

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Pender, Quinones-Perez, Ragozine,  
Mayor Schaumburg

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:**

Mayor Schaumburg 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. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the minutes of November 28, 2006.

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Quinones-Perez)  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

A motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to accept the monthly reports for the month of October as submitted:

Administrator’s Report, Clerk’s Account, Cat & Dog Licensing Accounts, Construction Control Account, Fire Official Report, Police Report, Sewer Collector’s Report, Tax Collector’s Report, Water Collector’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent’s Report, Zoning Officer/Construction Official Report.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Hedden, Captain of the Clinton Fire Department, reported that they will be taking Santa on a tour through Town on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman De Cleene introduced Boy Scout, Evan Kaplan, of 16 Hillside Drive. Evan is working on a merit badge and is attending this evening’s meeting to learn of local politics. Evan will also return on Wednesday afternoon when Mr. De Cleene will take him on a tour of the Municipal Building and introduce him to the Town employees.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Schaumburg announced the Christmas Parade will be held on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Thank you to Frank Hooper and Dan Torrone for all their work in planning this wonderful event.
2. Mayor and Council attended the League of Municipalities in Atlantic City the week of

November 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a successful week, and everyone learned a lot. We also received great news from Eileen Swan, Executive Director of Smart Growth, and Susan Bass Levin Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, that the Town received a Grant for \$45,000.00. Councilwoman Insel applied for this Smart Future Grant last year and now that this has been granted, the Town can move ahead with their Vision Study. Thank you to Councilwoman Insel for her diligence.

The Town of Clinton has also received a \$10,000 HART grant to move ahead with the engineering costs for Part II of the Bike and Pedestrian Path Study.

Another bit of exciting news, the Department of Transportation awarded a \$150,000.00 Grant for the Clinton Knolls Road work. Mayor Schaumburg thanked Chief Matheis for going to Trenton and for putting together the number of overtime hours performed by the Town Police.

**RESOLUTION #114-06 – CANCELLATION OF LIEN**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt Resolution #114-06 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

**RESOLUTION #115-06 – DISCHARGE OF HOUSING MORTGAGE**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Resolution #115-06 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

**RESOLUTION #116-06 – DEDICATION BY RIDER**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to adopt Resolution #116-06 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #06-20 – RECREATION COMMITTEE**

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene to introduce Ordinance #06-20 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #06-20  
AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS COMMISSION AND PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Ragozine attempted to explain the reason for the proposed ordinance, changing the Commission to a Committee, which would then include Mayor and Council to be a part of the actions and spending of the Commission. Responding to a report from the Town Auditor, there appears to be a lack of communication between the Council and the Commission at this time. The change was suggested by the auditor following a report of financial records and operations of the Town's Parks and Playgrounds Commission and the general recreational program funded by the

municipal budget. Mr. Ragozine also stated that discussions between Clinton Township and the Town have begun regarding a shared Recreation Committee.

Mr. Harrison asked was this proposition presented to the Commission prior to this evening' introduction? Mr. Ragozine said a copy of the auditor's recommendation was presented to the Commission's secretary during the October Parks & Playgrounds meeting. Mr. Pender asked if the Council met with the members of the Commission?

Rosemary Pendergast, Chairwoman of the Parks and Playgrounds Commission, 20 Spruce Run Road, stated that at the October meeting, the Parks & Playgrounds unanimously opposed abolishing the Commission. At that time, the Commission requested a meeting with Council to address specifics. She also said that they never saw a report from the auditor.

John Jeffries, 6 Mitchell Lane, asked what is the urgency? Mr. Jeffries then asked, "what have we done wrong?" Mr. Ragozine said the Council was not insinuating anything was being done wrong, that Council was following the recommendation of the auditor. Nothing should change as to the way they operate, things are still the same. Mr. Ragozine stated that there was a very defensive attitude on behalf of the Commission. Mayor Schaumburg said that a large amount of money is being handled by someone not working for the Town. In the past, Nancy Smith was the Chief Financial Officer but she no longer works for the Town.

Mrs. Pendergast asked if some less drastic measures can be taken? "If someone comes in with a request, would they have to come before Council?" The answer was yes.

Bob Muldowney, member of the Commission, felt that Council has more important issues to deal with than requests. He also said he did not get a copy of the auditor's report.

Councilman Harrison mentioned that a brief comment was made at the October Council meeting regarding the proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Bahto asked for clarification, is it true that the Commission is an autonomous body and the Commission has authority to make decisions and the Council signs off on it? If there is a Committee system, budget transfers can be made and Council could move money around? Yes, transfers of funds can be made in November.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Garber, Ragozine, Quinones-Perez, Mayor Schaumburg  
Nays: Harrison, Pender

A copy of this Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review, second reading and public hearing will take place December 26, 2006.

### **REFUND OF FEES**

A request has been submitted by Ara Kradjian, potential buyer of 110 West Main Street, LLC, to refund the escrow deposit amount of \$1,000.00 and the application fee of \$100.00. Mr. Kradjian has decided not to purchase the property because it is not a permitted use for retail. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Pender, to grant the refund as requested.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RAFFLE APPLICATION – HUNTERDON HILLS LIONS CLUB**

Council is in receipt of a Raffle application from the Hunterdon Hills Lions Club for a raffle drawing to be held January 29, 2007 at Charlie's Bootery. A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A letter of commendation to Patrolman James Crilly for an exemplary performance of police work on November 17, 2006.
2. A letter sent by the Trustees of Union Gap Village in support of our efforts to file a Transportation Problem Statement filed by Police Chief Matheis to Mark Stout, State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation. The Statement was directed at the problems affecting Rupell's Road during morning traffic backups on Interstate Route 78.
3. Correspondence from Tom Walsh regarding the North Hunterdon Soccer Club and the use of fields.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**

**Councilman Harrison**

1. Mr. Harrison reported on the League of Municipalities as a very enlightening experience and that he learned a lot.

**Councilwoman Quinones-Perez**

1. Emergency Services Foundation – meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Next meeting December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Councilman De Cleene**

1. Rescue Squad – 22 days left to buy a Raffle ticket, drawing date is December 20<sup>th</sup>, tickets are \$20.00 each and if you are interested, see Gene De Cleene.

**Clerk Covino**

1. Attended several seminars, earned 6 ceu's for Registrar's position and 4 ceu's for Municipal Clerk's certification.

**Councilwoman Garber**

1. Blood and Platelet Drive scheduled for Jason Schiabe, a 20 year old and 2004 graduate of North Hunterdon High School who is fighting Hodgkin's Lymphoma cancer. Jason's treatments will become more intense and prolonged and at the end of an entire month of extensive chemo session, he will need a stem cell transplant requiring numerous blood transfusions. The drive will take place Monday, December 4, 2006 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Kathy Olsen, CFO**

1. Ms. Olsen is requesting approval of Mayor and Council to give the check to the Fire Department upon delivery of their new truck if it should happen to be between regular scheduled Council meetings. A motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. Ragozine authorizing Ms. Olsen to complete the transaction as requested.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Pender, Ragozine, Quinones-Perez,  
Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator**

1. Mr. Cutter announced the annual Holiday hours which were approved by the Mayor. Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> to close at Noon and December 29<sup>th</sup> to close at 3:00 p.m.
2. Attended seminars regarding Streetscapes and the New Jersey State Plan, Growth and Preservation. Wastewater Management Plan seminars where it was discussed about having counties manage the plans of municipalities.
3. To residents of the Knolls, leaf pickup was a week behind due to a breakdown of the equipment.

**Police Chief Matheis**

1. Chief Matheis announced the Parade on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> is expected to draw crowds, and asked that attendees plan on arriving early.

**APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:**

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Garber to approve the attached overtime and standby pay for the period of November 2 – November 15, 2006.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Pender, Ragozine, Quinones-Perez,  
Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Garber, Harrison, Pender, Quinones-Perez, Ragozine,  
Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Garber, seconded by Mr. Ragozine to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

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Christine Schaumburg, Mayor