

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to approve the minutes of August 9, 2005 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
1 Abstentions (Christenson, Pendergast)
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Ragozine, Haver Farm Road, Chairman of the Sign Committee, announced that the Committee will meet on Monday, September 19 at 7:30 p.m. Merchants are encouraged to attend this meeting regarding signage.

Mr. Ragozine also stated that there is a rumor around Town that the Moebus Tract has been sold and asked if there was any truth to it. Mayor Holt said he was approached by someone who identified himself as the buyer and a developer of home sites. The man was from the Whitehouse Station area and was interested in reviewing some of the background of previous applications for the site. Mayor Holt said, "we informed the gentleman where to go to research past history." Mrs. Schaumburg questioned, "who is we"? Mayor Holt said he and Mr. Cutter. Mrs. Schaumburg then said that she was told that the man was led to believe that the Town and the Planning Board thought a senior housing was a favorable idea. Mrs. Schaumburg made a comment that whenever a proposition comes to the Town it should be come to the entire Council. Mayor Holt said that when more viable information comes in, it will be made known.

Mr. De Cleene also said that he was told that the Town talked to a Realtor, and the Realtor spoke to Mrs. Moebus. He told her that the Town wants senior housing and that it was a good idea.

Megan Jones, George's Place, a member of the Planning Board, stated that the Planning Board looked at a proposition of senior housing for that lot and denied it, they felt it was "flat out wrong".

John Kozel, 4 Helen Road, read an article about the New Jersey Pension Fund. The Town of Clinton was listed as funding \$71,524.00 in 2006 and asked if the Town budgeted for this. Mrs. Smith, CFO, said that amount is not in the budget for this year but when budget meetings and discussions begin in November, it will be budgeted for 2006.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Mayor Holt commented on a follow up letter he sent to New Jersey Department of Transportation, regarding three items of signalization at the Leigh Street and Old Highway 22 intersection. The Town has been waiting for 12 months for the work to be done.

2. Mayor Holt attended a Council meeting in Union Township last week with Mr. Christenson and Fire Chief, Tim Langston. After a 20 minute dialogue, Union Township said they will consider adjusting their 2006-2007 contribution toward the Clinton Fire Department
3. Mayor Holt and Robert Cutter will be attending a Dam Workshop on Thursday, August 25 in New Brunswick.

PRESENTATION OF DONATIONS

On July 28, 2005, Councilwoman Garber organized a Pampered Chef Fund Raiser to be held at the Clinton Fire Department to raise funds for a new 100' ladder truck. Mrs. Garber was happy to read letters from the founder of Pampered Chef, Debra Roesser, the demonstrator, and Attorney Cushing, who made a donation from Gebhardt & Keifer. Other donations were made by Peter Joseph and Robert Cutter and another donation is expected from the Clinton Guild. Mrs. Garber thanked everyone who attended the demonstration and all who purchased items. Mrs. Garber then presented a check for \$2,000.00 to the Clinton Fire Department towards their new truck. Mayor Holt commended Mrs. Garber on her hard work, always with a smile, on a job well done.

The Clinton Sunrise Rotary attended tonight's meeting to present donations to the Clinton Police Department. Rotary members, Megan Jones, Lynn Arnold and Deb Shenberger thanked the Town and the Police for supporting their efforts in holding the Rubber Ducky Race and Sprintin' Clinton. The events could never have been held without the help of the Police Department and the Rotary would like to show their appreciation with a donation to the Police for the purchase of a new lap top computer for a police car and the purchase of a digital camera. The organization is celebrating the Rotary International Centennial Year. The project they have undertaken is to help the Town of Clinton with the planning of the new entrance to the municipal building. They will be donating three trees and a bench to the plan. The organization shows their generosity in many ways during the year, programs in schools, donations to the American Cancer Society, just to name a few.

