

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

Mrs. Garber and Mr. De Cleene listened to the tape of the Council Meeting held May 24, 2005. Mrs. Garber made a correction to the minutes under the caption Reports of Mayor and Council. The Clinton Guild meeting should read the next meeting to be June 15, not the 22nd. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, to approve the amended minutes of May 24, 2005 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, to accept the monthly reports for the month of May as submitted.

Administrator’s Report, Clerk’s Account, Cat & Dog Licensing Accounts, Construction Control Account, Fire Official Report, Police Report, Sewer Collector’s Report, Tax Collector’s Report, Water Collector’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent’s Report, Zoning Officer/Construction Official Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Clinton Public School teacher, Doreen Bleck, attended tonight’s meeting accompanied by five students who were interested in learning more about Town government. Mrs. Bleck thanked the Town for working closely with Clinton Public and a special thank you to Mr. Cutter for all his help with the school and the children. Mr. Cutter recently completed a series of instruction classes with students pertaining to new State imposed Stormwater Regulations. The students identified themselves Christina White, Colby Garber, David Rivera, Brandon and Kyle Tranquilli.

Jack Devaney, addressed Council and the audience to announce the Ninth Annual Black Potato Festival which will be taking place July 7 through July 10th at the Red Mill Museum Village. The night of July 7th will benefit the Red Mill, and nightly performers will be from far and near. For additional information log onto www.blackpotato.com.

Raymond Bahto, 47 Alexandra Way, congratulated Councilwoman Kovach for her success in receiving a State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection Grant to repair the

Clinton Dike. This is an issue that has been before the Clinton Town Council and the owners of the property for several months to have the Dike repaired. A check for \$472,000.00 was received at a ceremony on June 5, 2005 at the Hunterdon Museum of Art. The check was presented by Bradley Campbell, Commissioner of DEP. Another check for \$500,000.00 will be presented in the near future. Never before has a grant of this size been awarded to the Town of Clinton. Councilman De Cleene asked for a large round of applause to Councilwoman Kovach. Mrs. Kovach commented that Marjorie Nathanson, Executive Director of the Art Museum invited Commissioner Campbell to visit Clinton and that Councilwomen Kovach and Schaumburg met with him and toured the beautiful Town of Clinton. Explaining the importance of the dam and dike, they also provided him with paperwork containing the history of the dike and the efforts taken to assist the property owners. Their work was greatly rewarded.

Louis Tranquilli, 11 Rupells Road, also acknowledged the achievements of Mrs. Kovach and Schaumburg and congratulated them.

Mr. Tranquilli proceeded to focus on the request of the Clinton Fire Department asking the Town for \$850,000.00 for a new aerial ladder truck. Mr. Tranquilli suggested putting off their request until a grant can be applied for to assist the Fire Department. Mayor Holt explained that a Federal grant was applied for in March through the office of Congressman Ferguson. Phone calls in recent weeks to the Congressman's office prompted a second letter of support and the grant application is now being reviewed. In approximately two to four weeks, announcements of awards will begin and may last up to 30 weeks. Homeland Security Department Grant requests were for the Clinton Fire Department truck \$875,000.00 and building renovations \$300,000.00 and the Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad for Personal Protection Equipment, Urban Search & Rescue Great and Supplied air Breathing Apparatus in the amount of \$134,000.00.

Lastly, Mr. Tranquilli stated he read an article in the Hunterdon County Democrat in which Hemant Desai approached Council complaining that there were delays in his building approvals for the hotel, office space and restaurant. Mr. Tranquilli said he was "stunned" and made a statement that he thought "Mr. Desai's rails were greased through the Board of Adjustment". Mr. Tranquilli then asked Mayor Holt if he or anyone received 2003 campaign contributions from Mr. Desai's family or Ansuya Enterprises? Mayor Holt stated that he did not but believes that Mr. Desai donated \$200.00 to the Hunterdon County Republican Party.

With reference to the grant, Mrs. Kovach said she recently reached out to Congressman Ferguson's office as well as Congressman Holt's and Senators Lance and Lautenberg for their support of this grant application. Mr. De Cleene said he also contacted Congressman Ferguson's office.

Mrs. Kovach's wished to announce that Senator Corzine will be at Hunt's Mill Park on Wednesday, June 15 to discuss the Highlands Act. Mrs. Kovach urged everyone to attend.

Dena Pender, of Clinton Canoe & Kayak, questioned if dumpsters that are in public view are required to be closed and what can be done with dumpsters that are spilling over? Mr. Cutter will look into this matter.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Mayor Holt thanked the Clinton Guild on the tremendous job they did in holding such a great event as the Flag Day Parade. Mayor Holt also thanked the Pender's for cooking over 700 hot dogs!
2. A few months ago Mayor Holt attended a filming for a television pilot in New York. The program focused on a rural Town and a neighboring Town. High Bridge was selected and Mayor Holt was chosen to be part of the program. After many hours of sitting patiently and waiting, the project was completed. Two battery operated remote control Mini Coopers were given to Mayor Schweikert of High Bridge. Today, one of the cars was delivered to Mayor

Holt and the Town of Clinton for participating in the pilot. Mayor Holt joked about the entire ordeal.

CONSTRUCTION OFFICER – JOHN LEONARD

Construction Officer, John Leonard, was requested to attend tonight's meeting to discuss Temporary Signs and Banners. In recent months, Council has noticed an increase in illegal banners and signage and is seeking information under whose jurisdiction it lies. Zoning or Construction? Mr. Leonard explained that signs need to be registered with the Zoning Officer and work with this office. Mayor Holt asked Council how they wanted to handle this ordinance, do they want to amend it or do they want a temporary sign ordinance at all? Mayor Holt suggested utilizing the Sign Committee to create a master list of temporary signs that exist under this ordinance and address a letter to those people explaining the time limit. Mr. Ragozine, Chairman of the Sign Committee, addressed Council and explained that the Committee is becoming more active in enforcing regulated signs. Also as a member of the Board of Adjustment, Mr. Ragozine stated that Professional Planner, Carolyn Neighbor provided ordinances from other towns which are more strict. The Board of Adjustment has put emphasis on signage for applicants more fitting with the Town. Mr. Ragozine suggested giving John Leonard the ability to enforce the ordinance. Mrs. Schaumburg suggested sending letters regarding signage to everyone to prevent future illegal signs. Once again, Mayor Holt stated that prior going to anyone or sending letters, Council has to decide how to craft this ordinance.

Other sign issues are signs being displayed at the Exit 15 ramp and who oversees them? Mr. Cutter explained that the Town could remove the signs but then they are turned over to The State Department of Transportation garage.

Dave Duda, Rachel Court, had a suggestion. When residents are displaying signs and to keep them fitting in with the look of the Town, maybe they could read "Ye Olde Car Wash" or "Ye Olde Garage Sale"!!

Council wished to discuss the separation of positions of the Zoning Officer and Construction Official. This will be further discussed in Executive Session under Personnel.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #05-09 - MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Chief Langston stated the need for a Mutual Aid Agreement for the Fire Department to have with fire departments and companies along with the municipalities in which they are located and those that they work with and share equipment and services.

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Kovach to approve Ordinance #05-09 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #05-09
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A MUTUAL AID FIREFIGHTING
AGREEMENT WITH ANNANDALE HOSE COMPANY, (CLINTON TOWNSHIP)
CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT (TOWN OF CLINTON)
LEBANON FIRE COMPANY (LEBANON BOROUGH) AND
HIGH BRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT (BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE)

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Christenson, De Cleene, Garber, Kovach, Pendergast, Schaumburg, Holt

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A notice of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review on June 22, 2005. The public hearing will be held July 12, 2005.

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE # 05-10 – DEVELOPMENT FEE ORDINANCE

Carolyn Neighbor, P.P. explained the new fees being imposed on new construction which the Town is entitled in accordance with COAH regulations. Ms. Neighbor further explained the process of applying to the Council on Affordable Housing upon introduction of this ordinance. Along with a copy of the ordinance, a copy of the Housing Element, Spending Plan and Resolutions from the Council and Planning Board will also be forwarded to COAH. COAH will review the documents and the Town will be notified upon approval.

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to approve Ordinance #05-10 on first reading as submitted.

ORDINANCE #05-10
TOWN OF CLINTON
DEVELOPMENT FEE ORDINANCE

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A notice of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review on June 22, 2005. The public hearing will be held upon approval of the Council on Affordable Housing.

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

RESOLUTION #71-05 – PETITION FOR SUBSTANTIVE CERTIFICATION FROM COAH

Ms. Neighbor continued to explain the need for adopting this Resolution which states that the Town of Clinton Planning Board has considered the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan as part of the Master Plan and that it has been further considered by the Governing Body.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to adopt Resolution #71-05 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #68-05 – OVERPAYMENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #68-05 authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund overpayments on taxes for various blocks and lots.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #69-05 – BYO – TOWN PICNIC

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #69-05 permitting (Bring Your Own) consumption of alcoholic beverages at the Hunts Mill Park during the Town Picnic.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #70-05 – FIREWORKS

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #70-05 granting the request of the Parks and Playgrounds Commission for a fireworks display at the Town Picnic.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Council members De Cleene and Garber listened to the tapes of May 24, 2005. Mrs. Garber asked if the Fire Department passed their recent inspection? Tom Whiteley, President of the Fire Department, stated that yes, just the day before, the Fire Department passed the inspection for one more year.

