

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

Flag Salute.

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

**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 the Regular council meeting September 22, 2015 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS – SEPTEMBER**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to approve the monthly reports for September as submitted:  
Administrator’s Report, Clerk’s Account, Cat & Dog Licensing Accounts, Construction Control/ Inspection Report, Police Report, Road Foreman’s Report, Sewer Collector’s Report, Tax Collector’s Report, Water Collector’s Report, Zoning Officer Report.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

John Bohnel, town resident, photographer and creator of the 150<sup>th</sup> Face of Clinton mural attended this evening to request wall space where the large mural can be displayed in the municipal building. It will be hung in the back staircase going to the council room. Mr. Bohnel’s framed photograph of “View from the Bluff” is for sale for \$175.00.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

1. A letter of resignation has been received from Travis Roop of the Smart Growth Committee due to moving out of town. A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to accept his resignation with regrets.  

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried
2. Discussion regarding hosting Halloween on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, October 31, 2015. It was decided to keep it on Halloween, Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> from 4 – 8:00 pm  
Ms. Sosidka commented to the number of posts on Facebook about the subject, just as an example of social media in the current day. Resident, Vince Cardarelli, Fairview Avenue, said in speaking with people from outside of Town, they asked to keep it on Halloween.

**SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION – CLINTON GUILD**

An application has been received from the Clinton Guild to host the annual Pumpkin Fest on Friday, October 23, 2015 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and pumpkins can begin to be dropped off the Guild is also requesting 10 parking spaces be blocked on Main Street from Pharmacy to Leigh Street and 7 spaces on

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East Main Street from Leigh to Dicken's Lane to display pumpkins. There will also be a display of pumpkins in front of Le Salon Blu on Leigh Street. This year the Guild is really ramping up the festival with face painting, balloon artists, horse-drawn hay rides and more! Pumpkins can be dropped off between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. at any of the three locations, Alley's Way, Le Salon or Dicken's Lane. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to approve the request. Chief Matheis has also signed off on the event and will have a crossing guard available to cross folks.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE #15-16- RAPID – Electronic reporting software**

At a recent meeting, Mr. Rylak had questions about this proposed ordinance and asked the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's office for clarification regarding fees. Mr. Rylak was not in attendance this evening. Detective Jessica Neiber issued a memorandum that was forwarded to Mr. Rylak on September 30 addressing his concerns and attended this evening's meeting for any additional questions that Council may have. Det. Neiber explained that shops would have to purchase the software and pay an annual fee to the Municipal Clerk who would in turn send the money to the State. Law Enforcement would be able to attempt to recover stolen property, even check Craig's List through this software. Council chose to wait for Mr. Rylak to be available to introduce the ordinance.

**RESOLUTION #125-15 – CLOSE OUT CURRENT ESCROW ACCOUNT**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adopt Resolution #125-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #125-15**

WHEREAS, in December 2014 Unity Bank deposited funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 to establish an escrow account with the Town of Clinton,

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding bills from the Town's Professionals to be paid from this account, and

WHEREAS, Unity Bank has requested the return of the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$233.50,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, to authorize the Chief Financial Officer to issue a check to Unity Bank in the amount of \$233.50 to close the current escrow account.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #126-15 – REALLOCATE CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution #126-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #126-15**  
**REALLOCATE CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton has certain Capital Reserve Funds; and

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**WHEREAS**, from time to time those funds are no longer required for the specific projects they were intended; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton wishes to use Capital Reserve Funds for Improvements to Municipal Property;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton requests that the Chief Financial Officer reallocate \$28,000.00 and \$24,952.00 from the Capital Reserve Funds for Offsite Improvements and Sidewalk Construction and Reconstruction, respectively, to Improvements to Municipal Property.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #127-15 – GRANT SUBMISSION TO NJDOT**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution #127-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 127-15**

RESOLUTION: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Helen and Hunts Mill Roads Improvement Project

WHEREAS, Helen Road and Hunts Mill Road are in need of Improvement

WHEREAS, Robert J. Clerico, P.E., Town Engineer, has prepared a cost estimate for improvements to these roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor & Council of the Town of Clinton formally approved the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2016-Helen & Hunts Mill Roads-00214 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Town of Clinton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Town of Clinton and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approved the execution of the grant agreement.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #128-15 – GRANT SUBMISSION TO NJDOT**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution #128-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #128-15**

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RESOLUTION: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the West Main Street Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project

WHEREAS, West Main Street between State Route 173 and the Main Street Bridge is in need of Pedestrian Safety Improvements

WHEREAS, Robert J. Clerico, P.E., Town Engineer, has prepared a cost estimate for providing these pedestrian safety improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor & Council of the Town of Clinton formally approved the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2016-West Main Street Pedestrian Safety P-00171 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Town of Clinton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Town of Clinton and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approved the execution of the grant agreement.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #15-17 – IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to introduce Ordinance #15-17 on first reading as submitted:

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE NO. 15-17**

CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF CLINTON AND APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$52,952.00 FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVES FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

**Section 1.** The Town of Clinton in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, is hereby authorized to make the following improvements in, by and for the Town, including all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefore:

<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>
Improvements to Municipal Property	<u>\$52,952.00</u>
TOTAL	\$52,952.00

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**Section 2.** The aggregate sum of \$52,952.00 is hereby appropriated from the Reserve for Improvements to Municipal Property within the Capital Improvement Fund to the payment of the cost of the improvements as described in Section 1 hereof.

**Section 3.** Said improvements are lawful capital improvements of the Town of Clinton having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvements shall be made as general improvements, no part of the cost of which shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

**Section 4.** The capital budget of the Town of Clinton is hereby amended to conform with provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for public inspection.

**Section 5.** This capital ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as required by law.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A copy of this ordinance will be published in the Friday, October 16, 2015 edition of the Courier News. A public hearing will be held October 27, 2015.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #15-18 – AMENDING CHAPTER “FIRE DEPARTMENT”**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to introduce Ordinance #15-18 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE # 15-18

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 ENTITLED “FIRE DEPARTMENT” OF THE  
GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON,  
AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**WHEREAS**, the Town recognizes the Clinton Fire Department, a duly incorporated volunteer fire company, as an agent and instrumentality of the Town for the prevention and control of fire; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fire Chief has requested that Chapter 10-2 entitled “Requirements for Membership”, Section B, entitled “Junior Members”, be amended to reduce the age of junior members of the Fire Department from 16 to 15 as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-96.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, the County of Hunterdon, that Chapter 10 entitled “Fire Department” of the Code of the Town of Clinton (“Code”) is hereby amended as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Section 10-2 of the Code of the Town of Clinton entitled “Requirements for membership” is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

§ 10-2 Requirements for membership.

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- A. Regular officers and members. Officers and members of the Department shall be 18 years of age or more and shall be chosen and admitted to membership in accordance with the bylaws of the
- B. company, which, unless and until superseded by rules and regulations of the Town Council, shall govern the Department generally. Members of the Department shall be subject to confirmation by the Town Council prior to taking office.

B. Junior members. Junior members shall be no less than **15** years of age nor more than 18 years of age and shall be chosen and admitted as junior members in accordance with the bylaws of the company. Junior members shall be subject to confirmation by the Town Council prior to taking office. Junior members shall only do those activities allowed by law for persons of their age and shall be supervised at all times by regular members of the company.

**SECTION 2.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

**SECTION 3.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A notice of this ordinance will be published in the October 21, 2015 edition of the Hunterdon Review. A public hearing will be held November 10, 2015.

**BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY SURVEY**

CFO, Kathy Olsen, distributed copies of the best practices inventory survey to Council for their review. According to State law, the survey must be completed and reviewed every year. The Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton have complied and will not be losing any state aid.

**WATER REFUND**

Water Collector, Nancy Burgess, is requesting a water refund in the amount of \$64.57 to Hsu Yueh, for a payment made in error. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Carberry to grant the refund.

ROLL CALL: Carberry, Dineen, Pendergast, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1. Meals on Wheels program is asking for our support and continued contributions.

2. Freedom House is holding the Sixteenth Freedom House Distinguished Citizens awards Banquet on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at Fiddler's Elbow County Club. If interested in attending, see clerk for details.
3. Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren will be hosting Cabernet & Cabaret at Raritan Valley Community College Saturday, November 14, 2015 at 7:00 pm
4. Resolution received from Hunterdon County Freeholders approving the taking of lands for highway purposes for the Reconstruction of County Route 513/Exit 15/Interstate 78 in Clinton Town and Franklin Township.

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### **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL**

#### **Kathy Olsen, CFO**

Ms. Olsen attended a conference recently and learned that when a Town is applying for a New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Loan (NJEIT) they no longer have to go to the Local Finance Board anymore speeding up the process.

#### **Councilman Smith**

1. Roads Committee – discussed the two grant applications being submitted for Helen and Hunts Mill Road and the Pedestrian Safety project for West Main Street in front of the Clinton House that were adopted by resolution earlier this evening.
2. Rescue Squad – there have been an increase in calls, 16% over last year and calls continue to go up. Response times 3 ½ to 4 minutes in Town and 7 minutes outside of Town.

#### **Councilwoman Dineen**

1. Website – Mayor Kovach and Ms. Dineen have met with a few web site developers and have been attempting to give the site a fresh look. Awaiting proposals and will report back.

#### **Richard P. Cushing, Esq.**

Mr. Cushing shared a rare find from an old book of By Laws of the Town of Clinton and an old resolution. Oh how times have changed! Everyone enjoyed a good laugh!

#### **Councilwoman Sosidka**

1. Hooper Canoe Races were held Sunday, October 11, and well attended. Mayor Kovach spent two hours in the water with chest high waders! A fun day for everyone!
2. Smart Growth Committee met and are planning another group meeting and encourage public discussion. Tentatively set for November 12 at the Clinton Fire House, the meeting will be live streamed. A Girl Scout troop came in and is interested in teen activities, something that was brought up in the survey. The scouts are working towards a silver award goal and would like to implement two team groups, one group to work the scheduling of events and the other group to communicate the events. The Board of Recreation supports the Girl Scouts and will help as they can.

3. Ms. Sosidka mentioned the debate she recently talked about on affordable housing / economic development has been rescheduled to November 9, 2015. She will forward information to anyone who may be interested in attending.

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**Councilman Pendergast**

1. Clinton Fire Department has begun billing for services when appropriate, such as on the highway. They have sent out bills totaling \$3,700 and have received \$1,200 in September.
2. On November 19, 2015, the Holiday Inn has invited the members of the fire department, rescue squad and council members to show their appreciation to the volunteers.
3. The Fire Department will be having a coin toss on Black Friday and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon at Exit 15.
4. Mr. Pendergast presented a new full and active member to the fire department, Matthew Thomas Bullman, 35 Summit Court, Annandale. A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Ms. Dineen to accept this new member.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**Councilman Carberry**

Insurance meeting Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

**STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Carberry to approve the standby and overtime submitted for the period of September 11 through September 24, 2015 attached to these minutes.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the standby and overtime submitted for the period of September 25 through October 8, 2015 attached to these minutes.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Sosidka seconded by Mr. Pendergast to adjourn the meeting at 8:21p.m.

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Regular Council Meeting  
October 13, 2015

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Town Clerk

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Mayor Janice Kovach