FILM PERMIT – DILLARD'S PHOTO SHOOT

Council is in receipt of a Film Permit for from Richard Hobbs, to shoot Dillard's Christmas/Holiday Catalog on Main Street. The still photo shoot is expected to take two days. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #86-05 – REDEVELOPMENT STUDY

A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to adopt Resolution #86-05 authorizing the Planning Board of the Town of Clinton to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine whether Block 23, Lot 13, is in need of redevelopment.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #87-05 – DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE

A motion was made by Mr. Christenson, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #87-05, to execute a Discharge of Mortgage given by Florence Kucab to the Town of Clinton Affordable Housing Authority. Mrs. Kucab sold the home at 9 Woodcrest Lane to Marilyn Stowell.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #88-05 - OVERPAYMENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mrs. Kovach, to adopt Resolution #88-05 authorizing the refund of overpayments due to refinancing and closings.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #89-05 - CHAPTER 159

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Garber, to adopt Resolution #89-05 approving the insertion of \$6,237.70, a grant from the State of New Jersey to be appropriated under the caption of Police – Other Expenses in the 2005 Budget.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RAFFLE LICENSE - WOODLANDS WILDLIFE REFUGE

Council is in receipt of a raffle license application from Woodlands Wildlife Refuge to hold a 50/50 raffle on November 25, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in front of 44 Main Street. A motion was made by Mrs. Kovach, seconded by Mrs. Schaumburg, to approve raffle License #167 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members of the Clinton Fire Department returned to Council to discuss funding for a new 100' aerial ladder truck. Mayor Holt took this opportunity to say how proud he is of the Town of Clinton, that consistently the Town has stayed out of the newspapers in a negative way and continues to promote the Town in a positive way. Mayor Holt updated Council and the audience on all attempts to raise funds. A Federal grant was applied for early in 2005, current criteria is training and ladder trucks in suburban areas. Announcements have begun of recipients, can be tracked on firegrantsupport.com. Appeals have been made to adjoining communities, Franklin, Alexandria, and Union. A letter has been drafted and forwarded to Fire Department Attorney, Al Rylak for review. This letter will be forwarded to large corporations in the area such as WalMart, Holiday Inn and ShopRite.

Eleven months ago, September, 2004, the Fire Department approached Council to seek assistance in the purchase of a truck. They have returned on several occasions since then. During their most recent visit, June 14, 2005, an issue arose regarding \$100,000 that the Fire Department voted to contribute towards the purchase of the truck.

Discussion among Council began with Mayor Holt suggesting the Town pay the total \$850,000 for the truck and for the Fire Department to contribute \$350,000 toward the renovations of the building. Councilman Christenson agreed funding the full amount, to insure the safety of the firefighters.

Councilwoman Kovach did not disagree with the need to have the truck, but felt that Town residents who are already burdened enough with taxes, stated that she was concerned that they would have to pay approximately \$130 per household to fund the truck. Mrs. Kovach suggested changing the way we fund future vehicles. She encouraged the truck committee to take a proactive approach to discuss ways of raising money. The State will soon be announcing a new grant. Mrs. Kovach calls them daily and said the Town will be first on the list for an application when it becomes available.

Mayor Holt said he was about to petition the State for the two facilities that the Town of Clinton Fire Department and Rescue Squad respond to.

Mrs. Kovach made a motion that the Town fund \$750,000 toward the truck, and \$100,000 to be contributed from the Clinton Fire Department as agreed to at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Cleene.

Mrs. Schaumburg agreed to the \$750,000 for the truck and the \$100,000 from the Fire Department. She also mentioned that she has drafted a letter to send to corporations and has given it to Mr. Rylak for review. Mrs. Schaumburg would like to see the truck committee meeting again to discuss options for future funding for the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad. Mayor Holt explained to the audience that the truck committee identified the criteria for both entities.

Mrs. Pendergast agreed with the truck committee continuing their work for funding and said she is in favor of funding the entire \$850,000. Mrs. Garber was in favor of the \$750,000 and the Department's \$100,000. Patty Hatalla, Spruce Run Road, asked if reimbursement comes from the State in a form of a grant, how will the monies be disbursed? Mayor Holt explained the Town's debt requirement would be reduced first. Lori Insel, Center Street, agreed that the truck is needed and appreciates the efforts of the Town to explore other means to raise additional funds, such as grants and adjoining municipalities.

Attorney for the Fire Department, Al Rylak, addressed Council and made a plea for the entire amount of \$850,000. He explained that the Fire Department needs to keep the money they have to continue using the interest for expenses. The cost of renovating the building is expected to go beyond the initial \$350,000 ~~and~~ and may go as ~~high as \$500,000~~ high as \$500,000. Mr. Rylak asked Council to reconsider their motion.

