

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg
Absent - De Cleene, Shea

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 correction to the minutes of January 23, 2007 was made by Mayor Schaumburg. Under the Mayor’s Comments, correct the Police Committee members to read Councilmen De Cleene and Ragozine. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the minutes of January 23, 2007 as amended.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the minutes of the Budget Meeting held January 25, 2007 as presented.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to accept the monthly reports for the month of January as submitted:

Assessor’s Report, Clerk’s Account, Cat & Dog Licensing Account, 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, Code Enforcement/Housing Officer’s Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Kucab, 64 Payne Road, Annandale, owner of 11-13 East Main Street, Clinton, addressed Council with questions pertaining to the Landlord Registration and the proposed Historic Preservation Ordinance. Mr. Kucab asked why the Landlord Registration form needed to be completed every year. Mr. Cushing explained the reason is to keep greater regulation in turn over

of tenants. Mr. Cushing explained that a fire on Main Street revealed issues with tenants overcrowding. Mr. Kucab suggested that this only be done when tenants change.

Mr. Kucab continued with questions regarding the Historic Preservation Ordinance, and asked if zoning regulations regarding impervious coverage would be changed. Mayor Schaumburg explained that the Historic Commission was not looking to change zoning and nothing to change regulations regarding impervious coverage. Mr. Kucab stated that when he purchased the home on East Main Street, it was originally built as a church and not considered to be historic. Now that it is in an historic district it has changed from a tax perspective. It was explained to Mr. Kucab that if improvements are made to an historic structure, a person can apply for tax abatements which would not be charged for five years. Mayor Schaumburg once again explained that the new ordinance would make a review by the Historic Commission mandatory but the recommendations are not mandatory for a homeowner to abide by.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Police Chief Matheis is recommending and requesting the advancement of Patrolman Jim Kramer to the next pay step of \$74,816.57 as of February 2, 2007. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Pender.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Through the work of Chief Matheis, Tom Tharp and Jay Hunter, the Town of Clinton will reap annual savings of \$4,428.00 for the SPRINT/Nextel cellular costs through re-negotiations with the phone company.
3. Councilwoman Insel has been working on the Regional Plan with the members of the Smart Growth Committee along with the assistance of Town Planner, Carl Hintz.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations from the Planning Board directed to the Mayor and Council, to permit the Parks & Playgrounds Commission to install a 20 x 6 baseball scoreboard sign at Gebhardt Field. The proposed sign will be made of lightweight plastic with wooden numbers and will not be lit.

Mr. Ragozine questioned the procedure of having Council approve such a request? Mr. Cushing explained that it is Town property. A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to approve the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

The Planning Board has also forwarded a request to Mayor and Council to adopt as part of the Town of Clinton Ordinance, an amended Zoning Permit which will be used by the Zoning Office to determine whether a new use is permitted and if the new use requires any Planning Board or Board of Adjustment approvals. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the amended Zoning Permit application as submitted. Mayor Schaumburg thanked Board Secretary, Allison McGinley, for her efforts in designing the new application.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

DEPUTY ZONING OFFICER

The Town of Clinton Planning Board Attorney, William Caldwell, recommends to Mayor and Council the appointment of a Deputy Zoning Officer in the event of a conflict with John Leonard,

the current Zoning Officer. As it is already in the Ordinance, a motion to appoint John Barczyk Deputy Zoning Officer was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mrs. Insel.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

SUMMER RECREATION REGISTRATION FEE

The Parks and Playground Commission is requesting that a registration fee for Summer Recreation be included in the Fee Schedule. The fee would be \$5.00 per child, \$10.00 per family. This would be a nominal fee to help cover the costs of events. It has been noted that sometimes children committed to attend events do not show up on the specified day. It has resulted in buses not being utilized and the Town being charges. The intent of this nominal fee is to make parents more cognizant of commitment. Dave Kurtiak, Busher Place, asked if this would be a weekly fee. Mr. Ragozine replied it would only be a one time fee due upon registration. Mr. Kurtiak was stated he would be happy to pay such a small fee. A motion to approve the fee as requested was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Professional Agreement for Warren Korecky, R.M.A., Town Auditor, of the Firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Professional Agreement for Carl Hintz, Town Planner, of the Firm Clarke, Caton and Hintz.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

BANNER REQUEST

Council is in receipt of a banner request from the Friends of the Red Mill to display a banner promoting the Clinton Historic House Tour on October 7, 2007. The requested dates are September 24 through October 8, 2007. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Ragozine.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #44-07 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Resolution #44-07 as submitted, authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund the overpayment of Block 31.01, Lot 25.06.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #45-07 – MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Resolution #45-07 urging residents of the Town of Clinton to participate in the Mayors Wellness Campaign. Mayor Schaumburg stated that she has been in contact with the YMCA and Aetna Insurance and will pursue this worthwhile campaign.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #46-07 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to adopt Resolution #46-07 authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund the overpayment on Block 2, Lot 4 as requested.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #07-01 – CAPITAL ORDINANCE – SEWER UTILITY

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #07-01:

ORDINANCE 07-01
NOTICE OF CAPITAL ORDINANCE
CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON
SEWER UTILITY, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF IMPROMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF
CLINTON SEWER UTILITY AND APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$150,000.00
FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

There being no public comment, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Harrison.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt Ordinance #07-01 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #47-07 – AWARD OF BID

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel to award the bid for the Pittstown Road & Alton Place Sewer Line Rehabilitation Project to AM Liner East, Inc. of Sterling, Virginia in the amount of \$99,990.00. The recommendation has been received by Robert Clerico, Town Engineer.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

RESOLUTION #48-07 – REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Resolution #48-07 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

INTRODUCTION OF BOND ORDINANCE #07-02 – CLINTON MILLS DAM/DIKE

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to introduce Bond Ordinance #07-02 on first reading as submitted:

BOND ORDINANCE #07-02
BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON,
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY
TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THE TOWN’S OBLIGATION AS CO-BORROWER/
GUARANTOR IN CONNECTION WITH A STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LOAN FOR THE CLINTON MILLS DIKE AND DAM
PROJECT
APPROPRIATING \$450,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$450,000
BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN TO FINANCE SUCH PURPOSE

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A copy of this ordinance will be published in the Courier News on Thursday, February 15, 2007 and will be considered for passage at the Council meeting February 27, 2007.

A copy of this Ordinance is attached to these minutes.

RESOLUTION #49-07 – HIGHLANDS ASSISTANCE GRANT

A motion was made by Mrs. Insel, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to adopt Resolution #49-07 authorizing the Mayor, Clerk and the PW/Business Administrator to submit an application for a Highlands Planning Assistance Grant to the Highlands Commission in seeking funds to conduct scientific work necessary to take Well 16 out of the Planning Area.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

SCHEDULING OF FREEHOLDERS MEETING

Hunterdon County Freeholders have reached out to all Hunterdon municipalities to consider hosting the Board at a Council meeting. Freeholder Holt was in the audience this evening and

asked that we contact the Freeholders office to coordinate for a Spring meeting. He explained that it is the intent of the Freeholders to visit municipalities to discuss matters of concern to individual towns and to bring the County officials who head their departments to assist in answering specific topics. A letter will be forwarded with possible dates.

Mayor Schaumburg announced that the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund has granted the Town of Clinton's request for \$60,462.22.

PROPOSED HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Karen Insel, 46 Center Street, is currently working with an architect and permits have been issued. Councilwoman Insel suggested to Ms. Insel that she present her plans to the Historic Commission now so that she would not encounter any delays on starting her renovations. No changes have been made to code requirements, only to present plans to the Commission for mandatory review. The ordinance will be presented for an official public hearing March 27, however, the ordinance will be available for review prior. Craig Rogers, Commission chairman, said standards for demolition will become tougher. He said he will notify everyone on the Historic Register prior to the public hearing. There will be no control on paint colors. Whitney Wetherill once again urged the Commission to notify the whole town of the proposed ordinance. She asked "what gives a selective number of people that knows about style the right to make recommendations?" Mr. Cushing explained that certain bodies are designated on the Commission and they work in accordance with Federal standards. The Commission is working with Town Planner, Carl Hintz to accomplish such an ordinance. Matt Holt said for many years the Historic Commission fought to create a data base. Mayor Schaumburg stated that the Master Plan is lacking a Historic element.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce is requesting the \$100 administration fee for Membership on the Shared Services Council. A motion to approve payment was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ragozine.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Council is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Dave Wiant, resigning from Planning Board and Environmental Commission. A notice will be placed on the Web Site for openings and Citizen Involvement applications.
3. Hunterdon County Planning Board Open Space Trust Fund Grant awarded to the Town of Clinton in the amount of \$60,462.22.
4. Reply from New Jersey Department of Transportation denying the Town's request for guard-rails along Route 173 and the Exit 15 intersection.
5. Patriot Media has forwarded the 2006 Municipal Franchise Fee to the Town of Clinton in the amount of \$2,999.18.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Kathy Olsen, CFO

1. Parks & Playgrounds salary request, to increase summer recreation for camp counselors.

Councilman Ragozine will discuss this with the Parks & Playgrounds on February 15 and will report back to Council.

Councilman Pender

1. Next Emergency Services Foundation meeting will be held February 20, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.
2. Newsletter meeting February 26, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Councilman Ragozine

1. Parks and Playgrounds next meeting February 15, 2007 at the Community Center.
Senior Citizens luncheon scheduled for May 6, 2007, time and location undetermined at this time.

Councilwoman Insel

1. Smart Growth committee scheduled to meet Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.
Committee to discuss Regional Planning, public participation encouraged.
2. Master Plan Committee to meet February 20, 2007 @ 7:30 p.m.
3. Historic Preservation Commission to meet February 21, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Harrison

1. Request to move the Water Committee meeting of Wednesday, February 14th to Thursday, February 22, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF OVERTIME & STANDBY PAY:

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel to approve the attached overtime and standby pay for the period of January 12 – January 25, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RESOLUTION #50-07

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel at 8:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to return to the regular meeting to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Harrison seconded by Mr. Pender to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

Christine Schaumburg, Mayor