

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Duffy, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg
Absent - De Cleene

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. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF BUDGET MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to approve the Budget Meeting minutes of April 15, 2008.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT None

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. The Mayor reported on her attendance at the New Jersey Conference of Mayors earlier this month. The Mayors were mostly concerned with the budget and loss of municipal aid provided by the State. She feels that aid cuts are going to change in May and a compromise is going to be made. It is very difficult for municipalities who are participating in and looking for opportunities to increase shared services. It’s very important that we continue to move along in this direction. She has asked Michael Capabianco to help put in writing the shared services we already have and we will continue to look for more opportunities in this area. When the State comes back and asks what’s being done to cut costs we’ll be able to show what we are doing.

The Mayor also participated in a question and answer session with all of the Commissioners. Commissioner Doria advised that municipalities go ahead and introduce their budgets without state aid; however, wait to pass until word is received about municipal aid sometime in May, which will allow time to adjust the budget. Commissioner Jackson announced that D E P has a new program for partnering with municipalities to market historic sites. The Mayor is putting together a packet to send to them.

2. With sincere regret the Mayor read a letter of resignation, dated April 21, 2008, from Councilman Eugene De Cleene. Mr. De Cleene has tendered his resignation from Town Council effective immediately. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to accept the resignation with regret.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Regular Council Meeting

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT VACANCY

Applications have been received from Martin Pendergast, 20 Spruce Run Road, and Craig Sailer, 68 Lakeview Avenue, for the open position on the Board of Adjustment. Both applicants were invited to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Sailer was in attendance and spoke of his interest and background for serving on the Board. Mr. Pendergast was not in attendance and Council decided to proceed with the appointment in the regular council meeting session. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Shea, to appoint Craig Sailer to the Alternate #2 position on the Board of Adjustment.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #08-04 – ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

A brief explanation of the Ordinance was given by Kathy Olsen, CFO. A Motion was made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Ordinance #08-04 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #08-04
ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A copy of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review on April 30, 2008 and a public hearing will be held on May 27, 2008.

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

INTRODUCTION OF 2008 BUDGET

Mayor Schaumburg presented the 2008 Budget and mentioned increases which are out of our municipality's control. Specifically, large increases in pensions, Municipal Court, Debt Service, electricity, Police salaries, and street lighting. In addition, the Town is facing a \$122,000. loss in State Aid. She stated that there are no frills in this budget and Council is committed to keeping services the same as they have been. Our rate is .4517, an increase of 3.5 cents. The Mayor noted, if any State Aid is restored it will go directly to property tax relief; no increases will be made to the budget.

A motion to introduce the 2008 Budget as presented was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Duffy.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mr. Raymond Bahto, 47 Alexandra Way, asked what the actual increase is. The Mayor responded that the increase in dollars is \$172,134. and further information can be obtained from CFO Kathy Olsen.

WATER REFUND

Water Collector, Nancy Burgess, has requested a water refund in the amount of \$367.52, payable to Steve Goulden. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Insel.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Regular Council Meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Council is in receipt of 3 letters from property owners on Union Road who will be affected by the construction of a sidewalk along their property to be used for a safe route to school. The Road Committee held a meeting with the property owners explaining the project. The letters are from Helen Leonard, 8 Union Rd., who was unable to attend the meeting; Thad & Erika Huston, 12 Union Rd.; and Lee Ann Ezawa, 10 Union Road. All the letters are opposing the sidewalk and have been given to Administrator Cutter and the Roads Committee for their consideration and recommendation to Council. Mr. Cutter advised that the letters will be on the agenda for the next Road Committee Meeting on May 6th and recommendation will be forwarded to Council. Mrs. Huston, in attendance at tonight's meeting, confirmed that she still does not want the sidewalk and doesn't think it will make a difference as to the amount of children walking to school. Chief Matheis commented that in his prior memo to the Roads Committee it is his opinion that a sidewalk is needed.

2. The Mayor read a letter from Jennifer Stephens, on behalf of the Clinton Public School 8th Grade Class and parents, thanking Chief Matheis for his staff's assistance at the 8th Grade Class car wash on April 6th.

PROCLAMATION – OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Mayor Schaumburg read the "Older Americans Month Proclamation" designating the month of May in their honor.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Councilman Duffy

1. The Environmental Commission assisted in the South Branch River Clean Up, April 19th. The very successful event had 46 adult and children volunteers participating.

Councilman Shea

1. As part of the annual Arbor Day celebration on April 25th, the Shade Tree Commission will be planting a tree at 47 Leigh Street to be commemorated to former Councilman, Jack Harrison.

Councilwoman Insel

1. The Smart Growth Committee continues to look for new members.

Councilman Ragozine

1. The Senior Luncheon, sponsored by the Board of Recreation Commission, will be held on May 4th, 1:00 P M, at the Clinton Rescue Squad Building.

2. There will be a Country Run, sponsored by the Town and Township of Clinton. The Run will be held on April 29th and will start at Bundt Park in Clinton Township.

3. Buildings and Grounds Committee are holding ongoing discussions with reference to the proposed improvements to Gebhardt Field and the grandstand. They are continuing to investigate by getting proposals on rehabilitation or replacement of the grandstand. Mr. Shea noted that the American Legion has offered to help with this project also.

Councilman Pender

1. The Fishing Derby will be held Sat., April 26th, registration 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., fishing until Noon.

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. The Municipal Managers Seminar on Paperless Council Meetings, was attended by Clerk Covino, on his behalf. She will be reporting on this at a later date.

Regular Council Meeting

2. The Municipal Office voice mail system should be installed within the next several weeks. He is waiting for a date from the vendor.
3. Environmental information was provided to the Clinton Guild for their Earth Day Celebration on Main Street today, which he and Mayor Schaumburg attended.
4. Nancy Burgess is in attendance at tonight's meeting as part of training for her municipal clerk certification.

Police Chief Matheis

1. Signs have been posted at DeMott Pond for no fishing until Saturday's Fishing Derby.
2. The Chief asked that Council approve the pay differential for Sgt. Jay Hunter upon his deployment by the Marine Corp in May. A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Shea, to approve the differential in his salary during Sgt. Hunter's deployment.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

3. There is still no definitive word from DOT on the signalization at Exit 15, but the Chief will continue to follow up with Camille Fernicola, DOT Community Relations.
4. DOT Contractor IEW has advised they will be doing work in the traveled portion of Exit 15 intersection during the day on April 24th. State Police will be used for traffic control.
5. The Chief will be meeting with George Lee tomorrow to discuss arrangements for use of a crane on April 28th in the delivery and installation of roofing girders for his construction site at 16 Leigh Street. This will necessitate temporary closure of the Lower Center Street parking lot. Hopefully this will be completed with minimal disruption. Chief will keep Council and merchants advised on the closure plans.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME AND STANDBY PAY

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to approve the standby and overtime pay as submitted for April 4, 2008 through April 17, 2008.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion Carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Shea, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Regular Council Meeting

RESOLUTION #69-08 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to enter into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel and possible litigation.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to return to the regular meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Sara J. Peterson, RMC
Deputy Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

Christine Schaumburg, Mayor

