

Regular Council Meeting
March 23, 2010

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

Flag Salute.

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

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. Pendergast seconded by Mr. Pender to approve the minutes of March 9, 2010 regular meeting as submitted.

Vote all ayes
1 Abstention (Insel)
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Shea seconded by Mrs. Insel to approve the minutes of March 16, 2010 special meeting as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. Mayor Schaumburg received a recommendation from Chief Mathies to advance Patrolman Pete Tilstra to the pay grade of 1st Class Patrolman retroactive to his anniversary date of March 11, 2010 in accordance with the P.B.A. Collective Bargaining Agreement.

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mrs. Insel to approve the recommendation as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Mayor Schaumburg met with Lori Grifa, Acting Commissioner of the Division of Consumer Affairs, last week. Ms. Grifa talked about the 2 ½% cap. Ms. Grifa was not very specific. Mayor Schaumburg commented that she does not see this happening. The legislature would have to agree to a referendum to make a constitutional amendment before this can go into effect.
3. The Pension Reform and Health Care laws were passed (52, 53, and 54). Mayor Schaumburg and Kathy Olsen, CFO, have been reviewing the laws to make sure our personal policy will reflect the State laws. Mayor Schaumburg would like Ms. Olsen to present to the Personnel Committee a policy stating that employees must work 32 hours to get benefits from the Town instead of the 25 hours according to the State law.
3. Mayor Schaumburg attended Governor Chris Christie's budget presentation in Trenton. The Town of Clinton's state aid is being reduced by \$41,000. The Clinton Public School's (CPS) state aid is being reduced by \$414,000. Mayor Schaumburg will be meeting with Richard Katz, CPS Superintendent next week to discuss the school's budget. She will also be meeting with the high school superintendent the following week.
4. Amendments for COAH are being introduced but is not available yet. For more information, refer to Marsha Karrow's recommendations on her report.

RESOLUTION #62-10 – DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE

A resolution concerning the discharge of mortgage on an affordable housing unit in the Town of Clinton for Maureen Burke at 7 Rolling Hills Road.

A motion was made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to pass Resolution #62-10 as submitted:

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #63-10 – USE OF OPEN SPACE FUND

A resolution requesting \$77,744.77 from the funds collected annually through taxes to the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund Program to be used towards the Gebhardt Field improvements.

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel to pass Resolution #63-10 as submitted:

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #64-10 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A resolution requesting the transfer of funds in the amount of \$5,000 be made between the 2009 Budget Appropriation Reserves.

A motion was made by Mrs. Valenta, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to pass Resolution #64-10 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #65-10 – TEMPORARY CAPITAL BUDGET

A resolution to add to the capital budget the method of financing for the improvements to Rachel Court and Gebhardt Field. Mayor Schaumburg expressed concern about the item Bond Anticipation Notes of \$105,000 shown on the resolution. She feels with the economy the way it is right now she does not want to go into any more debt at this time.

The resolution was tabled this evening.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #10-05 – AMENDMENT TO FEE SCHEDULE

Authorizes the Town of Clinton to amend the fees for inspections, permits and certifications related to construction and the Uniform Construction Code. Mr. Cutter reviewed the fees with Kevin Fleming of the Building Department and had no changes. Mr. Fleming surveyed other municipalities to determine comparable rates.

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to introduce Ordinance #10-05 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #10-05
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE FEES

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A notice of the ordinance will be published in the March 31, 2010 edition of the Hunterdon Review. The second reading and public hearing will be held April 27, 2010.

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #10-06 – GEBHARDT FIELD AND RACHEL COURT IMPROVEMENTS

A bond ordinance providing to finance part of the cost for improvements to Gebhardt Field and Rachel Court. This ordinance was tabled also due to the Temporary Capital Budget resolution being tabled.

RESOLUTION #66-10 – CLINTON TOWNSHIP SEWERAGE AUTHORITY – SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT

A resolution authorizing the Town of Clinton to enter into a shared service agreement with the Clinton Township Sewerage Authority for temporary operator services of its wastewater collection system. Mr. Cutter submitted a proposal as well as three other private companies. The Town of Clinton was awarded the bid.

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel to pass Resolution #66-10.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

BANNER REQUEST

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Shea to approve the banner request for the BSA Troop 121 Centennial Camporee to be held May 1, 2010. The banner will be displayed from April 25, 2010 through May 1, 2010.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The 20th Annual South Branch Raritan River Clean Up will take place on Saturday, April 24, 2010.
2. Mayor Schaumburg announced that Kathy Olsen our Chief Financial Officer was asked to submit an application to be a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA). The application was approved. Having a QPA on our staff will increase our bid threshold from \$17,500 to \$29,000. A resolution appointing Kathy Olsen will be submitted at the next meeting. Mr. Cutter stated Mrs. Olsen has been doing the work of a QPA but we could not take the advantage without the official approval. Congratulations to Kathy Olsen.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Bus.Adm.

1. Mr. Cutter reported a water committee meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss some Highland's issues. Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 30 at 9:00am.
2. Mr. Cutter reported he met with the Warren County Pollution Authority to possibly obtain a lower price for hauling our recycling. The meeting was very promising. Mr. Cutter will let the Council know if another meeting is scheduled for them to view the facility.

Councilwoman Valenta

1. Mrs. Valenta attended the Clinton Guild meeting and said the membership is down from last year. Currently there are 35 members down from 68 members. This may be partly due to the fact that many businesses have not yet handed in their membership form for 2010.
2. April 15 is tax relief day.
3. April 3 the Easter Bunny will be on Main Street. The Clinton Guild is still in need of a volunteer to wear the costume.
4. The Grant Committee is very active doing research. Clinton Mills Dam and Dike reimbursement grant has been submitted for approximately \$125,000. The Highlands Water Management Grant reimbursement for \$35,000 has been submitted. The Highlands Performance Grant reimbursement has been submitted for \$50,000.

Councilman Shea

1. Mr. Shea reported the Senior Luncheon will be held Sunday, May 2 at the Rescue Squad.
2. Mr. Shea reported the Recreation Committee was discussing putting a bocce ball area in where the ice rink was at the Hunts Mill Park. A volleyball court was mentioned but felt was too costly and would require a lot of maintenance. Mayor Schaumburg mentioned that the bocce ball idea was also mentioned at the buildings and grounds meeting. There was discussion about putting it at the Community Center. Mayor Schaumburg stated the two departments should work together.
3. Mr. Shea reported the Shade Tree Commission is reviewing their budget.

Councilwoman Insel

1. Smart Growth Committee's next meeting is April 15, 2010 at 6:30 at the Municipal Building.

Councilman Pender

1. Mr. Pender reported that there was a preliminary personnel meeting. The discussion was about contribution for insurance issues. Also the job descriptions are 90% done. A discussion also was presented to recommend adding to the personnel handbook a Return To Work Policy. This policy would allow employees who are injured to return to work and perform light duty or another capable position. Mr. Cutter commented that he spoke with the Insurance Commission and having a written policy on this matter would help reduce our workers compensation premiums. The Town of Clinton always had an unwritten policy. It would be beneficial to have a formal written policy.
2. The next personnel meeting is scheduled for April 9 at 10:00am.

Councilman Pendergast

1. Mr. Pendergast reported on the SWAC meeting he and Mr. Cutter attended. Kathy Bross, a Councilwoman from Lebanon Borough, did a presentation on how their municipality became #1 in recycling. She stated she goes to all the businesses to promote recycling such as the gas stations, and the motorcycle shop. She goes door-to-door educating people on recycling. Mr. Pendergast stated she is a warrior on recycling.
Mr. Cutter stated he would send letters out to all businesses and the apartment complexes to encourage them to participate in the recycle program. It would be extremely difficult for the Town of Clinton to go door-to-door. If he can get the apartments, gas stations, and businesses to participate it would increase our recycling number substantially. The increase recycling would go toward our percentage to gain more credits.
2. April 10, 2010 is computer and electronic collection day and July 10, 2010 is hazardous waste clean up.

APPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the standby and overtime pay as submitted for March 4, 2010 through March 17, 2010.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Insel, Pender, Pendergast, Shea, Valenta, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mr. Pender to adjourn the meeting at 8:40p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC

Mayor Christine Schaumburg

Prepared by Nancy Burgess