31 and Moebus Place. The letter has been forwarded to Mr. Cutter and the Road Committee.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**Councilman Harrison**

1. SWAC – Next meeting scheduled for February, the exact date was not available.

Councilwoman Kovach

1. The New Jersey Highlands Council is co-sponsor of Main Street New Jersey's Downtown Revitalization Institute. Through the Highland's co-sponsorship, representatives from each Highlands Municipality may attend the seminars. This offer is available to business owners and residents as well.
2. The Highlands Council is also looking for a new Executive Director to replace Adam Zelner. Mr. Zelner has been appointed to be the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.
3. Reminder to purchase a ticket in the "Partners in Education Big Bell Raffle" for Clinton Public School. Half of the amount raised will be distributed in prizes, half will be used for educational grants to teachers within Clinton Public School. The drawing is February 24, 2006, Talent Night at the School.

Councilman De Cleene

1. Rescue Squad - A list of the new officers has been received, the Clerk was directed to copy Mayor and Council.
2. Mr. De Cleene asked for a moment of silence for Bob Milligan, former employee of the Town and long standing member of the Rescue Squad.

Clerk Covino

1. Board of Health – report that the Annual Rabies Clinic held January 14, 2006 administered 210 shots to dogs and cats. Mr. Harrison complimented the Clerk and staff hosting the clinic for having it run smoothly.

Councilwoman Garber

1. Parks and Playgrounds will host their annual Senior Luncheon at the Clinton Rescue Squad on Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m.
2. Clinton Guild will be hosting Sweetheart Week, running from February 7 through February 14 with a drawing to be held February 18, 2006.
The new officers of the Guild have been elected: Richard Urmston, President; Harvey Finkel, Vice President; Barbara Peters, Treasurer, Walter Hetzel, Recording Secretary; Marjorie Nathanson, Recording Secretary and new Board members: Linda Johnson, Bob Rittleman, Arnie Larson, and Anna Schwartz.
3. Newsletter deadline February 10, 2006. Please submit articles to Tony Hatalla and Nancy Burgess.
4. United Way will be nominating Frank Hooper for an award for all his dedication to the Clinton Christmas Parade. Ceremony will take place April 21, 2006 at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

Nancy E. Smith, CFO

1. Mrs. Smith distributed to Council the Certificate of Determination and Award of a Bond Anticipation Note which has been sold to PNC Bank, N.A., East Brunswick, New Jersey at the price of \$1,060,000.00 and an interest rate of 3.55% payable at maturity. A copy of this document is attached.

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Beams have been ordered for the Pony Truss Bridge, Main Street. Beams should be in place within the next few weeks.
2. Appointment scheduled for meeting with prospective developers of the Route 173 Wargo Tract.
3. Attending a Grant Workshop Wednesday, January 25, 2006.
4. Mr. Cutter explained a Water Agreement between the Town of Clinton and Bull N' Bear Enterprises, LLC. Mr. Cutter is asking for Council to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Agreement which will allow for the Developer to construct certain improvements to the water lines and to accommodate the extension to service "Country Square Plaza II". A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Harrison, authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign said agreement.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

(Please note Attorney Cushing removed himself from discussion due to a conflict of interest)

Mayor Schaumburg

Mayor Schaumburg introduced Caroline Conboy of Brown and Brown Insurance Company. Ms. Conboy is our new Insurance Agent and Risk Manager for 2006.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the attached overtime and standby pay for the period of December 29, 2005 to January 11, 2006.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mayor Schaumburg, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Contract Negotiations at 8:05 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to come out of Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to appoint Arlene Quinones-Perez as the Alternate #2 member of the Board of Adjustment and moved Steve Feldmann into the permanent position, replacing Chris Lindsay. Michael Penyak will move into Alternate #1 position. A suggestion was made to amend the policy to reflect the automatic appointment of an Alternate member to a permanent position when it becomes available.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Kovach to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

Christine Schaumburg , Mayor