

The Clinton Town Board held the Regular Town Board meeting on this day via teleconference using Zoom with a You Tube livestream to the public due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Emergency State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 issued on March 12, 2020 suspending the Open Meetings Law.

Via Zoom, Present were Supervisor Ray Oberly and Council people Dean Michael, Michael Whitton, Nancy Cunningham, and Chris Juliano. Also present was Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin and Town IT Consultant Fred Shequine managing the technical aspects of Zoom. There is no audience participation. Members of the public may view the Board meeting as it is livestreamed on the "Town Board Videos page on the Town of Clinton Website"

Supervisor Oberly called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

NO PLEDGE/ NO FLAG PRESENT

ATTENDANCE

Supervisor Oberly took attendance to establish a quorum:

Supervisor Oberly	here
Councilman Juliano	here
Councilman Whitton	here
Councilman Michael	here
Councilwoman Cunningham	here
Town Clerk Mackin	here

APPROVE MINUTES

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael to approve the minutes of the **May 12, 2020 regular Town Board meeting.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly	AYE
Juliano	AYE
Whitton	AYE
Michael	AYE
Cunningham	AYE

Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

The 4th of July holiday is on Saturday and the Town has all the offices closed. The Library will also be closed. An important change is the Town's Recycling Center operated by Welch Sanitation will be closed on July 4.

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Clinton Highway Superintendent Todd Martin is alerting the community that Pumpkin Lane from Shadblow Lane to the Taconic State Parkway will have road resurfacing starting on Monday, June 29 and ending Friday, July 3. Please make changes to your travel plans since there can be road closures as resurfacing is being done. Other roads will be done over the summer, but they have not been scheduled yet.

The Town just moved into Phase 2 today, June 9. There will be no change from the current mode of Town operation. We are installing the proper plastic shielding to protect the Town staff and obtaining COVID-19 virus PPE and cleaning supplies to minimize everyone's exposure to the virus. As you are aware, the purchase of the PPE and virus cleaning supplies are not easily obtained. We hope to have some in-person activity by the end of June. In the meanwhile, continue to use the phone, FAX, emails, and the Drop Box on the porch of the Town Hall to get business transacted. Some of the Phase 2 changes are the opening of haircutting, outside dining at restaurants, house of worship services up to 25% capacity, graduations in parking areas or drive-in movies, and other activities.

This is an update on the status of the NY Transco rebuilding of the transmission line. The geotechnical survey work is complete. We continue to advance geophysical survey work, which is non-invasive and consists of small crews walking sections of the ROW with equipment. This work is being done by Terracon, the same contractor as the Geotech work. This will last for several weeks in the transmission corridor in Livingston, Gallatin, Clermont, Milan, Clinton, and Pleasant Valley. We continue to do permitting work through the regulatory Article VII process. Settlement meetings with the intervenors to our application continue. We submitted a supplemental filing to our application for the laydown yards - one in Ghent and one in Claverack. Abutters to these two sites have been notified via US mail. We have started conducting and will continue scheduling field meetings with adjacent landowners and/or residents and a letter was mailed to all abutting properties last week. Please contact us at 518.218.5210 if you know of anyone (landowners/residents) in your community that would be interested in such a visit. We will, of course, adhere to all COVID-19 health and safety precautions. Please pass this along to landowners/residents in your communities.

Thanks are given to the Highway Crew for their quick and efficient removal of the four large maple trees at the Town Complex alongside the driveway. These trees were dying with large branches falling in the area of parked cars and where residents would walk. Their work improved the safety of the Town's property and saved tax payers costs. They will be replaced in the future. Thanks again for a job well done.

The NYS Department of Taxation & Finance certified that the Town's Equalization Rate remains at 100% for 2020. This means that the property's assessed and value are the same. Thanks are given to our Assessor Teresa Stegner for her efforts in keeping the Equalization Rate at 100%.