After a lengthy discussion, an amended motion was made by Mrs. Kovach to support the \$850,000.00 provided building renovation costs exceed the original estimate of \$350,000.00. Should cost be \$350,000 or less, the Town would support \$750,000 with the Fire Department providing the additional \$100,000. \$100,000.00 will come to the Town of Clinton as reimbursement toward the cost of the truck. In addition, any grant money that we are able to secure, will come back to the Town of Clinton to reimburse the Town for its costs. "The only grant money, I'm assuming, that would go to the Fire Department, would be the specific building costs grant money. Anything else would come back to the Town of Clinton. Any money allotted for equipment will come back to the Town. The only grant money that would go the Fire Department is specifically for building renovations." Mayor Holt stated that the grant specifically spells out the three categories, so that would be defined." The motion was seconded by Mr. De Cleene.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mayor Holt thanked the members of Council, members of the Clinton Fire Department and the audience for their continued cooperation and for upholding his highest expectations.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A thank you has been received from Nicole Hatalla, as the Clinton Public School recipient of the Town of Clinton Good Citizen Award.
2. Confirmation received from the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation, acknowledging receipt of the Town of Clinton's resolution supporting the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund.
3. Correspondence received from State Senator Leonard Lance to Mayor Mesko and Governing Body of Bedminster Township, supporting the Town of Clinton's request for the placement of NorthSTAR Medevac at Somerset Airport.
4. A Newsletter from the Highlands Coalition available in the Clerk's office for review.
5. A letter of thanks from Dr. William Fraenkel who attended the Council meeting of August 9 to request designated handicap parking on Center Street.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Councilwoman Garber

1. Newsletter Committee completed the September edition, it should be mailed the first week of September.
2. Clinton Guild supported the filming of a commercial by Comcast Cable. Look for commercial

to air beginning September 22 through the first week of October on TNT, HGTV, and the Learning Channel and see beautiful Downtown Clinton.

3. Haunted Mill is looking for volunteers, if interested, contact Donna Stumm.

Councilwoman Schaumburg

No Report

Councilwoman Kovach

1. Celebration of the signing of the Highlands Act, first anniversary, was held August 10th at the Hunterdon Museum of Art. Many in attendance and great coverage in many newspapers.

Councilman Christenson

1. Buildings and Grounds Committee discussed the proposals submitted for 47 Leigh Street. A decision will be made at their next meeting September 6 and a recommendation will be made to Council at the next meeting.
2. At their last meeting, the Environmental Commission discussed correspondence received from DOT Commissioner regarding Highway Noise. The Commission will provide technical information to Mayor Holt in order to respond.

Councilman De Cleene

1. Roads – next meeting September 6 and 9:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Pendergast

No Report

Nancy E. Smith, C.F.O.

No Report

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Stripping to be completed on Main Street, expect sporadic delays.

Police Chief Matheis

1. Alert – “Drink, Drive, You Lose Campaign” taking place, State Police, Clinton Township, Town of Clinton involved.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:

A motion was made by Mrs. Schaumburg, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to pay the following overtime and standby pay for the period of July 28 - August 10, 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	--	--	6 ot	--
Howard Deemer	--	--	7 ot	--
Arthur Dysart	8 sb	--	6 ot	--
John Giordano	--	--	--	--
George Moore	--	--	--	--
Robert Niezgoda	8 sb	--	--	6 ½ ot
Roger Plaisted	--	--	6 ot	--
Jeff Reed	4 sb	--	--	6 ot
Wayne Smith	--	--	6 ot	--
Donald Tharp	8 sb	--	--	6 ½ ot
David Zyck	--	--	--	--

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Jobs</u>
Sgt. Cory Kubinak	--	--
Ptl. Jay Hunter	--	--
Ptl. Leon Cohen	--	--
Ptl. Jeffrey Glennon	--	--
Ptl. James Crilly	17 ot	--
Ptl. Tim McGuire	7 ot	--
Ptl. Matt Thompson	2 ot	10 ½ hrs.
Ptl. James Kramer	--	5 hrs.
Ptl. Ryan Garbolino	--	--


PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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 9:15 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried



 Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
 Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

 J. Matthew Holt, Mayor