

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

Flag Salute.

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

Also present: Elizabeth McManus, P.P. (left 8:00 p.m.)

**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 Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 11, 2008 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt the Budget meeting minutes of February 11, 2008.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt the Budget meeting minutes of February 19, 2008.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

1. Chief Matheis is recommending Patrolman Jeff Ollerenshaw be advanced to First Class Patrolman retroactive to his employment anniversary date, March 13, 2008. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the request.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

2. Mayor Schaumburg updated Council on two days she spent in Trenton, speaking with legislators and stating her opposition to the cuts being proposed by the Governor’s office. Municipalities around the State tend to loose significant funding, specifically, the Town of Clinton, \$124,000. Mayor Schaumburg urged residents to speak out and contact the Governor’s Office and State Legislators and make their voices heard, also residents urged to send their concerns in writing.
3. Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce is offering a \$45,000 Tourism Grant this year. The tourism grant will help publicize Towns “On the River” and events to be held. Towns will include Lambertville, Frenchtown and the Town of Clinton.

**SWEARING IN OF SERGEANT JAY HUNTER**

Chief Matheis introduced Sgt. Jay Hunter, one of Clinton’s finest selections of a Police Officer. Sgt. Hunter has been with the Town of Clinton for almost 10 years. He is also a gunnery sergeant with the United States Marine Corp.

Attorney Richard Cushing swore in Sergeant Jay Hunter who was accompanied by his wife, Kari, and son, Jay Jr. Sgt. Hunter received a standing ovation and a round of applause.

**PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE #08-02 – SALARIES**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #08-02:

ORDINANCE #08-02

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE POSITION TITLES AND SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWN OF CLINTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, FOR THE WATER UTILITY AND THE SEWER UTILITY

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to close the public portion of Ordinance #08-02.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to adopt Ordinance #08-02 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE # 08-03 – SIGN ORDINANCE**

Planner, Beth McManus reviewed the changes made to the Sign Ordinance following a review by the Clinton Planning Board. Three items were amended:

- Elimination of sub sign committee
- Board of Adjustment fees reduced to \$25.00
- Neon signs permitted only in C3 and C4 Commercial districts

Mr. De Cleene asked about the illuminated signs, Ms. McManus assured him that only OPEN signs may be illuminated and they may have a border.

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel to open the public hearing of Ordinance #08-03.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Mary Kaylor, of Addicted Jeans/ Added Touches by Mary , questioned her free standing sign, and was told that free standing signs were not permitted in the past but under the new ordinance, they are permitted within specific guidelines. If a sign does not comply with regulations, a merchant may apply to the Board of Adjustment for an exception.

Ray Bahto, Alexandra Way, asked when does the sign ordinance take effect and if there is a time limit to come into compliance? Mayor Schaumburg stated that this subject was discussed upon introduction of the ordinance, as to how much time will be given to merchants to apply for a permit.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Ordinance #08-03 on second reading as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Mr. Cutter asked how much time will be given to come into compliance, 60 days? Mayor Schaumburg said in 45 days, a letter will be sent by Jack Daniels, Code Enforcement Officer, to notify merchants of the process. This will be a friendly mission to notify everyone of the new ordinance. Attorney Cushing suggested a notice be sent before that time, giving merchants more time to comply. Mayor Schaumburg appreciated the suggestion and said that within the next week, a letter be sent by Mr. Daniels giving merchants two months to come in and apply for a permit. If a permit is denied, the merchants will be referred to apply to the Board of Adjustment or take the sign down. Mr. Ragozine stated he thought too much time was being given to merchants stating that they have known about this for quite some time. Mr. De Cleene thought more time should be given. A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mrs. Insel, that the Code Enforcement Officer defer enforcement of the ordinance for 60 days to allow persons to come into compliance.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Mayor Schaumburg  
No: Ragozine

Vote 4 ayes  
Vote 1 no  
Motion carried

Following the Public Hearing, Planner, Elizabeth McManus left the meeting, 8:00 p.m.

**BANNER REQUEST – RED MILL MUSEUM**

Council is in receipt of a banner request from the Friends of the Red Mill, to display a banner from March 31, 2008 through April 14, 2008. The banner will promote the Newark Boys Chorus School Concert on April 24 at the Clinton Presbyterian Church, Center Street. A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**BANNER REQUEST – HUNTERDON HOLISTIC SOCIETY**

Council is in receipt of a banner request from the Hunterdon Holistic Society to promote the Going Green and Holistic Expo, May 4, 2008 to be held at the Clinton Community Center. The banner will be displayed from April 28 through May 4, 2008. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**WATER REFUND**

Water collector, Nancy Burgess, has requested a water refund in the amount of \$24.06 payable to Nancy Desmaris. The owner sold the property and has a credit balance and the final water billing was complete. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 61-08 – SUBMISSION OF HIGHLANDS GRANT**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt Resolution #61-08, supporting the submission of a Highlands Council Grant application for a TDR Receiving Zone Feasibility Study.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

**RESOLUTION – BOARD OF RECREATION FEES**

The adoption of this resolution will be postponed until Mr. Ragozine and Mr. Shea can discuss it with the Board of Recreation Committee. Field and Facility Fees are to be established according to Ordinance #08-01. The Committee will discuss the fees at their next meeting, Thursday, March 29, 2008. The resolution will be placed on the next agenda.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Police Chief Matheis has commended the work of Public Works Employee, Art Dysart, for his quality of work and his commitment to the Town. Art recently transformed the Police Locker Room and the Chief's office with spackle and a fresh cost of paint. Art is

a tremendous asset to the Town.

2. Council is in receipt of a letter of resignation from John C. Holt, from the Board of Adjustment. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to accept his resignation with regrets. Anyone interested in the position is encouraged to complete a Citizen Involvement Application.
3. Notification received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, that the municipality will receive \$4,000. from 2008 Clean Communities.

### **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**

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

1. An auction was held February 29, 2008 to sell the 2002 Suburban and a Public Works truck. The Town sold the two vehicles for a total of \$10,000.00.
2. During the past two months of 2008, recycling has seen a 30% increase in volume. Since 2006, the first 2 months of the year there were 228 tons less garbage collected.

#### **Councilwoman Insel**

1. Planning Board – April 1, at 7:30 p.m. Circulation Plan and the presentation of the Department of Transportation. Everyone invited to attend.
2. Historic Commission – will be presenting the demolition ordinance within the next few weeks.

#### **Councilman De Cleene**

1. On Saturday, March 29, 2008, there will be a Cancer walk in High Bridge sponsored by “Friends of Suzanne”. Funds raised will benefit the Hacke Family of High Bridge and the Higgins Family of Clinton. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration; the walk will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene seconded by Mr. Ragozine to approve the standby and overtime pay as submitted for March 7, 2008 through March 20, 2008.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 62-08 - 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 8:34 p.m.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC

APPROVED:

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Christine Schaumburg, Mayor