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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Dineen, Johnson, Karsh, 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 COUNCIL MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Ms. Dineen to approve the Council minutes of March 27, 2018 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson seconded by Ms. Karsh, to approve the executive session minutes of March 27, 2018 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS – MARCH

A motion was made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the monthly reports for the month of March 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, Treasurer’s Report, Water Collector’s Report, Zoning Officer Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. A recommendation was made by the Environmental Commission to appoint John Madden to the Commission. Motion made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Ms. Dineen to appoint as recommended.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Mayor Kovach reported the New Jersey League of Municipalities Convention will be held November 13, 14, and 15, 2018. More information will be forthcoming.

3. Wildwood Crest is hosting the first annual Crest Best Run Fest, a series of running races and walking events that will take place Saturday, October 6 and Sunday, October 7.

Mayor Kovach proudly announced that the Town of Clinton will be having a Mayor and Council team for the Hunterdon Half Marathon on October 7, 2018. This is the Main Street Half Marathon that was held for the first time last year and was a huge success. This year teams will be invited to participate as a relay and Mayor Kovach is challenging other mayors and councils to compete.

4. Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 9th annual Women's Leadership Summit on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at the Clinton Holiday Inn.
5. "Barriers to Addiction Recovery" in Hunterdon County, Community listening forum, April 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Stangl Factory.

RESOLUTION #71-18 - CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief, Walt Dorf attended this evening to explain the resolution being requested and the proclamation supporting shared services with the Borough of High Bridge, Borough of Lebanon, Township of Clinton Annandale Hose Company #1 and Franklin Township Fire District #1 (Quakertown Fire Company). Chief Dorf explained the North Hunterdon Fire Alliance continues to support one another with manpower, equipment and apparatus as well as with personnel and equipment being stationed in their various facilities in order to enhance response times.

A motion was made by Mr. Rylak, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adopt Resolution #71-08 as presented and to support the Clinton Fire Department in all they do.

RESOLUTION #71-18

A Resolution Supporting the Clinton Fire Department

Provisions of Mutual Aid Services during Emergencies

WHEREAS, the Clinton Fire Department provides fire protection to The Town of Clinton as well as to neighboring municipalities during emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton recognizes that, on occasion, That the Clinton's Fire Chief or acting Fire Chief may be requested to assist other Agencies during emergencies in what is known as "Mutual Aid"; and

WHEREAS, the towns council recognizes that mutual aid is reciprocal in that it benefits other municipalities as well as benefiting the Town of Clinton during emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Mutual Aid agreements shall require area fire departments to respond to the Town of Clinton and The Town of Clintons fire department to respond out to area fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the fire chiefs of each municipality agree that Mutual Aid is conditioned upon each fire department or company having adequate resources to do so, and that during times of equipment and staffing shortages, a fire chief can decline to provide mutual aid; and

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WHEREAS, any written agreement among the fire chiefs regarding the provisions of a Mutual Aid services shall provide that any party can terminate the agreement with sixty (60) days of written notice; and

WHEREAS, the Towns fire chief shall understand that no local Mutual Aid agreement(s) shall supersede any New Jersey state regulation or statute, eg., County Mutual Aid Plan, NJ Deployment Act, or any other emergency management regulations; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Clinton Council of the Town of Clinton, in Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, as follows

1. The Town of Clinton hereby authorizes the fire chief to enter into Mutual Aid agreements with other area fire departments. These Mutual Aid agreements shall be presented to the Towns Council upon adoption and thereafter kept on file with the Town Clerk and within the office of the Towns Fire Chief;
2. The Towns Council shall support the Fire Chief and these agreements provided that no detriment inures to the safety and well-being of Clintons citizens and property; and

The Town shall continue to provide adequate New Jersey Workers Compensation in accordance with New Jersey State Law to Clinton Fire Department and members who may be injured while providing Mutual Aid to neighboring municipalities.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #18-02 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Mr. Rylak seconded by Ms. Dineen, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #18-02:

**ORDINANCE # 18-02
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-27
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW
JERSEY CREATING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mr. Smith asked that this ordinance be put on hold until all council members have a chance to carefully read it. There are a few concerns Mr. Smith has with wording, specifically in Section 1 – A regarding appointments of members and in Section 1- C regarding “The Committee may solicit funds from interested citizens or other governmental agencies”. Mr. Smith also stressed the sentence “committee to

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Work with Town Planner, Engineer and Attorney” stating that professionals do not work for free and the Committee does not have a budget to work with. Mr. Rylak was also concerned with appointments of members and said it should be done by the mayor. After a lengthy discussion, Councilwomen Dineen and Karsh agreed to changing some language therefore amending the ordinance which will be on the April 24, 2018 agenda for public hearing. The amended ordinance will be published in the April 18, 2018 edition of the Hunterdon Review.

A motion was made by Mr. Rylak, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to close the public portion of the public hearing.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

The amendments will be to Section 1-A, Establishment. Economic Development Committee will be excised and will be replaced with “appointments will be made with the advice and consent of Council.” The second amendment is Section 1-C, “The committee may solicit funds from interested citizens or other governmental agencies” shall be excised and replaced with the “Committee shall be permitted to seek private and public grant funding.” Mr. Rylak made a motion to accept those amendments, seconded by Ms. Dineen. Public hearing will be April 24, 2018.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

BANNER REQUESTS

A banner request has been received from Basil Bandwagon promoting Free EarthFest to be held Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Dvoor Farm in Flemington from 10am to 6pm. A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to approve the request.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A banner request from the Hunterdon Art Museum promoting “Lace, not Lace” exhibition opening to be held September 22 and 23, 2018. A motion was made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Ms. Karsh, to approve the request.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Meals on Wheels in Hunterdon, Inc. is holding a raffle to be held May 24, 2018 in Flemington. Tickets are \$20 each or a book of five tickets for \$100.00. For more information, contact the clerk.
2. David Harkness, Director of Government and Community Affairs, reached out to municipalities with an invitation for a public officials forum at the Hunterdon Medical Center on May 11, 2018, 8:30 am to noon.
3. Notification received from Assemblyman Erik Peterson regarding Assembly bill 1092 – revising local redevelopment and housing laws.
4. Letter received from resident disputing charges to her water account for restoration of services.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

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Councilman Smith

1. Roads Committee – continue West Main Street Pedestrian Project. Engineer Clerico filed permits with the appropriate State agencies regarding water main replacement.
2. Water Committee has received a request for service on the Headley Farm in Clinton Township. Property located above Cryan's. 104 affordable units, 140 marketable apartments and 156 townhomes.

Shut off notices have been issued to 25 customers. Notices are sent after 6 months of non-payment or a balance of \$1,000 or more. Payments usually come in after final notices are sent.

3. Buildings and Grounds – new sign at the Community Center was destroyed with recent storms and will have to be rebuilt.
Staircase to the second floor of the barn that leads to Water foreman's office is scheduled to be rebuilt. Clinton Conservancy has prepared a plan for DeMott Pond and Hunts Mill Park area. The Conservancy would like to do some plantings and clean up the area of dead trees.
4. Rescue Squad – a new heavy duty rescue rig is expected to be delivered within the next two weeks. Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad together with Clinton Fire Department have formed a committee to discuss the possibility of combining facilities.

Councilwoman Sosidka

1. Environmental Commission – thankful to Mayor Kovach for attending their meeting last night. The Commission, along with their new members, are bringing much enthusiasm and good energy for the Town. John Madden brought a \$1,500 grant application to the commission that he will be submitting this week.

The Conservancy insurance renewal is now due, the requirement is \$2,000,000, however, that costs an extra \$475.00 per year. The Conservancy is requesting Council approve carrying a \$1,000,000 policy waiving the \$2,000,000. A motion was made by Mr. Rylak to approve the \$1,000,000. policy, seconded by Ms. Dineen. If the commission was to work with large machinery or anything more than their small plantings and tools, a rider would be required.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Dineen, Johnson, Karsh, Rylak, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Councilman Rylak

Before beginning his report, Mr. Rylak stated he went to the location of last year's planting along Water Street and the bulbs are beginning to bloom.

1. Clinton Fire Department – reported 31 calls for March and year to date 88 calls. The State is imposing more training for firefighters and now requiring annual physicals. Following up on Mr. Smith's report, Mr. Rylak said there were some discussions about team merger with the fire and rescue. For the record, a letter was received from Jonathan Wall, President of the Sierra Club, suggesting the Moebus Tract would be a good location for the Fire and Rescue to relocate.

Councilwoman Karsh

1. Clinton Guild – request from the guild is to have DPW help with watering the flower pots on the bridge or possibly the Conservancy would be willing to help. Ongoing problem is the trash on the weekend.

Guild president, Paul Muir, is looking into cost saving process for extra garbage pick up on weekends.

Asked to relay to the town that a few shop owners were ticketed for not fully clearing the snow completely from their sidewalks and that they were hurt by that.

The Guild asked that a review of the sign ordinance for commercial buildings be done which Ms. Karsh will be doing. The ordinance is very confusing and Mayor Kovach suggested talking to Allison Witt, Zoning officer, for clarification.

Come together, Music on Main will begin May 19, earlier than years past and will be held on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

May 19 is the day of the Royal Wedding and the theme in Clinton will be a "Royal Reception" and dress will be black and white. The organizers are trying to find a couple for an actual wedding! The Mayor has been asked to attend and possibly perform wedding if they get a willing couple!

The Economic Development Committee in Frenchtown has reached out to Clinton to meet and share the process of the commission with Marc Saluk, the Director of Economic Development for Hunterdon County, in an effort to benefit both towns and create a partnership.

Councilwoman Johnson

1. Shade tree – walked the Town and conducted an inventory of trees and addressed the trees with needs.

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Ms. Sosidka, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the standby and overtime submitted for the period of March 23, 2018 through April 5, 2018 attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Dineen, Johnson, Karsh, Rylak, 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 bill list attached to these minutes as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Dineen, Johnson, Karsh, Rylak, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Rylak seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC, Municipal Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach