

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka Mayor Kovach

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mayor Kovach 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. Carberry seconded by Mr. Pendergast to approve the minutes of December 9, 2014 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to approve the Executive Session minutes of December 9, 2014 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Baka, 21 Water Street, addressed Council with his concerns regarding a beaver problem along Water Street which is compromising trees along the water. Mr. Phelan stated that he has been in touch with NJDEP, who controls trapping, and that they are expected to set cages on Friday, December 26, 2014. Mr. Shea, of the Shade Tree Commission, stated that the commission will take a look at the trees, as they have not done so to date. Some of the trees are on Town property. Council suggested waiting to see how the cages work before attempting other measures. Mr. Baka thanked Council and agreed to wait.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mayor Kovach expressed her thanks to the council and staff for their patience during 2014 with the campaign for congress that Mayor Kovach ran. Mayor Kovach was unsuccessful however she gained an impressive 40% of the votes. Nice job!

CAROLINE CONBOY – INSURANCE AGENT

Insurance agent, Caroline Conboy, of Brown and Brown Insurance, gave a complete overview of all coverages that Town currently has. Updated the council members on what Statewide Insurance Fund does and the insurance coverage options. Council was impressed by Ms. Conboy’s presentation and thanked her for coming.

RESOLUTION #146-14 – CANCELLATION OF LIEN

A motion was made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to adopt Resolution #146-14 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 146-14

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Town of Clinton has been paid \$29,902.74, the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #2014-19 on Block 13, Lot 21, assessed to Nicholas and Angela Luongo, and purchased by Alterna Funding I LLC/MTAG as Custodian for.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 23rd day of December by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$29,902.74(certificate) & \$71,000.00 (premium) to Alterna Funding I LLC, MTAG as Custodian for, P.O. Box 54817, New Orleans, LA, 70154, upon receipt of the Original Tax Sale Certificate endorsed for cancellation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be authorized to cancel Lien #2014-9 on Block 13, Lot 21, assessed to Nicholas and Angela Luongo, from the Town of Clinton Tax Records.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #147-14 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #147-14 as submitted:

RESOLUTION – #147-14

WHEREAS, it has been determined that there will be excesses in certain appropriations over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriations for the year 2014, and it has also been determined that certain appropriations are deemed to be insufficient to fulfill the purposes of such appropriations; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides for the transfer of the amount of such appropriations as may be deemed in excess to such appropriations as may be deemed to be insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the transfers about to be authorized do not affect any appropriations, to which or from which transfer are prohibited under the statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers between 2014 appropriations be authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Solid Waste Collection – Other Expenses	\$ 500.00	
Recycling Tax – Other Expenses		\$ 500.00
TOTALS	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
 <u>Water Utility</u>		
Salary & Wages	\$ 20,000.00	
Other Expenses		\$ 20,000.00
TOTALS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #148-14 – CANCELLATION OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution #148-14 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 148-14

CANCELLATION OF TAXES

WHEREAS, Block 31, Lot 37 was never assessed until 2013;

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor shows the ownership as “Unknown” and states that the property should be considered as an “Uncollectible”;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the taxes due on Block 31, Lot 37 in the amount of \$61.56 be cancelled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be relieved from the obligation to collect that assessment.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #149-14 – ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Mayor Kovach presented Resolution #149-14 to enter into a shared agreement with the county for animal control services. Mayor Kovach asked for a motion to accept. Mr. Carberry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rylak to adopt Resolution #149-14. Mr. Smith asked for a discussion to take place. A form of resolution has been prepared that Hunterdon County municipalities would join a shared agreement for an animal control officer chosen by the Hunterdon County Freeholders and the Board of Health, Taghdh Rainey, Manager of the Division of Public Health Services. At this time, no formal agreement has presented. Mr. Cushing suggested tabling this resolution until an agreement is in place for review before committing to the services. Mr. Cushing suggested discussing a month to month agreement with the current ACO, Kim Bennett, until all issues are resolved. Mr. Phelan to follow up with Ms. Bennett. Decision made to withdraw resolution #149-14.

RESOLUTION #150-14 – PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF DAVID MESS

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Smith, to appoint David Mess to a permanent position as a laborer within the Sewer Department.

RESOLUTION # 150-14

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2014, David Mess was appointed as a probationary laborer within the Sewer Department; and

WHEREAS, he has successfully completed his probationary period; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer Superintendent and Sewer Committee recommend that David Mess receive permanent appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hereby permanently appoint David Mess as a laborer within the Sewer Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to David Mess, as well as placed in his personnel file.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #151-14 – AGREEMENT BETWEEN TEAMSTERS AND TOWN OF CLINTON

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #151-14 as submitted:

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CLINTON AND THE TEAMSTERS LOCAL 469

RESOLUTION # 151-14

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2014, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton ratified the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and the Teamsters Local 469 via Resolution #89-14; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton and Teamsters Local have mutually agreed to make certain changes to Article 33, entitled “Health Care Insurance Programs”.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council hereby authorize the following changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Clinton and Teamsters Local 469:

Current Contribution Amount		Proposed Contribution Amounts	
Commencement began on July 1, 2014	4th year contribution rate	July 1, 2014 - December, 31 2014	4th year contribution rate
		January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015	3rd year contribution rate
		January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016	3rd year contribution rate
		January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017	4th year contribution rate

****Contribution rates are as outlined in Chapter 78, P.L. 2011**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Teamsters Local 469.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #152-14 – ENGINEER TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO SHPO

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #152-14 authorizing the Town Engineer to submit an application to the State Historic Preservation Office for the purpose of resurfacing Halstead Street which is located in the Historic District.

RESOLUTION # 152-14

Resolution Authorizing Robert Clerico to Submit an Application to the State Historic Preservation Office for the Halstead Street Resurfacing and Accessible Ramps Improvement Project

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton has employed the services of Robert Clerico, Van Cleef Engineering Associates, for the preparation of construction documents for the Halstead Street Resurfacing and Accessible Ramps Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, these plans require approval by the State Historic Preservation Office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hereby authorize Robert Clerico, P.E., to submit the application for the Halstead Street Resurfacing and Accessible Ramps Improvement Project and fully supports the application being made to the State Historic Preservation Office for approval.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE – None

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Richard Phelan, Business Administrator

Mr. Phelan has been attending hearings at the Hunterdon County court pertaining to the case of the former utility provider, Jim Klocksins. The judgement was for Mr. Klocksins to repay all monies incurred to the Town to restore the server and for IT services rendered to do so.

Councilman Smith

1. Water committee – Art Dysart, Assistant superintendent, has been visiting all the well houses and making a list of repairs needed. At this time, repairs to five well houses is in the \$9,000 range. A contractor will be hired to replace two new steel entry doors.
2. The committee has been discussing water testing and the way it is currently handled. Currently, the State takes samples from the same locations everytime, all of which are sanitary conditions. Roger Plaisted, Water Superintendent, has researched a test that samples will be taken from service lines and the results will be made known immediately. The State has given their blessings to the Town and hardware will be installed in five locations of the system at a cost of \$20,000.
3. Halstead Water Main Replacement project is complete and the resurfacing project will take place in the Spring on Halstead and Water Street.

4. Well #16 should be on line by June or July, 2015 on the Fallone Property.
5. Well #11 emergency generator is complete.
6. Water tank repair on the 3MG steel tank, been drained and is back on line.

Councilman Shea

1. SWAC – received the 2012 recycling grant of \$7,900.00

Councilwoman Sosidka

1. Recreation Commission – Annual Bonfire to be held January 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm and the Town Picnic is scheduled for September 12, 2015.
2. Historic Commission is planning a joint exhibit with the Red Mill Museum Village beginning May 17 with a photo contest in conjunction with the 150th and a focus on “What Makes Clinton Clinton!” Deadline to submit photos is March 26, 2015.
John Hurley, a descendant of the Mulligan Quarry family, has artifacts and treasures to donate and wants a proposal from the Historic Commission as to how they will be displayed. Mr. Hurley has the ability to have a display case built and would donate that as well. Christie Wood, Chair of the Historic Commission is excited about receiving the items!
3. 150th Calendars are in! \$10.00 in the clerk’s office and are simply beautiful!

Councilman Pendergast

1. Personnel Committee met to discuss having the Municipal Building closed the day after Christmas, Friday, December 26th. Mr. Pendergast said it is important to keep the town open but if someone has a vacation day they can use it as long as there is coverage in the office. The office will close at Noon on Christmas Eve, December 24th. The office will also be open Friday, January 2, 2015.
2. Clinton Fire Department – January 21 through the 24th members going to Appleton, Wisconsin for a pre-construction meeting with Pierce Manufacturing and a hands on demonstration for the new truck.
4. Santa Claus was driven through Town handing out candy canes and delivering toys to those families that registered. The fund raiser doubled the requests of last year (the first attempt) and the fire department is considering using two trucks next year.

Councilman Carberry

1. Alice DiGiambattista, owner of Just Chill, would like contact information for the property owners of the “Wargo Tract” on West Main Street next to Krauszer’s. Mayor Kovach said she would provide Ms. DiGiambattista with her most recent contact information.

Councilman Rylak

2. Commended Mr. Phelan on the meticulous work he did to report on the Beaver issue so accurately.
3. An old photo that Mr. Rylak recently circulated with angled parking on Main Street took him on a trip down memory lane. Mr. Rylak mentioned a handrail in a building 12-14 Leigh Street which was the original railing to the witness box in the Hauptmann/Lindberg Trial. The youngest juror was Ethel Stockton, who was Mr. Rylak’s secretary. Very interesting!

Mayor Kovach

1. Finance Committee met and discussed the Clinton Fire Departments contribution to the purchase of their new fire truck. The Fire Department made their share leaving a credit of \$5,500. A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to cut a purchase order to the fire department to return the \$5,500 to them.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. With the construction of Twin Ponds, a request for a small budget to be set to cover the additional inspections that will be required on a per diem basis so as not to hold up construction. A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith, to grant the request.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

3. Personnel discussed all non-contractual employees to receive a 2% raise. Motion made by Mr. Rylak seconded by Mr. Rylak to grant the 2% raise.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Pendergast to approve the standby and overtime submitted for December 5 through December 18, 2014 attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pendergast seconded by Mr. Carberry to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach