

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Christenson, De Cleene, Garber, Kovach, Pendergast, Schaumburg, Holt

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mayor Holt 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

Mayor Holt had a correction to the minutes of July 12, 2005, #1 under the Mayor’s Comments. The overall tax rate in the Town has dropped from \$2.69 per hundred in 2004 to \$2.44 in 2005. The percentage of the Town’s portion dropped from 21% to just over 19%. A motion was made by Mr. Christenson, seconded by Mrs. Kovach, to approve the minutes of July 12, 2005 as amended.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Kovach, to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held July 13, 2005.

Vote all ayes
2 Abstentions (Garber, Pendergast)
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Kozel, 4 Helen Road, commended the Town on a great web site but asked if minutes and agendas could be more promptly displayed. It was explained that minutes must be approved at the following meeting before being displayed. An attempt will be made to have agendas posted in a more timely manner preceding meetings. Mr. Kozel continued and asked questions regarding taxes and stated that his went up \$1,000.00 this year. He stated that he saw an recent newspaper article and that \$22,000,000 went out from the State for tax relief, did the Town of Clinton receive any? Yes, and was later explained by Auditor William Colantano, that the Town of Clinton is very careful about spending and is considered high income district. Therefore, the Town is “punished for being so wise” and does not receive much State aid. Mayor Holt explained the tax breakdown as he has over recent months, that the Town’s portion did not go up and the Town is only responsible for approximately 20%, the rest going to local and regional schools, County and library tax.

Mr. Kozel then asked for an update on water restrictions and the mandatory conservation plan. Mr. Cutter explained the 12 month mandatory plan with odd/even days, as part of the Town’s requirement for owning the Water Company. The water restrictions are more of a pre-cautionary measure.

Nora Klippstein, Clinton Knolls, believes in conserving water but read that other Towns are not required to do so.

Patrick McGuire, 94 Center Street, commented on the proposed third high school on the Milligan Farm in Union Township. Mr. McGuire's concerns are the traffic and being located in such close proximity to a correctional institution.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Police Chief Matheis is requesting that Patrolman Ryan Garbolino be taken off probationary status and advanced to the next pay grade of 4th Class Patrolman with an annual salary of \$41,560.00 effective on July 19, 2005. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. A letter of resignation has been received from Michael F. Cobb, retiring from his position of Road Foreman after 27 years. Mayor Holt wished him well.

2004 ANNUAL AUDIT

Auditor William Colantano presented Council and members of the audience with a summary of the 2004 Annual Audit. Mr. Colantano explained the three main operating components, the Current Account, Water and Sewer Accounts and a comparison schedule of fund balances comprised of the last 10 years. Mr. Colantano asked if anyone had any questions, there were none. A motion was made by Mrs. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Christenson, to accept the Annual Audit for 2004 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #79-05 –SUPPORT OF STATE FUNDING FOR ALCOTEST 7110MK III-C

Discussed at the Council meeting of July 12, 2005, a letter was sent to Senator Leonard Lance requesting State funding for the State mandated use of Alcotest 7110 MK III-C. The current breathalyzer will no longer be capable of being used to measure blood alcohol after October, 2005 and all municipalities will be required to purchase the Alcotest at a cost of approximately \$13,000. Attorney Cushing prepared Resolution #79-05 at the request of Mrs. Schaumburg and will be forwarded to the Acting Governor, members of the State Legislature and municipalities. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #79-05 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #80-05 – TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND

A motion was made by Mr. Christenson, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #80-05 supporting the renewal of the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund and increased dedication for local aid.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #81-05 – APPOINTMENT OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Kovach, to adopt Resolution #81-05 appointing Tood E. Horowitz, P.E. and Raymond J. Tully, P.E. of Melick-Tully and Associates, P.C. to serve as Geotechnical Engineers for the Town of Clinton, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment during the year 2005.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mrs. Schaumburg commented that the Town of Clinton does not have a Carbonate and Limestone Ordinance in place. Mrs. Schaumburg suggested the Town consider such an ordinance. Currently, the Township of Clinton and the Borough of Lebanon have such an ordinance, a copy will be requested from them.

SIGN ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Robert Ragozine, Chairman of the Sign Committee, has been studying the present Sign Ordinance along with several others from Hunterdon municipalities. Mr. Ragozine has questions for Attorney Cushing regarding the enforcement of the present ordinance. Is the Zoning Officer able to enforce this ordinance as well as the Police? Presently, the ordinance is not being enforced, Mr. Ragozine stated, and is encouraging Council to act on the enforcement issue. After a brief discussion, it was decided that a letter to be sent to all temporary sign offenders to either remove the signs or obtain a permit.

Dena Pender, Clinton Canoe and Kayak, explained that she has two sandwich signs displayed in the parking lot behind her store. One for daily parking in the lot for Rylak & Gianos customers, the second is for weekends, customer parking for the Canoe Shop. Mrs. Pender questioned what her options are. A permanent sign was suggested.

Mayor Holt will draft a letter for Council's review. The announcement will also be sent to the Newsletter and Web Site. A separate mailing will be sent to all business explaining the ordinance and a letter of violation will be sent from the Zoning Officer. The letter will give businesses 7 days from receipt of the letter to make an application for a permanent sign. A letter of notification will also be sent to New Jersey Department of Transportation addressing the Exit 15 ramp where many signs clutter the intersection. A request will be made giving the Town of Clinton permission to remove signage. In a case of a property owner renting to a business, the responsibility of the sign is the specific shop owner.

Mayor Holt suggested a ban on political signs be made as well, there was no response from anyone.

CLINTON FIRST AID & RESCUE SQUAD – NORTHSTAR MEDEVAC HELICOPTER

The Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad addressed a letter to Mayor Holt and Council members, providing statistics and information in support of the permanent relocation of the NorthSTAR medevac helicopter to Somerset Airport in Bedminster, NJ. The response times to the western most territory is cut in half. Mayor Holt will prepare a letter of support and forward it to Senator Lance, Assembly members, and Mayor Mesko of Bedminster.

BANNER REQUEST – HEALTH & WELLNESS EXPO

Council is in receipt of a banner request for the 4th Annual Health & Wellness Expo which is to be held October 16, 2005 at the Clinton Holiday Inn. The event, sponsored by Hunterdon Holistic Society, would like to display their banner October 3 through October 19. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Notification from the State of New Jersey advising the Clinton Police Department that our application for funding the Click It or Ticket 2005 grant has been approved in the amount of \$4,000.00.
2. A report received from U.S. Department of Homeland Security, detailing the relationship of FEMA programs to floodplain management.
3. A booklet received from "Watershed Focus" a Division of Watershed Management and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
4. Received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation, a copy of the 2005 Factbook. A copy is available in the Clerk's Office.
5. Notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, that the "DeMott Pond Rehabilitation" Statewide Livable Communities Grants in the amount of \$110,000.00 was unable to be funded.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Public Works, Water and Sewer employees have adjusted their work hours due to the extreme heat.

Nancy E. Smith, CFO

1. Parks & Playgrounds hosted the annual Summer Recreation Program which averaged 250 children every day. The Tennis Program is now underway. Many positive comments received about the new director, Tiffany Cinquemani.

Councilman De Cleene

1. Roads Committee meeting, September 6, 2005 at 9:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Pendergast

1. Parks & Playgrounds Committee held the 4th Annual Town Picnic on July 26th. Thank you to Public Works Department for their help in preparing the fields and setting things up. Thanks also to the Police Department for their help and for spending time with the children, they truly enjoyed it. Everyone was having a great time until the thunderstorm came through. Fireworks were postponed until the Fall, a date will be announced when scheduled.

Councilman Christenson

1. Mr. Cutter held a meeting with architects for 47 Leigh Street, proposals are due August 8th.
2. De Mott Pond project hopefully will be underway this year. DEP approved the last filing made by Engineer, Robert Clerico.
3. Municipal Building Entrance Project, the Sunrise Rotary will be assisting with physical labor and the donation of trees and a bench. Mr. Cutter discussing with Lou Spanner the cost of the trees. Hoping to begin the planting of trees during the Fall planting season.
4. No Environmental Committee Meeting in July.

Councilwoman Kovach

1. Attended Governor's School of Public Policy on Monday, July 25. Spoke on behalf of the Municipal Government prospective and land use planning. Regarding the Highlands and how Regional plan will help protect some of the municipalities.
2. Mr. Cutter and Mrs. Kovach to attend Main Street New Jersey Planning in Trenton on Wednesday and Thursday, July 27 and 28th.

Councilwoman Schaumburg

1. Shade Tree Commission has been looking over trees in Town and chose four trees to be replaced in the Fall.
2. Attended the Alexandria Township Committee meeting with Mrs. Garber, Mr. Christenton and Fire Chief Tim Langston. Mayor of Alexandria did not think Clinton Fire Department responded to their Town, unaware that Clinton Fire Dept. responded to both their schools. Mrs. Schaumburg suggested the Fire Department make the municipalities aware of their response locations.
Scheduled to attend the Union Township Committee meeting August 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Garber

1. No SWAC meeting for August.
2. Clinton Guild meeting August 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.
3. Newsletter deadline August 12th.
4. Thank you to the Guild for hosting Wizard's Weekend, it was a success.
5. A Pampered Chef Fund Raiser to be held at the Clinton Fire Department to assist with the purchase of their new truck. Thursday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Kovach to pay the following overtime and standby pay for the period of June 30 – July 13, 2005.

<u>Public Works Department</u>	<u>Standby & Lead Op</u>	<u>B & G Roads</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Peter Bross	8 sb	--	6 ot	--
David Burdge	--	--	--	--
Howard Deemer	--	--	3 ot	--
Arthur Dysart	8 sb	--	6 ot	--
John Giordano	--	--	--	--
George Moore	--	--	--	--
Robert Niezgoda	8 ot	--	--	6 ot
Roger Plaisted	--	--	--	--
Jeff Reed	--	--	--	--
Wayne Smith	--	3 ot	--	--
Donald Tharp	12 sb	--	--	6 ot / 3 dt
David Zyck	--	--	--	--

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Off Duty Jobs</u>
Sgt. Cory Kubinak	2 ot	--
Ptl. Jay Hunter	--	--
Ptl. Leon Cohen	--	6 ot
Ptl. Jeffrey Glennon	--	--
Ptl. James Crilly	4 ot	5 ot
Ptl. Tim McGuire	5 ot	5 ot
Ptl. Matt Thompson	11 ot	5 ot
Ptl. James Kramer	8 ot	--
Ptl. Ryan Garbolino	--	--

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Pendergast, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mayor Holt, seconded by Mr. Christenson, to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters of Personnel at 9:10 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Kovach to return to the regular meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. Christenson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

J. Matthew Holt, Mayor