Mr. Christenson asked if the specifications for bids were completed, and if they exceeded \$850,000.00, would the Fire Department pick up the difference. Bill Wintermute replied yes, and that they would be paying for the renovations to the building.

Mr. De Cleene asked Mr. Whiteley about a recent Fire Department meeting when it was agreed that \$100,000.00 would be made available up front by the Fire Department if necessary. Mr. Whiteley replied that they were advised not to bring that up. Mr. De Cleene, very disturbed by this statement, asked who advised them to say that. Mr. Whiteley would not say. Mr. De Cleene said he was all for the Fire Truck until now. Mr. Christenson interrupted and stated, "it was my recommendation that the Fire Department not offer the \$100,000 unless that had to because it would have a significant impact on their ability to operate as a department moving forward. I feel very strongly that the Town must insure that the Fire Department must have the equipment it needs to protect the people of the Town of Clinton. It has nothing to do with Federal or State highways, this is a aerial ladder truck that they need to insure public safety". Mr. De Cleene agreed that the need the truck, but it was agreed that they would put up \$100,000.00 up front.

Mrs. Schaumburg, also very disturbed that this matter was not discussed with the truck committee before now wanted to go on record stating that she "resents that fact that Mr. Christenson made recommendations to the Fire Department to manipulate this Council".

Mrs. Kovach agreed that the Fire Department needs the truck and has reached out to do what she could to get the funding. One of her concerns is there needs to be a change in the way we continue to fund going forward.

Mayor Holt asked the Fire Department, is \$100,000.00 on the table now? The Department replied, yes.

Mrs. Kovach suggested a referendum be made available to taxpayers to fund the truck. That they should have an opportunity to vote and make a decision. Mrs. Schaumburg supported Mrs. Kovach's suggestion and thought the Council should wait until the grant process begins and all sources of funding are exhausted. Attempts can be made to all the Towns serviced by Clinton that they should participate in funding. Mayor Holt was against the referendum and feels that it put

Council in a position for next year depending on the vote. The Mayor strongly feels it is the responsibility of the residents and home owners of this municipality. If grant money comes in, the loan can be paid off.

Mrs. Schaumburg suggested tabling this discussion until grants are awarded, possibly revisiting this at the end of September or middle of August. Mr. Whiteley asked when they should return to a Council meeting. It was discussed and decided that the Fire Department should return August 9, 2005 to continue this discussion.

Nicole Gill, Clinton Guild President, felt it is important to make the public aware of the need and that a major fund raising campaign take place.

Chief Langston asked how much of a financial impact the Fire Department is on the Town of Clinton. Mayor Holt replied that \$51,000.00 annual donations are made to the Fire Department and Rescue Squads and that insurance is covered for the Fire Department and not the Squad. This impacts the residents approximately \$100.00 per household annually.

Mrs. Kovach said she will begin going to municipalities, Mrs. Garber said she would too and Mrs. Schaumburg said "likewise".

The Fire Department left at 9:15 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter of support from Senator Frank Lautenberg was forwarded to John Lettiere, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation regarding the highway noise on Route 78.
2. A letter of thanks was sent to Chief Matheis for his hospitality to a woman from Pennsylvania who was meeting with two old-time friends at the Clinton House.
3. Patrolman Jeffrey Glennon was commended by the State of New Jersey on the "Click-it or Ticket Program". Summonses issued are between 300-400.
4. Clinton Canoe & Kayak sent a letter of thanks to the Town Officials for volunteering their time and effort to help make the Clinton Flag Day Celebration such a great event.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Water Restrictions are being instituted. Notices will be mailed to residents and will be posted in the newspapers and on the local Community Bulletin, Channel 8.
2. Safety Committee discussed various minor accidents and injuries to employees and a return to work policy. At upcoming Committee meetings discussions will take place which will tie the foregoing into job descriptions. Mr. Cutter will have someone available from the Insurance Company to answer questions.
3. Questions arose at the time of budget hearings pertaining to Towns insuring Rescue Squads and Fire Departments. At a recent Statewide Insurance Fund Meeting, the topic was discussed and Mr. Cutter has furnished the Council with a survey of how different municipalities handle insuring emergency service departments.
4. The Center Street drainage project is expected to be completed today.

5. Mr. Cutter addressed 60 students of the Sixth Grade Class at Clinton Public School regarding the Stormwater Management Program
6. The Exit 15 re-alignment project is expected to be awarded June 24, 2005. Mr. Cutter Informed NJDOT that he and Chief Matheis must be included in the pre-construction meeting.

Councilman De Cleene

1. Road Committee traveled to Summit, Westfield and Chatham to look at various downtown projects such as crosswalks and lighting. A visit to Princeton is next on the list.
2. Councilwoman Kovach has hand delivered all related correspondence regarding the Route 173 and Leigh Street intersection signalization to Jack Lettiere, N.J.D.O.T. Commissioner.
3. Next Road Committee meeting July 12, 2005 at 9:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Pendergast

1. Parks & Playgrounds – Summer Recreation Program begins June 27 to July 22, 2005. Open to Grades K – 8 for children living in the Town of Clinton, but not necessarily Clinton Public School Students.
2. Town Picnic July 16, 2005 for Town Residents and would like to extend the invitation to the all merchants through Council liaison, Mrs. Garber.

Councilman Christenson

1. Water Committee – Well #15 approvals look promising.
2. Buildings and Grounds – De Mott Pond Dam Reconstruction Project, Department of Environmental Protection has issued permit. Time frame – awarding contract early Spring. 47 Leigh Street – Committee agreed to have Mr. Cutter conduct a pre RFP meeting on site with at least three architects prior to their submittals.

Councilwoman Kovach

1. Next Highlands Council meeting will be held June 30th at 4:00 p.m. at the New Jersey Water Supply Authority on Route 31.
2. Press Conference Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at Hunt's Mill Park at 11:00 a.m. Senator Corzine will speak on behalf of the Highlands.
3. COAH meeting for June 15, 2005 is cancelled. Anticipate a meeting in July if anything comes back from COAH.
4. Thanks again to Commissioner Campbell for finding the grant money to repair the dam/dike and to Marjorie Nathanson for staying on top of the matter.

Councilwoman Schaumburg

1. Rescue Squad will be on hand at the Town Picnic Fireworks display.
2. Clinton Public School K – 3rd and 4th graders have prepared letters and care packages to be sent to Detective Jay Hunter who has been deployed overseas to Iraqi. Chief Matheis shared a few pictures of Detective Hunter in his Marine uniform and Mrs. Schaumburg shared them with the children.

Councilwoman Garber

1. Thanks to the Clinton Guild and the Pender's for a great Flag Day celebration.
2. Next Guild meeting June 15, 2005, the invitation for the Town Picnic will be extended to them. Mrs. Garber will also begin lobbying with the Guild to raise money for the fire truck.
3. The next Solid Waste meeting will be held at the Hunterdon County Library, Tuesday, June 21, 2005.
4. Thanks to the Newsletter Committee and Web Site Committee for all their work. Hopefully everyone received and enjoyed the latest edition of the Newsletter and continue to visit the web site and the new photo gallery.

Nancy E. Smith , C.F.O.

Absent

Police Chief Matheis

Absent

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Pendergast to pay the following overtime and standby pay for the period of May 19 – June 1, 2005.

<u>Public Works Department</u>	<u>Standby & Lead Op</u>	<u>B & G Roads</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Peter Bross	--	--	--	--
David Burdge	8 sb	--	6 ot	--
Michael Cobb	--	--	--	--
Howard Deemer	4 sb	--	3 dt	--
Arthur Dysart	8 sb	--	6 ot	--
John Giordano	--	--	--	--
George Moore	--	--	--	--
Robert Niezgodra	12 sb	--	--	6 ot/3 dt
Roger Plaisted	--	--	--	--
Jeff Reed	--	--	--	--
Wayne Smith	--	--	--	--
Donald Tharp	8 sb	--	--	6 ot
David Zyck	--	--	--	--

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Click-It/Ticket</u>	<u>Road Jobs</u>
Sgt. Cory Kubinak	12 ot	--	--
Ptl. Jay Hunter	--	--	--
Ptl. Leon Cohen	15 ot	--	--
Ptl. Jeffrey Glennon	10 ot	--	--
Ptl. James Crilly	--	15 ot	9 ½ hrs.
Ptl. Tim McGuire	--	10 ot	27 hrs.
Ptl. Matt Thompson	16 ot	8 ot	11 hrs.
Ptl. James Kramer	6 ot	12 ot	14 hrs.
Ptl. Ryan Garbolino	--	5 ot	--

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, 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 Mrs. Schaumburg, to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters of Personnel at 9:30 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Pendergast to return to the regular meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mrs. Kovach made a motion seconded by Mr. De Cleene, that a more pro-active enforcement be initiated and which would possibly require more time on the job. This issue may be a budgetary matter and will be discussed at a later time.

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 10:05 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

J. Matthew Holt, Mayor