

Councilman Dan Shea called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea,
Absent - Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Councilman Shea 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. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Pender to approve the minutes of December 8, 2009 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Pender, to accept the monthly reports for the month of November as submitted:

Administrator’s Report, Water Superintendent’s Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Whitney Wetherill, 36 West Main Street, asked if something can be done about parade goers setting up chairs so early in the day, blocking the access to cars parked on Main Street. Mr. Cushing said he was not sure what the Chief could do because they are not actually in violation of the law. Mr. Cushing suggested getting input from the parade committee and the Clinton Guild. A solution may be to set a time line, “no chairs out before 2:00 pm on the day of the parade”. A letter will be forwarded to the Guild to discuss possibilities.

Ms. Wetherill also remarked about the Teal Ribbons that are hung around Town in September declaring September Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. She mentioned they are tied to the Pony Truss Bridge and all poles around Town and they begin to look unsightly before the month is over. Ms. Wetherill asked if Council to discuss this with the organization before next September.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mr. Shea read a letter from a resident regarding the cars that were left overnight on Main Street and East Main Street during a recent snow storm. The letter said that the cars should have been towed. Chief Matheis explained in an email to Council that the cars were ticketed but without a call from Public Works saying the cars impeded their clean up efforts, towing was not an issue. Chief Matheis also said it is a challenge for tow trucks to remove vehicles under such weather conditions. The complaint letter also addressed chairs for the parade and candles inside pumpkins posing a fire threat. Mr. Hetzel said the Guild already discussed the pumpkins and only battery powered lights will be allowed in the future.

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE #09-25 - CREATING THE MUNICIPAL COURT

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to open the public hearing of Ordinance # 09-25:

ORDINANCE # 09-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ORDINANCE CREATING THE MUNICIPAL COURT
OF NORTH HUNTERDON EFFECTIVE 2010

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

This ordinance is to amend the current interlocal agreement following the withdrawal of Tewksbury Township and Hampton Borough.

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to close the public portion of the meeting.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Ordinance #09-25 on seconded reading.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE #09-26 – DATE OF RE-ORGANIZATION

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #09-26:

ORDINANCE #09-26

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE DATE
FOR THE YEARLY RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to close the public portion of the meeting.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Ordinance #09-26 on seconded reading.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #130-09 – TRANSFER OF DARE TRUCK

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Resolution #130-09 authorizing the transfer of a 1992 Ford Pickup from the Clinton Police to the Delaware Township Police.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #131-09 – APPOINTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Resolution #131-09 appointing Police Chief Brett Matheis Emergency Management Coordinator for a 3 year term beginning January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank you received from the South Branch Watershed for the Town's support in the clean up that took place in April.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Happy Holidays to everyone. The ice rink is ready at Hunts Mill for the Yuletide Festival.

Councilman Pendergast

1. Sewer – The Wastewater Treatment Plant has accepted delivery of a 2010 Hybrid Ford Escape.
2. SWAC – Discussed recycling with a council person from Lebanon Borough and by having a weekly pick up, Lebanon has increased recycling considerably. Mr. Pendergast would like to change trash pick up to once a week and recycling also once a week. Hunterdon County is planning a road trip for anyone interested in visiting and touring the NewTech Recycling facility on Friday, January 8, 2010.

Union Township is exploring a wood processing recycling plant which would accept untreated wood and turn it into mulch and fuel pellets.

Councilman Pender

1. The new 2010 contract with the Hunterdon Humane has been received. The cost has gone down by \$72.00. The cost this year is \$4,487.00.

Councilman Duffy

1. Fire Department is testing a new system that works through the internet to volunteers responding to fire calls. This BETA system pages and receives responses alerting the department that a fireman is on his way. The test system is free to the department to see how well it works before purchasing.

Councilwoman Insel

1. The Planning Board is preparing a very important ordinance to be introduced early in 2010. Mrs. Insel asked Council to read it thoroughly once it is received from the Board.
2. Safe Routes to School grant is going through the Federal process, it has State approval .

Councilman Shea

1. Board of Recreation – Yuletide Festival, Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Hunts Mill Park. Rain date, January 30th.

APPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Pender seconded by Mr. Duffy to approve the standby and overtime pay as submitted for November 27 through December 9, 2009.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #132-09 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mrs. Insel, to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters of Collective Bargaining, Potential Litigation at 8:15 P.M.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to return to the Regular Council Meeting at 9:14 P.M.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Duffy, to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC

Councilman Dan Shea