

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Quinonez-Perez, Ragozine, Schaumburg  
Absent - Garber

Attorney Robert Fodera attended the meeting in Mr. Cushing's absence. Mr. Cushing came in at 9:00 p.m., Mr. Fodera then left.

**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 – AMENDED & DISCUSSED SEPT. 26, 2006**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the minutes of September 12, 2006 as submitted. Mr. Harrison questioned a few of the comments reported on in the September 12<sup>th</sup> minutes.

Under Resolution #102-06 – the minutes read "the Town has decided" Mr. Harrison questioned who is the "Town"? The minutes will now read "The Town Council".

Under the section of Sign Ordinance Discussion – "If a merchant is not in compliance, they would be forwarded to the Board of Adjustment". Mr. Harrison's question, who's forwarded to the Board of Adjustment? Mr. Ragozine explained that it is the merchant that would be forwarded to Board of Adjustment. The intent is that a merchant would have 90 days to come in to compliance, apply to the Sign Committee or apply for a variance through the Board of Adjustment. If not in compliance within 90 days, the merchant will be in violation. Another question of Mr. Harrison was the sentence "Following a Sign Committee meeting with the merchants, they would address their signs on an individual basis and then make recommendations to the Board of Adjustment." Mayor Schaumburg altered the sentence, removing "they would address their signs on an individual basis. The sentence will then read, "Following a Sign Committee meeting with the merchants, the Sign Committee will make recommendations to the Board of Adjustment".

Next questionable statement, the sentence reads, "Mr. Ragozine stated that vehicles with commercial plates are excluded in a residential zone." Mr. Ragozine thanked Mr. Harrison for bringing that to his attention. Mr. Ragozine did not say that, and wanted that sentence removed.

Mr. Tranquilli, 11 Rupells Road, asked Council to be careful about commercial plates and vehicles being parked at residences. Mayor Schaumburg stated that she does not want to over regulate. Mr. Tranquilli stated that he has a problem with someone in his neighborhood starting a commercial truck early in the morning and it is very loud.

At this point, a motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**THE ABOVE CORRECTIONS WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE PERMANENT RECORD OF COUNCIL MEETINGS MINUTES. FOLLOWING ARE THE ORIGINAL MINUTES PRIOR TO BEING AMENDED.**

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene seconded by Mrs. Insel to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of August as submitted:

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Louis Tranquilli, 11 Rupells Road, called New Jersey Department of Transportation and spoke to Lew Brannin, Regional Manager of Community Relations. Mr. Tranquilli explained the problems in the morning on Route 173 and the poor timing of the signalization that have caused considerable back ups in the traffic flow coming from the "Knolls". Adding to the traffic problem is the stream of cars that come off Interstate-78 when there are tie ups caused by accidents, sun glare and break checks. The constant overflow keeps residents from exiting their driveways and getting out of Union Road. Mr. Brannin advised Mr. Tranquilli that a Statement of Complaint must be filed by the Town Officials/Police Department. Mayor Schaumburg thanked Mr. Tranquilli for starting the process and said she would join with Chief Matheis to complete the statement and pursue the problem.

Mr. Tranquilli suggested "No Right Turn" signs off Bank Street onto Rupells Road between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Mrs. Insel also thanked Mr. Tranquilli for going forward in his attempt to contact DOT. Mr. Harrison also said to give it a try.

Patty Hatalla, 35 Spruce Run Road, said the traffic is impacting the quality of life here in Clinton and the safety of the children. She is willing to support anything to eliminate the problem.

John Baka, 21 Water Street, commented on an earlier discussion regarding commercial vehicles. Mr. Baka suggested specific characteristics be looked at and a decision of being permitted be made according to type, size and hours of operations. A memo will be forwarded to Allison McGinley, Planning Board Secretary, for discussion by Planning Board members and recommendations to be sent back to Mayor and Council.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Schaumburg, Councilman De Cleene, Chief Matheis, and Mr. Cutter met with Chris Hamler, DOT Resident Engineer, and received an updated project schedule regarding the Exit Project and the West Main Street Bridge. The Bridge is expected to be completed by the winter barring anything unforeseen. Exit 15 is very delayed due to utility problems and is not expected to be completed until Spring. Mayor Schaumburg stated this is not good news but it is accurate. The Mayor understands the frustration felt by so many residents and asks everyone to communicate with other residents and stay in contact with DOT. The timing on the traffic signal at the intersection will be adjusted to let more cars out of the Knolls in the morning. Mrs. Insel suggesting that the Town do a traffic study in the future on their own.

Mr. Baka, 12 Water Street, suggested closing Rupells Road to ONE WAY traffic only leading out of Town during the morning rush hours. Another suggestion was to put up wooden horses with a sign reading "Closed due to construction".

Patrick McGuire, Center Street, said California has red lights at the off ramps of the highway

keeping traffic on the highway and not allowing it to come through residential areas. Maybe that could be a possible solution?

Chief Matheis said we are not allowed to close off a public road and keep people from driving into Town, also, the Town of Clinton owns only half the road on Rupells, Union Township owning the other half. As discussed earlier, a Statement of Complaint will be prepared and forwarded to New Jersey Department of Transportation.

2. Mayor Schaumburg attended a Transit Study on September 18, 2006 at Clinton Township Municipal Building. The discussion was organized by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. and attended by all neighboring municipalities with concerns about the traffic situation on I-78 and Route 22. Originally a 1,000 car park & ride was being considered for Petticoat Lane in Annandale, but that idea has now been discarded. Municipal officials in attendance discussed a park and ride focusing west on the highway, leading towards Warren County and Pennsylvania. Another consideration was looking at the railroads west of Clinton. Frequent stops keep people from using the system, people would prefer direct runs to New York City, as experienced with the Trans-Bridge Buses.

#### **AMENDMENT TO C-1 ZONE**

Before the discussion began, Mrs. Insel removed herself from the dais and left the room due to a conflict of interest for residing in the district.

John Leonard, Construction Officer, forwarded a memo to the Mayor and Council regarding an omission from section 88-53 C1 which lists permitted uses in the commercial district when revisions took place in December, 2004. The revision deleted the reference as provided in 88-52H under permitted uses #7-apartments in the C1 Zone and under a separate section (section 88-52) of the ordinance on page 88:88, section 88-52H still reference the requirements for any apartments in the C1 zone. Mr. Leonard is requesting an amendment to the Land Use Book and to add it back to the section to avoid any confusion in the future. Mayor Schaumburg suggested that the Mayor and Council table this request and forward it to the Planning Board for their review. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Harrison to forward Mr. Leonard's memo to the Planning Board and table this request to the October 10, 2006 Council meeting.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #06-17 – CREATING THE POSITION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, DUTIES AND THE DUTIES OF THE ZONING OFFICER**

Mr. Ragozine made two changes to the proposed ordinance. Section C-2 in the proposed ordinance "He/she" shall now read Code Enforcement Officer. Section 7-B "Code Enforcement Officer" shall now read "Code Enforcement Housing Officer. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to introduce Ordinance #06-17 with the changes:

ORDINANCE #06-17  
AN ORDINANCE CREATING POSITION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT HOUSING  
OFFICER AND DEFINING THE DUTIES THEREOF  
AND  
DEFINING THE DUTIES OF THE ZONING OFFICER

Vote all ayes

Motion carried

The proposed ordinance will be forwarded to the Planning Board due to changes being made to the Land Use Code. A notice of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review edition of October 11, 2006. A public hearing is scheduled for October 24, 2006.

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

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #06-18 – AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 88 “LAND USE”**

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to introduce Ordinance #06-18 on first reading and to forward the proposed ordinance to the Planning Board for their review and recommendations. The ordinance prohibits the use of commercial motor vehicles as signs in certain circumstances.

ORDINANCE #06-18  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 88 OF THE CODE  
OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON ENTITLED “LAND USE  
ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON”

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A copy of this ordinance will be forwarded to the Planning Board for their review at their meeting October 3, 2006. Publication in the Hunterdon Review will be made upon further discussion.

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

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #06-19 – ELECTRICAL SUBCODE FEES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to adopt Ordinance #06-19 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE # 06-19  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ELECTRICAL  
SUBCODE FEES, SECTION 73-3

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A copy of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review edition of October 11, 2006. A public hearing is scheduled for October 24, 2006.

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

**WATER REFUND**

Nancy Burgess, Collector of Water Rents, is requesting a refund in the amount of \$14.30 for Harry Mitchell. The property has been sold. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine to grant the refund as requested.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Nancy Burgess, Collector of Water Rents, is requesting a refund in the amount of \$31.94 for Cindy Myslenski. The property has been sold and the amount was paid twice. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine to grant the refund as requested.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #103-06 – NJDOT GRANT APPLICATION – SPEED PLATFORMS**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Resolution #103-06 authorizing the submission of a grant application for Rupells Road Speed Tables. The improvement is estimated to be \$10,000.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

Mr. Cutter explained to the Council that quotes have been solicited for the Rupells Road Speed Table project, the lowest quote was from Renda Roads for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine to grant the award for the project to Renda Roads, Inc. Whitehouse, New Jersey.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #104-06 – ANNUAL CURFEW**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Resolution #104-06, setting the hours for the annual Town curfew.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

**RESOLUTION #105-06 – HART GRANT**

Earlier in 2006, an initial study was prepared by the Town Planner, Carl Hintz, and a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 per program was awarded to the Town of Clinton for the engineering phase. The two programs were the Bicycle and Pedestrian Element and the Streetscape Development Plan. Resolution #105-06 is in support of a 2007 HART Community Initiatives Grant in order to continue with project plans. Mayor Schaumburg said she will not move forward until Town Officials receive feed back from HART. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Resolution #105-06 and to submit the Grant Application.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

**RESOLUTION #106-06 – BID AWARD – 47 LEIGH STREET**

Bids were received on September 22, 2006 for the Alterations and Additions Project to 47 Leigh Street. Mr. Cutter recommended the bid be awarded to Charles Mann General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$674,890.00. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to award the bid pursuant to Mr. Cutter's recommendation.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

**RAFFLE APPLICATION – CLINTON FIRST AID AND RESCUE SQUAD**

Council is in receipt of a raffle application from Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad to hold a 50/50 raffle on December 20, 2006. Proceeds will go for funding of equipment and training to serve the community with emergency services, public awareness and safety programs. Mr. De Cleene requested that the license application fee of \$20.00 payable to the Town of Clinton be waived, however, the \$20.00 payable to Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission will be paid. A motion was made by Mrs. Quinones-Perez, seconded by Mr. Harrison to grant the raffle license and to waive the \$20.00 fee to the Town of Clinton.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**CITY CONNECTIONS WEB PAGE SERVICES AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, authorizing the Mayor to sign the renewal contract with City Connections, LLC, Web Page development provider. The agreement shall begin October 1, 2006 and end on September 30, 2007.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Chelsea Forge Vintners, LLC and Heritage Vineyards of Richwood, LLC have applied to the State of New Jersey, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, for a Joint Winery Retail Outlet. The request was for a retail privilege to be sited at Dora's Restaurant, 17 Main Street, Clinton. The Town of Clinton has been notified of this request.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**

**Police Chief Matheis**

1. There will be a new designated web link to the Clinton DARE Program.
2. The Police have been patrolling the streets of Clinton and observing over time parking. Cars are being ticketed. Merchants are being urged to use the Municipal Lot or to move their cars in a timely fashion.
3. Chief Matheis will meet Dr. Schilder, Superintendent of Clinton Public School, on Wednesday morning to walk from the Exit 15 intersection to school, the path normally taken by school children. The walk is to make sure it is safe for the children.

**Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator**

1. Route 173 Bridge - work to begin on the south side, traffic will shift on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Additional work space will be given to the men working to insure their safety.
2. Leaf collection will begin the week of October 16, last day for chipping October 11.

**Kathy Olsen, CFO**

1. Attended the Finance Officer's Conference – gained important information on budgets and the pension system.

**Councilman Ragozine**

1. Buildings and Grounds - Bids for 47 Leigh Street received September 22<sup>nd</sup> and a contractor has been granted the award. Community Center renovations are near completion.

**Councilwoman Garber**

1. Clinton Guild website – [www.clintonguild.com](http://www.clintonguild.com) - Keep up with current activities. Pumpkin Fest, October 27, 2006. Next meeting Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m. Holiday Inn.
2. Emergency Services Foundation – Membership is open, anyone with questions can call the hotline. Next meeting Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.
3. Clinton Fire Department – next meeting, Monday October 2. Anyone interested in making a dinner for the family of Kearstin Higgins on a Wednesday evening, please contact Mrs. Garber.

**Attorney Cushing**

Mr. Cushing arrived at this moment, 9:00 p.m., allowing Mr. Fodera to leave. Mr. Cushing explained that Mr. Fodera reviewed a draft letter prepared by the Sign Committee which is to be sent to all business merchants. Mr. Fodera compared the letter of the Sign Committee to the current Sign Ordinance and prepared an analysis between the two and offered some suggestions. Mr. Fodera will redraft the letter and forward to Council. Mayor Schaumburg requested that the new letter be reviewed by the Planning Board, Sign Committee and Council. Mayor Schaumburg's intentions are to get this mailing done in the near future.

**Councilman De Cleene**

1. Road Committee - next meeting October 3, 2006 @ 9:30 a.m.

**Councilman Harrison**

1. Sewer Committee – next meeting October 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 8:30 a.m.
2. Personnel – next meeting October 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m.
3. Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce Business and Government – Friday, September 29 @ 8:00 a.m. at the Clinton Municipal
4. Attended the Hunterdon County Solid Waste Authority Council – attended very interesting meeting – State has indicated that they want to see all municipalities in the State increase their recycling up to 50%. The Town of Clinton currently is in the 19% range.

**Councilwoman Insel**

1. Smart Growth – next meeting October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.
2. Historic Commission – next meeting October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
3. Shade Tree Commission – next meeting October 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the attached overtime and standby pay for the period of August 25 to September 7, 2006 and a second set from September 7 through September 20, 2006.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Quinones-Perez, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Ragozine, Quinones-Perez, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Insel, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to enter into Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss Contract Negotiations.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel seconded by Mr. De Cleene to come out of Executive Session at 9:14 p.m.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

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Christine Schaumburg , Mayor