This is a 2020 Census reminder that you should have completed your 2020 Census by now. The data for the Town of Clinton on June 2 shows 58.2% of the households have registered. The Dutchess County self-response rate is still in fairly good shape. The national percentage is 60.5 while the state percentage is 55.6 and the Dutchess percentage is 59.1. This should be 100% by now. In an effort to get 100% registration, the Census staff is beginning limited field operations and is dropping off questionnaire packets at front doors of households in our area. People can fill out their census online at www.My2020Census.gov. They also can do so over the phone by

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calling 844-330-2020 for English and 844-468-2020 for Spanish. They can request the Census form if one hasn't been dropped off already, fill it out, and then mail it back.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Approve Resolution to establish rules for use of Rec Parks during Covid-19 closures – Cunningham**

MM Councilwoman Cunningham, 2nd Councilman Juliano that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 20 of 2020 titled: Town of Clinton Rules for Use of Rec Parks during Covid-19 Closures.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

- 2. Approve Resolution cancelling swimming, summer camp and pavilion rentals for 2020 due to Covid-19 – Cunningham**

MM Councilwoman Cunningham, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 21 of 2020 a resolution cancelling swimming, summer camp and pavilion rentals for 2020 due to Covid-19.** Councilwoman Cunningham said there is a gate guard and lifeguard stationed, water is being tested if we get the green light we may consider opening swimming later on.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

- 3. Approve Fran Mark Park hours of operation for May 28, 2020 to October 1, 2020 from 9 am to 6 pm – Cunningham**

MM Councilwoman Cunningham, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves Fran Mark Park hours of operation for May 28, 2020 to October 1, 2020 from 9am to 6 pm daily, open seven days a week for Town residents; a resident ID sticker is required.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

4. Approve Resolution - 284 agreement – Juliano

MM Councilman Juliano, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 22 of 2020 the Agreement to Spend Highway Funds (284 Agreement).**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

5. Approve increase in garbage rates – Oberly

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the increase in the rates for bagged garbage disposal at the Town transfer station operated by Welsh Sanitation effective July 1, 2020. (there is no garbage collection for Saturday July 4, 2020.) Chris Juliano said our rates have not changed in five years.

<u>FY1, NEW RATES:</u>	<u>NEW RATES</u>	<u>OLD RATES</u>
1-13 GALLON BAG -	\$3.00	\$2
14-33 GALLON BAG -	\$5.00	\$4
34 – 50 GALLON BAG -	\$10.00	\$5

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

6. Approve Resolution regarding Danskammer Power Plant Proposal – Whitton

Councilman Whitton Said: Danskammer Energy owns an existing 64-year-old power plant on the Hudson River in the Town of Newburgh. The existing plant operates only a handful of days a year as a "peaker" facility. Danskammer is proposing to build a new 550 Megawatt

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gas-fired plant next to the existing facility. It would be a "baseload" facility, running nearly all the time.

Power from a new Danskammer plant is not needed to replace Indian Point when its generating units retire. Every two years, the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) conducts a Reliability Needs Assessment (RNA), which assesses whether adequate generation and transmission resources exist to ensure the reliability of New York's bulk power system. In its most recent report, the NYISO concluded that even with Indian Point's retirement, there will be no reliability concerns for New York's electric system over at least the next 10 years without a new Danskammer plant. Further, given the recent, very large increase in proposed renewable energy projects as a result of the adoption of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), future generation needs are expected to be met by renewable resources supported by energy storage.

The new Danskammer plant will emit far more air pollution than the existing plant. Given the dramatic increase in operating hours, harmful air pollutants that threaten public health and contribute to climate change will increase significantly, which Danskammer admits in its own regulatory filings. These pollutants include volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides, as well as greenhouse gas emissions, which are projected to increase by more than 4,000%!

In April, the American Lung Association published their State of the Air® 2020. This report gave the Hudson Valley's air quality a "D" average rating, with many counties ranking among the worst in the state. Air pollution particularly aggravates chronic diseases, including asthma, while extended exposure reduces life expectancy. Given the worrying public health issues caused by the region's existing pollution, building a new power plant that will exponentially increase annual emissions is a giant step backward.

Given all of that, many local organizations have joined together to stop the approval of this plant. These include Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, and the Sierra Club. When I first reached out to the board in our area about this issue, 15 communities had already passed resolutions in opposition to the plant. That number has now increased to 19, with the latest being the City of Hudson. I am proposing that Clinton becomes the 20th community in the region to oppose the plant.

MM Councilman Whitton, 2nd Councilman Cunningham that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 23 of 2020 opposing the construction of a new Danskammer Power Plant on the Hudson River.** In discussion, Councilwoman Cunningham expressed mixed feelings about it, asks what energy return do we get in the Hudson Valley? Councilman Whitton said the benefit is not clear for building this plant, NYISO said this is not needed especially with more renewable energy coming on line. Dean Michael said renewable energy is not cheaper; the plant won't benefit us directly, but it stops the need for extra power lines that will go through our town to bring energy downstate as the energy Danskammer will generate in Newburgh will go directly south. Councilman Michael is opposed to stopping them, we need it to protect Clinton's rural character and he added that we will always need fossil fuels for backup. Councilman Juliano is concerned about the probability of more powerlines being added through our town. He would like to postpone a vote for more consideration on this matter as he sees potential for more overhead lines coming through Town. Councilman Dean Michael said right now the powerlines are simply being upgraded, but initially there was a plan for a third powerline. Supervisor Oberly said the

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cost of putting a new plant on line is distributed across all rate payers. Why have a plant next door only running 5 percent; run that existing one full time rather than build a new one next door. Supervisor Oberly said there is no plan for an additional line of overhead powerlines to run through Clinton.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly **AYE**
Juliano **ABSTAIN**
Whitton **AYE**
Michael **NAY**
Cunningham **AYE**

Motion carried. 3 – 2

Mike Whitton encouraged people to sign up for Community Solar at this time.

7. Approve Tax Cert – Tassiv vs. TOC – Michael

MM Councilman Michael, 2nd Councilman Juliano that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 24 of 2020 authorizing the attorney for the Town of Clinton to enter into a Stipulation with the attorney for petitioner, the terms of which are set forth in the attached Stipulation No. 2019 – 52989 and hereby authorizes the Attorney for the Town of Clinton, Shane Egan Esq. to sign said Stipulation on behalf of the Town of Clinton.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly **AYE**
Juliano **AYE**
Whitton **AYE**
Michael **AYE**
Cunningham **AYE**

Motion carried.

8. Approve On-line Auction contract – Oberly

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 25 of 2020 a contract between the Town of Clinton and Auctions International Inc., for the sale of government vehicles, machinery, equipment, and all other surplus assets by online auction.** In discussion, Councilman Michael suggested we go with the local auction house, Supervisor Oberly said we are going to pursue a contract with the local auction house as well. The Board members discussed what their percentage is, and Councilwoman Cunningham said we sell surplus equipment every year with the proceeds going back into buying more equipment.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly **AYE**
Juliano **AYE**
Whitton **AYE**
Michael **AYE**
Cunningham **AYE**

Motion carried.

OTHER

1. Resignations and appointments

A. Appoint Seasonal Recreation employees – Cunningham

MM Councilwoman Cunningham, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 26 of 2020 appointing summer recreation employees.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

B. Daimyn Potts appointment – Cunningham

MM Councilwoman Cunningham, 2nd Councilman Juliano to appoint Daimyn Potts as full time Highway Laborer effective May 1, 2020 for 40 hours per week at a rate of pay of \$17.10 per hour with CSEA benefits.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Warrants

MM Councilman Michael, 2nd Councilman Juliano to approve the following resolution BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the June General Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 234 through 277, totaling \$74,849.87 and the June Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 110 through 142 totaling \$141,754.37

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

3. Motion to Move funds – Oberly

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Juliano that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 27 of 2020 a motion to move funds at the June 9, 2020 Town Board meeting.**

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

4. Supervisor's Report

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the May, 2020 Supervisor's Report.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried.

OTHER

Councilwoman Cunningham – we have not finalized the Highway contract, we are dragging our feet it's long overdue, we are getting into problems as we hire new people using the old contract, Ray is holding it up and it's becoming a problem. Councilman Dean Michael said the final meeting is tomorrow discussing the rate of pay for MEOs.

Councilman Juliano – wants to have meetings in person again as the County begins to open up. We need to start addressing the other items in town, like the STR law. Ray said there are operational problems, how do we allow people to come in to the meeting via zoom, Dean Michael said Juliano is talking about live meetings, not zoom. By July meeting we should be near phase 4 and be able to open to the public. Councilman Juliano said we are not having many conversations like the local laws or other meetings like the ZRC. Michael Whitton agrees and says we need to wait until phase 4 to open meetings to the public gathering.

Councilman Whitton –Library doing curbside pickup. Thanks to American Legion Rhinebeck, on Memorial Day they put flags on all Vet's graves.

ADJOURNMENT

MM Supervisor Oberly, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board adjourns the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Oberly AYE
Juliano AYE
Whitton AYE
Michael AYE
Cunningham AYE

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

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Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol-Jean Mackin".

Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk