

Mayor Kovach called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Flag Salute.

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

Due to inclement weather on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, the regular scheduled meeting was postponed to this morning.

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 Ms. Sosidka, to approve the minutes of January 13, 2015 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
2 Abstentions (Pendergast and Rylak)
Motion carried

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. A citizen involvement form has been received from Scott Preston for a position on the Historic Commission. A motion was made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to appoint Mr. Preston to the Commission. Clerk checking on additional vacancies on the Commission as two other interested residents would like to join.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Mayor Kovach attended an Eagle Scout ceremony for Ross Traphagen, a Glen Gardner resident and presented him with a proclamation. Ross constructed a shed for the Youth Center in Glen Gardner.

BANNER REQUEST – ONE SPIRIT FESTIVAL

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Carberry to approve the banner request for September 21 through September 28, 2015. The event, Holistic Fair at the Community Center will be held September 26 and 27, 2015.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

BANNER REQUEST – CHILI COOK OFF

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to approve the banner request for the Newcomer’s Club, hosts of the Chili Cook-Off held at the Clinton Rescue Squad on April 25, 2015. The banner will be displayed from April 13 through April 20, 2015.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #40-15 – DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #40-15 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 40 - 15

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING DISCHARGE OF
AFFORDABLE HOUSING MORTGAGE**

WHEREAS former Town of Clinton resident, Aileen E. McTiernan, purchased a home at 16 Rolling Hills Road, Clinton, New Jersey, on February 25, 2004; and

WHEREAS this home was designated as an Affordable Housing unit in the Town of Clinton; and

WHEREAS pursuant to the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Housing regulations, the said Aileen E. McTiernan executed a mortgage to the Town of Clinton Affordable Housing Authority which was recorded in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, on March 11, 2004 in Mortgage Book 2660 on page 437; and

WHEREAS on November 16, 2010, Aileen E. McTiernan sold the said real property to Veronica Lopes, who has executed a mortgage to the Affordable Housing Authority;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor has the authority to execute a Discharge of the Mortgage given by Aileen E. McTiernan to the Town of Clinton Affordable Housing Authority.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #41-15 – RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #41-15 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #41-15

FORM 1B

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Town Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Town Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Hunterdon;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Town Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2016 in the amount of:

DEDR	<u>\$27,511.00</u>
Cash Match	<u>\$6,877.75</u>
In-Kind	<u>\$20,633.25</u>

2. The Town Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #42-15 – SUPPORT OF TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND

A motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Carberry, to adopt Resolution #42-15 as received and a copy will be forwarded to the Hunterdon County Freeholders showing support.

RESOLUTION # 42-15

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Legislature must approve measures to reauthorize the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund, which provides critical support for transportation infrastructure in Hunterdon County and throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County has a great stake in the adoption of a robust, long-term funding commitment to transportation given the importance of transportation investments to the County's economy and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the County's population growth of 47 percent since 1980 has added more demand on the County's roads and bridges, leading to increased wear and tear on these critical facilities; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is responsible for 242 centerline miles of roadway and 238 bridges, and other infrastructure, including 180 culverts; and

WHEREAS, based on an analysis by the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, funding the maintenance and construction needs for the County's bridges totals approximately \$5 million to \$10 million per year; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County's agricultural, tourism and other economic sectors are highly dependent on efficient transportation access as reflected in the County's recently developed Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which included improving transportation as a key strategy for improving the County's economy; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County's concerns about transportation funding are shared by the state's other county governments, which collectively need approximately \$565 million per year for vital repair, upkeep and improvements to 7,140 bridges and 6,775 centerline miles of roads; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that county and municipal roadways carry an estimated 53 percent of New Jersey's traffic, the State's commitment to county and municipal infrastructure has decreased steadily since the Transportation Trust Fund was created; and

WHEREAS, out of the current \$1.6 billion State capital program, only \$165 million is dedicated to Local Aid for counties and municipalities and, for counties, this translates into a funding gap of nearly \$454 million annually that must be raised through local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, without adequately supporting county and local infrastructure investments the State of New Jersey cannot realize its full potential for economic recovery and growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Clinton does hereby urge that the State of New Jersey reauthorizes the Transportation Trust Fund and that any reauthorization of the State's Transportation Trust Fund adequately addresses the needs of New Jersey's counties and local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in keeping with the recommendations of New Jersey's 2003 Blue Ribbon Commission Report and the New Jersey Association of Counties, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon hereby urges the renewal of the Transportation Trust Fund include at least \$400 million for Local Aid to counties and municipalities.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #43-15 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution # 43-15 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #43-15

WHEREAS, various 2014 bills have been presented for payment this year, which bills were not covered by order number and/or recorded at the time of transfers between the 2014 Budget Appropriation Reserve in the last two months of 2014; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-59 provides that all unexpended balances carried forward after the close of the year are available, until lapsed at the close of the succeeding year, to meet specific claims, commitments or contracts incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and allow transfers to be made from unexpended balances which are expected to be insufficient during the first three months of the succeeding year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that transfers in the amount of \$5,000.00 be made between the 2014 Budget Appropriation Reserves as follows:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Streets & Roads		
Other Expenses	\$5,000.00	
Legal		
Other Expenses		\$5,000.00
TOTALS	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

DISCUSSION – EMERGENCY RESPONDERS HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mr. Rylak addressed council with a concern he had with respect to emergency responders not being able to get psychological treatment that may be needed following a response to a gruesome incident. Mr. Rylak said that responders would have to travel 2 hours in any direction to get help, but after addressing the issue at the Medical Center, responders would now be able to get the help needed at local places.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Councilman Smith

1. Water Department – the steel water tank on Petticoat Lane has been completed and back on line.
2. Master Plan – looking into changing priorities about infrastructure of piping between Lebanon and Lilac Drive, pushing to do Lilac Drive in 2015 and Lebanon in 2016. Will apply to NJEIT for funding to put the lines in.

Councilwoman Sosidka

1. Historic Commission is showing lots of interest this year, the 150th ! Dave Sosidka scanned 400 photos with Christie Wood and will have them labeled and linked to the website. Lots of interesting photos. Mayor Kovach said Paige McGaheran reached out to her and has lots of memorabilia from Allie McGaheran that she would like to donate to the Historic Commission and the Red Mill, people that would have the appreciation for the items. Mayor suggested putting some photos of the old buildings and putting them in the current establishments on Main Street. Mayor Kovach said she is promoting an essay/picture contest at Clinton Public School for the children to participate in. They can put them into a book to publish and sell as a fund raiser.

Ms. Sosidka referred to the Mulligan Family descendant who plans to donate items and money to have a case built for displaying same. Mr. Phelan asked for specifics to bring to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for discussion and how to proceed.

Councilman Pendergast

1. Clinton Fire Department had a few their men travel to Wisconsin to the Pierce Manufacturer Plant for hands on of the new fire truck. Some changes were made, the Fire Department will get the breakdown to Mr. Phelan. An extension to order has been granted.

Councilman Carberry

1. Green Team will be hosting a workshop at the Community Center on February 28, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. with a demonstration of making natural shampoo, laundry detergent and dish detergent to name a few items.
2. A sign post depicting “Irishtown” on Halstead Street is to be erected and unveiled the day of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, March 15, 2015. The committee has been discussing the location of the 2x2 sign. Mayor Kovach suggested placing it in front of the first “Irish” home located at #28/30/32 built in 1846 by the Mulligan brothers.
Mr. Smith remarked of the amount of work done by the Sign Committee a few years ago and asked when will the proliferation of signs stop?

Councilman Rylak

Mr. Rylak, returning from a two week vacation in Hawaii, highly recommends a visit to Hawaii for everyone! Especially with a companion!

Mr. Rylak also mentioned the work done by the Sign Committee and said he was recently talking to Lou Tranquilli, the chair of the committee. Mr. Tranquilli said the committee worked very hard on the ordinance to make it a guide that should be referenced.

Smart Growth Committee received 808 surveys to date. They have been separated in different areas and results will be forthcoming.

Mr. Rylak referred to a resolution that was adopted on January 13, 2015, a meeting that he was not available for. Mr. Rylak did not like the wording of Resolution #39-15 "illegal and un-American", Mr. Rylak said everyone has the right to speak. Mr. Carberry defended his words chosen for the resolution. The Resolution commends and supports the Town of Clinton police department and all police departments.

Mayor Kovach

Announced the first budget meeting will be February 18, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Ms. Sosidka to approve the standby and overtime submitted for January 1 through January 15, 2015 attached to these minutes.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Carberry seconded by Mr. Pendergast to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach