

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Carberry, Dineen, Pendergast, Rylak, 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 Ms. Sosidka, to approve the council meeting minutes of January 12, 2016 submitted.

6 Vote Ayes  
1 Abstention -Rylak  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS – DECEMBER- WWTP**

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to accept the Monthly Report for the month of December as submitted: Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mr. Kevin Joseph cofounder of the Oyster Hood presented a slide show to propose an event in Town similar to an event called Dinner over the River on the Neversink River in the Catskills. Mr. Joseph would like to have this same event on the Pony Truss Bridge in Town. The bridge would be shut down to traffic. Tables and dinner stations would be set up on the bridge. Participants would be able to enjoy many different types of food prepared by the many vendors involved. The target date would be June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 since it is the longest day of the year from 6pm to 9pm. The cost would be about \$175 per person or a table can be reserved for six at a cost of \$1800. It would be unlimited food and beverage with no cash exchanging hands. A voucher system with wristbands would be used. People can leave the bridge and walk along Main Street and enjoy the quaint little Town before returning back to their table. He anticipates about 300 people to attend. Mr. Joseph was thinking of asking the Hunterdon Art Museum to use their patio for the event as well. Mr. Joseph said he would be the producer of the event. He will get solicitors and donations for the event. This event would be for profit. Some of the proceeds will be donated to local non-profits such as the Hunterdon Art Museum and the Red Mill. There will be no cost to the Town.

The Mayor and Council were very interested however there were many issues that need to be worked out. Some of the issues are the parking for that many of people, insurance, fire and rescue must be on notice, and especially approval to use the bridge must come from Hunterdon County. The Pony Truss Bridge is a county bridge and must get their permission before anything can be done.

2. Nicole Piazza, co-owner of the Clean Plate Kitchen 49 Main Street, updated the Mayor and Council on the activities planned by the Clinton Guild. Sweetheart week will take place from February 7<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. The "Taste of Clinton" is scheduled for April 29, 30 and May 1. Ms. Piazza stated it is on the same lines as the previous presentation. Participants get to enjoy the different foods the restaurant owners have to offer as well as doing some shopping.

3. Mr. Walter Hetzel, owner of Hetzel Art Supply 22 Main Street, said the lighting at the Water Street parking lot needs to be addressed. Many patrons have said the lot is too dark at night. Mayor Kovach will inform the road committee.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Kovach acknowledged the hard work of the Public Works department with the snow removal of the blizzard on January 23, 2016. The Town recorded about 28" of snow accumulated from the storm. The public works employees worked 36 straight hours to maintain the roads throughout the Town. They all have done an outstanding job. All council members agreed the Public Works employees have done an excellent job.

2. Mayor Kovach addressed the council if anyone was able to attend the swearing in on John King to be held on Friday, January 29, 2016, in Trenton. Mr. King is joining the board of New Jersey Association of Counties. Mayor Kovach unfortunately is unable to attend.

### **SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST – FISHING DERBY**

An application has been received from the Rotary Club of Clinton Sunrise to have a Fishing Derby at DeMott Pond in the Town of Clinton to be held April 23, 2016.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Dineen to approve the special event request.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

### **RESOLUTION #39-16 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES**

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Ms. Sosidka to adopt Resolution #39-16 as submitted:

#### **RESOLUTION #39-16**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector of the Town of Clinton has received an overpayment for the following block and lot due to Homestead Rebate,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to refund the overpayment to Susan Stuart, 7 Woodcrest Lane, Clinton, NJ 08809, for the following account:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
31.01	7.01	C2907	\$ 161.37

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tax Collector remove the overpayment on the above block and lot for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2015.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #40-16 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to adopt Resolution #40-16 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #40-16

**WHEREAS**, various 2015 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 2015 Budget Appropriation Reserve in the last two months of 2015; 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 \$15,100.00 be made between the 2015 Budget Appropriation Reserves as follows:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Animal Control		
Other Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	
Solid Waste Disposal		
Other Expenses	\$13,600.00	
Telephone		
Other Expenses		\$2,000.00
Legal		
Other Expenses		\$6,000.00
Affordable Housing		
Other Expenses		\$2,000.00
Solid Waste Collection		
Other Expenses		\$5,100.00

<b>TOTALS</b>	<u><b>\$15,100.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$15,100.00</b></u>
Sewer Utility		
Salary & Wages	\$35,000.00	
Sewer Utility		
Other Expenses		\$35,000.00
Water Utility		
FICA	\$ 2,500.00	
Water Utility		
Other Expenses		\$ 2,500.00

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

### **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**

#### **Chief Brett Matheis**

1. Chief Matheis reported there will be some street closures for snow removal due to the blizzard on Saturday, January 23, 2016. East Main Street will be closed on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 starting at 7:00am until complete. The south side of Main Street will be cleared Thursday morning and the north side will be cleared Friday morning. Main Street will not be completely closed to traffic. One lane will be opened for traffic. Lower Center Street snow removal has not been scheduled at this time.

#### **Councilman Smith**

1. Councilman Smith reported he attended a roundtable discussion with High Bridge Emergency Service. Discussion topics were the common delivery of services, common structure, the daytime operation, nighttime operation, insurance coverage, funding sources, and common equipment. The in county recent events discussed were closure of three volunteer departments which are Frenchtown, Bloomsbury and Stockton, new partnerships with Quakertown Volunteer EMS and Kingwood FAS, and East Amwell and Raritan Township re-alignments.

#### **Councilwoman Dineen**

1. Councilwoman Dineen reported she is working on the web site and needs to meet with the Mayor to discuss options.

2. Councilwoman Dineen reported the Shade Tree Commission met with the Finance Committee to work out the budget request.

#### **Councilman Pendergast**

1. Councilman Pendergast reported the Clinton Fire Department filed 22 claims last year and received \$12,400 since passing the Fee for Service Ordinance for the fire department. Passing this ordinance allowed the Clinton Fire Department to bill the person at fault for an accident on the highway for their services.

**Councilman Carberry**

1. Councilman Carberry reminded the council the Annual Yuletide Bonfire is rescheduled for this Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 6:00pm. The bonfire was cancelled last week due to the snow storm.

**Councilman Rylak**

1. Councilman Rylak reported the next meeting for the Smart Growth Committee will be Monday, February 1, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to approve the standby and overtime pay attached to these minutes for January 1, 2016 through January 14, 2016.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Sosidka to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 P.M.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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Nancy A. Burgess, Deputy Clerk

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Mayor Janice Kovach