

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M. at the Municipal Building. The meeting was delayed due to a local motor vehicle accident which caused extensive delays.

Flag Salute

Roll Call: Present – Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Miller

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE: The following statement of adequate notice was read: “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.”

REMARKS - MAYOR RICHARD MILLER

Outgoing Mayor Miller expressed his deepest appreciation to his colleagues, the Town staff and the Public Works employees for their acceptance and assistance in welcoming him into the position of interim mayor. Mayor Miller thanked everyone for going above and beyond to do everything possible to make the transition so easy. Everyone is amazing and the Public Works Department worked so hard following the storms of this past year. Mr. Miller stated that it has been an unexpected honor and a great adventure and thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Miller wished incoming Mayor, Janice Kovach, great success and good fortune in her new role. Ms. Kovach expresses great enthusiasm and energy!

SWEARING IN OF MAYOR JANICE KOVACH

Senator Barbara Buono, of the 18th District in Middlesex County and the first woman to serve as Majority Leader, attended this evening’s meeting in support of Janice Kovach. Senator Buono expressed what a special night it is for Janice! Knowing her for years, Senator Buono is inspired by Ms. Kovach’s competence to serve on a local level of government as Chief Executive Officer. The Senator stated that Ms. Kovach left council some years ago to serve as the Director of the Division of Women under Governor Corzine and commended Mayor Elect Kovach for her leadership skills.

In proceeding to administer the Oath of Office Janice Kovach’s, husband, Steve, held the Bible. Mayor Kovach was applauded and took her seat at the Council dais.

SWEARING IN OF COUNCILMAN PENDERGAST

Attorney Richard P. Cushing administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Marty Pendergast being sworn in for a second three year term expiring December 31, 2014. Wife, Rosemary Pendergast, held the Bible.

SWEARING IN OF COUNCILWOMAN VALENTA

Attorney Richard P. Cushing administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Maria Valenta. Councilwoman Insel held the Bible for Mrs. Valenta who was sworn in to her second term expiring December 31, 2014.

REMARKS – MAYOR KOVACH

Mayor Kovach addressed the audience and took pleasure as her first official duty, calling former Mayor Miller back to the dais. Mayor Kovach presented and read aloud a Proclamation to honor Mayor Miller for his time he served as interim mayor. A round of applause followed!

Mayor Kovach began with saying she is looking forward to serve the residents and businesses of the Town of Clinton. She was pleased to share the news that the Town and the Art Museum have made progress in their deliberations and are close to an agreement regarding the Clinton Mills Dam and Dike Project. Mayor Kovach thanked each council member and the Museum Executive

Director, Marjorie Nathanson, seated in the audience, for their commitments to resolve the issue and completing their goal.

Mayor Kovach announced that Public Works/Business Administrator, James T. Naples will be leaving the Town of Clinton and returning to the Township of Bridgewater. Our loss is their gain. Mr. Naples served the Town well for the past year, he will be missed.

In closing, Mayor Kovach wished everyone a Healthy and Happy 2012! She said to the crowd gathered if they would like to leave we would take a few minutes to clear the room!

REORGANIZATION: Mayor Kovach indicated that the resolutions will not be read in their entirety. The resolutions are posted on the bulletin board and there are copies available for the public and the press. (Resolutions #1 through 35-12 are attached to these minutes)

RESOLUTION #1-12 APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY

Motion made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Valenta, that Richard P. Cushing of the Firm of Gebhardt & Keifer be appointed to serve as Municipal Attorney for the Town of Clinton for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #2-12 – APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

Motion made by Mrs. Valenta, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to adopt Resolution #2-12 appointing Robert Clerico, P.E., of the Firm of Van Cleef Engineering Associates as the Town's Municipal Engineer for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #3-12 – APPOINTMENT OF WATER CONSULTING ENGINEER

Motion made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel that Andrew S. Holt, P.E. of the Firm of Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. be appointed to serve as Water Consulting Engineer for the Town of Clinton for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #4-12– APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE WATER ENGINEER

Motion was made by Mrs. Insel seconded by Mr. Shea, to adopt Resolution #4-12, appointing Susan S. Brasefield, P.E. P.P., C.M.E. of the Firm of Maser Consulting, P.A. as Alternate Water Engineer for the Town of Clinton during the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #5-12– APPOINTMENT OF SEWER CONSULTING ENGINEER

Motion was made by Mr. Shea seconded by Mr. Smith to appoint Susan S. Brasefield, P.E., P.P., C.M.E. of the firm Maser Consulting, P.A. to serve as Sewer Consulting Engineer for the Town of Clinton during the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #6-12 – APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE SEWER ENGINEER

Motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Duffy, to appoint Andrew S. Holt, P.E, P.P. of the firm Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. to serve as Alternate Sewer Engineer for the Town of Clinton for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #7-12– APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL LABOR COUNSEL

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Valenta, to appoint Richard Flaum, Esq. of the firm of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Coley, Yospin, Kunzman, Davis, Lehrer, P.E. to serve as Special Labor Counsel for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #8-12 - APPOINTMENT OF BOND COUNSEL

Motion made by Mrs. Valenta seconded by Mr. Pendergast to adopt this resolution appointing Edward J. McManimon of the Firm of McManimon & Scotland as the Town's Bond Counsel for the calendar year of 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #9-12– APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL PLANNER

Motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel to adopt Resolution #9-12 appointing Carl E. Hintz, PP, AICP, CLA, ASLA, of the Firm of Clarke, Caton, and Hintz, as Municipal Planner for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #10-12 – APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AUDITOR:

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel seconded by Mr. Shea to appoint Warren Korecky, R.M.A. of the Firm Suplee, Clooney and Company, as Municipal Auditor for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #11-12– APPOINTMENT OF TREE EXPERT:

Motion made by Mr. Shea seconded by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution appointing Lou Spanner of Spanner Shrub & Tree Care as the Town's Tree Expert for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #12-12– MUNICIPAL COURT BUDGET:

Motion made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Duffy, to adopt this resolution approving the proposed budget of the Joint Municipal Court of North Hunterdon for the calendar year 2012.

ROLL CALL: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

(Budget attached to these minutes)

RESOLUTION #13-12 – APPOINTMENT OF COURT ADMINISTRATOR:

Motion made by Mr. Duffy seconded by Mrs. Valenta to adopt this resolution appointing Robin A. Manfredi as the Court Administrator for the North Hunterdon Court for the year 2012 at a salary established in the Court's 2012 budget.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #14-12 – CHECK SIGNING AUTHORIZATION

Motion made by Mrs. Valenta seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt this resolution authorizing Councilwoman Laurie Insel to sign checks in the absence of the Mayor.

Vote all ayes
1 Abstention (Insel)
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #15-12 – RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER

Motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mrs. Insel, to appoint the Public Works/Business Administrator as Fund commissioner for the Town of Clinton.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #16-12 – RESOLUTION APPOINTING RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

Motion made by Mrs. Insel seconded by Mr. Shea to adopt this resolution appointing Brown and Brown Metro, Inc. its local Risk Management Consultant.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #17-12 – APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL INSURANCE AGENT

Motion was made by Mr. Shea seconded by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution appointing Caroline Conboy of Brown and Brown Metro, Inc. to serve as Insurance Agent for the Town of Clinton for the calendar year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #18-12 – COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Smith stated there was an error on the Shade Tree Committee, it lists Mr. Smith but should list Mr. Shea. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Duffy that the Council Appointments for the Year 2012 be approved as presented with the one correction.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #19-12 – APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Motion made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Valenta to adopt this resolution appointing the various municipal officials for the terms indicated.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #20-12 – APPOINTMENT OF BOARD, COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Motion was made by Mrs. Valenta, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt this resolution appointing the various boards, committee and commission members for the terms indicated.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #21-12 - AUTHORIZATION OF MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY AND TAX ASSESSOR TO FILE CORRECTIVE APPEALS AND COUNTER CLAIMS

Motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel to adopt Resolution #21-12 authorizing the Municipal Attorney and Municipal Tax Assessor to file corrective appeals and counter claims with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation on behalf of the Town of Clinton.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #22-12 – REDEMPTION OF CALCULATION FEES

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Shea, to adopt Resolution #22-12 which allows the Tax Collector to charge a fee of \$50.00 for each redemption calculation.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #23-12 – APPROVAL OF BANK DEPOSITORIES:

Motion made by Mr. Shea seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Banks as submitted in this resolution as the Official Bank Depositories for the Town for the year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #24-12 – RESOLUTION FOR INVESTMENTS:

Motion made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Duffy, to adopt this resolution authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to invest and reinvest various funds as recommended by the Council Finance Committee.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #25-12– RESOLUTION FOR OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS:

Motion made by Mr. Duffy seconded by Mrs. Valenta, designating the Hunterdon Review, Hunterdon County Democrat, the Courier-News and the Star Ledger as newspapers and the Hunterdon County News, hcnews@comcast.net, as the official online newspaper to receive notices required under the Open Public Meetings Act.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #26-12– RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING INTEREST RATES

Motion made by Mrs. Valenta, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt this resolution fixing the rate of interest to be charged for the non-payment of taxes, assessments, sewer use charges and water charges for the year 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #27-12– RESOLUTION SETTING YEAR 2012 COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Motion made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Insel to adopt this resolution setting 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, unless otherwise noted, as Council Meeting dates for the year 2012. Mayor Kovach stated that the second December, 2012 meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 26th of December, 2012.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #28-12 –RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL/REFUND

Motion made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Shea, to adopt this resolution, authorizing the Tax Collector to process the cancellation of any property tax refund or delinquency of less than \$5.00.

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #29-12 – RESOLUTION FOR TEMPORARY BUDGET:

Motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adopt this resolution setting forth the Temporary Budget as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 30-12- 2012 SALARIES FOR POLICE

Motion made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Duffy, to fix the maximum amounts of salaries to be paid for the police positions submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #31-12 – 2012 SALARIES FOR TEAMSTERS

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Valenta, to adopt the 2012 Salary resolution for the Teamsters Union as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

RESOLUTION #32-12 – 2012 HUNTERDON HUMANE ANIMAL SHELTER INC.

A motion was made by Mrs. Valenta, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #32-12 authorizing the Hunterdon Humane Animal Shelter, Inc. to provide service to the Town of Clinton.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #33-12 – AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CHECKS FOR MAILING OF UTILITY BILLS:

Motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mrs. Insel authorizing the Mayor to sign checks providing the voucher for said payment be included on the bill list for approval at the next Council meeting.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 34-12 – AUTHORIZATION TO MAINTAIN PETTY CASH FUND FOR MUNICIPAL CLERK

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel seconded by Mr. Shea, authorizing the Municipal Clerk to maintain a petty cash fund in the amount of \$100.00.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #35-12 – AUTHORIZATION TO MAINTAIN PETTY CASH FUND FOR POLICE

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mrs. Insel authorizing the Police Chief to maintain a petty cash fund in the amount of \$250.00.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Shea, to authorize payment of the Bill List attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Duffy, Insel, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Valenta, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes,
Motion carried

ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Kovach once again congratulated Mr. Pendergast, and Mrs. Valenta on their appointments and thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach