

Mayor Kovach called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.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.”

RESOLUTION #144-15 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adopt Resolution #144-15 as submitted:

RESOLUTION – #144-15

WHEREAS, it has been determined that there will be excesses in certain appropriations over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriations for the year 2015, and it has also been determined that certain appropriations are deemed to be insufficient to fulfill the purposes of such appropriations; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides for the transfer of the amount of such appropriations as may be deemed in excess to such appropriations as may be deemed to be insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the transfers about to be authorized do not affect any appropriations, to which or from which transfer are prohibited under the statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers between 2015 appropriations be authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Gasoline – Other Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	
Municipal Clerk – Salary & Wages	\$ 2,000.00	
Solid Waste Collection – Other Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	
Liability Insurance – Other Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	
Solid Waste Disposal – Other Expenses	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	
TOTALS	\$ 9,000.00	
Legal – Other Expenses		\$ 7,000.00
Police – Other Expenses		<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>
TOTALS		\$ 9,000.00
Water Utility – Salary & Wages	\$ 50,000.00	
Water Utility – Operating Expenses		\$ 50,000.00

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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RESOLUTION #145-15 – CANCELLATION OF TAXES/PARCEL

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry seconded by Ms. Sosidka to adopt Resolution #145-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 145-15
CANCELLATION OF TAXES/PARCEL**

WHEREAS, Block 4, Lot 1 Qualifier B01 was the subject of an assessment to the wrong property in error, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor deleted Block 4 Lot 1 Qualifier B01 and added the full assessment to Block 4 Lot 2 Qualifier B01.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the taxes due for the third and fourth quarter of 2015 in the amount of \$56.11 and the first and second quarters of 2016 in the amount of \$28.06 be cancelled as well as parcel, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be relieved from the obligation to collect that assessment.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #146-15 – CANCELLATION OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #146-15 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 146-15
CANCELLATION OF TAXES**

WHEREAS, Block 31, Lot 37 was never assessed until 2013;

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor shows the ownership as “Unknown” and states that the property should be considered as an “Uncollectible”;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the taxes due on Block 31, Lot 37 in the amount of \$62.34 be cancelled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector be relieved from the obligation to collect that assessment.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #147-15 – RESOLUTION TO HIRE

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #147-15. Mr. Smith asked that an amendment to the resolution be made to include the length of the probationary period of three months. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #147-15 as amended. Mr. Smith commented that Elizabeth von der Linde likes to be called Beth and mentioned a comment Beth made at the interview was “she likes to make a positive influence on people’s lives”.

RESOLUTION #147-15

WHEREAS The Mayor and Council authorized the employment search for a part time Administrative Assistant in the Municipal Clerk's Office, and;

WHEREAS the position was advertised for, applications accepted and interviews performed, and;

WHEREAS the Personnel Committee, Public Works/Business Administrator and the Municipal Clerk have made a recommendation to hire Elizabeth von der Linde for the available position at an hourly rate of \$14.00 per hour and after a 90 day successful probationary period, increased to \$16.00 per hour;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hire Elizabeth von der Linde to fill the open position with a start date of December 14, 2015.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

Police Chief Matheis

Happy to report that the Christmas Parade went very well, weather was perfect, and well attended.

Business Administrator, Richard Phelan

The auction took place and netted about \$17,000. The only thing that did not sell were the tree grates. They may be put out once again or may be scrapped.

Councilman Smith

1. Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad reported calls year to date of 132 over last year and the year is not over! The new ambulance should be arriving December 23, 2015.
2. Roads Committee discussed the Wargo Tract and an interest of putting in a bid on it. Mayor Kovach is researching their attorney contact information.

The Town is looking into stream classification of the South Branch of the Raritan River up around Route 31 and suggested the Environmental Commission do the same.

3. Building and Grounds – the Municipal Building is now 97% complete and looks great! Completing punch list items and will be done soon!

A wire at the Community Center that comes across to the tennis courts is sagging and the electrician has been called. The wires have been rubbed bare because they go through the trees. There are two trees at the Community Center that also need trimming, the Shade Tree Commission will be notified of that.

Councilwoman Sosidka

1. Travis Roop sent an email to Ms. Sosidka regarding an accident that his wife recently had in the Town of Clinton on Old 22. The Roop's received a bill from the company handling the fire departments reimbursements following an accident where "hazardous material" is cleaned up. Mr. Roop attached pictures showing the glass is still in the street. Mr. Roop wanted clarification on the intent of the ordinance. The Roop's insurance company will not pay the \$750 and was

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then told they had to pay it. Mayor Kovach, Mr. Carberry and Mr. Pendergast explained residents should not have to pay, their insurance company should be paying. Mr. Roop will be directed to contact his insurance company again and push for them to pay the bill. Another suggestion was to have fire recovery talk to insurance companies. The ordinance was not intended to charge individuals.

2. Following discussion at the last meeting of a liaison of the Historic Commission connecting with the Land Use Board to offer non-compulsory advice on historic buildings, Roger Mellick forwarded a section of the Land Use Law to Ms. Sosidka.

Section 40:55D-110 Applications for development referred to historic preservation commission.

The planning board and board of adjustment shall refer to the historic preservation commission every application for development submitted to either board for development in historic zoning districts or on historic sites designated on the zoning or official map or identified in any component element of the master plan. This referral shall be made when the application for development is deemed complete or is scheduled for a hearing. Failure to refer the application as required shall not invalidate any hearing or proceeding. The historic preservation commission may provide its advice which shall be conveyed through its delegation of one of its members or staff to testify orally at the hearing on the application and to explain any written report which may have been submitted.

Ms. Sosidka said this is already a State Law and what they tried to relay at the last meeting. Mr. Carberry was adamant that he could not support the Historic Commission dictating to residents. Historic Commission is not looking to impose their opinions on anyone but to offer to someone interested in getting advice.

3. Smart Growth will be meeting at the Municipal Building for a meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Public is always welcome to attend.

Councilman Pendergast

1. Clinton Fire Department – the Black Friday and Saturday coin toss collected of \$6,000! Santa will be delivering presents again on December 19th over a 4 hour window. \$35 donation and drop off presents on Monday. Fire Department comes to your house with sirens blaring to makes the delivery!
The Boy Scouts will be hosting a pancake breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 13, 2015 beginning at 8:00 a.m. and Santa will join in at 9:00 a.m.!

Two membership applications have been received:

Bailey P. Pyle
67 Center Street

Tyler J. Langston
14 East Main Street

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Smith to accept the applications as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Sosidka, to approve the standby and overtime pay attached to these minutes for the period November 20 through December 3, 2015.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to approve the payment of bills attached to these minutes.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: Following the return from Executive Session and there being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Carberry seconded by Ms. Dineen to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 a.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach