

This is the regular meeting of the Clinton Town Board held on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Whitton, Councilmen Eliot Werner, Dean Michael, Chris Juliano and Katherine Mustello. Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin was also present. There were 7 people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVE MINUTES

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2022 Town Board meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Juliano to open the meeting to public discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

Resident: Disappointed that the Transfer Station is discontinued. Supervisor Whitton said it is operated by Welsh Sanitation and they are losing money and we would lose \$35,000 to operate it ourselves. Mike Whitton believes that during covid people started home pick up with fewer people using the Transfer Station, fees have gone up for Welsh, who is losing money. Website has options and he plans for several bulk days. Resident fears there will be garbage on roads. Councilwoman Mustello said not all town residents use the transfer station so they feel it's not fair for the whole town to pay for a service that only a few are using. Dean Michael said we would have to charge so much to cover the cost of a transfer station that it would be cheaper for you to get pick up,

Kat Maxianova - in 2018 Cornerstone reached out to the town for a zoning amendment that is like this one presented tonight. She said Dean Michael said at that time the zoning amendment was not a good idea, she would like to know what has changed to consider it now.

Erin Sax – wants to know what the board knows about the sale of the Cornerstone property. Mike Whitton said that is not relevant to the amendment to the town code we are discussing tonight. She wants to know if the board knows what is coming, does that leave the board culpable down the line?

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to return to the regular order of business. All aye. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: Supervisor Whitton:

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- I would like to extend a sincere thanks to our generous community. My office sponsored a Toys for Tots collection box this past month, and the community donated over 75 Toys for families in need this Holiday Season. The Toys for Tots program is organized by the US Marine Corps Reserve, and toys are distributed to local families. Thank you to Cathy Gallinger in the Supervisors Office and to T.J. Ashline for organizing this effort.
- If you visit the Town Hall campus this holiday season, you may notice wreaths hanging on the doors of our buildings. I would like to thank the Friendship Garden Club for making and hanging these wreaths, helping to create a festive atmosphere at the Town Hall.
- Please be advised that Welsh sanitation has decided to cease operations of the Town Transfer Station at the end of the year. Their last day of operation will be Saturday, December 31st. The Town of Clinton is one of two transfer stations being operated by Welsh, and they are both closing at the end of the year. If you decide to go with driveway service, Welsh is offering the first month free to anyone in the Town of Clinton. Other options include purchasing town stickers in Rhinebeck and Stanford, allowing you to use the transfer stations operated by those towns. If you have been keeping track of our meetings, you will know this has been a topic of conversation for a few months. Operating our own transfer station would cost the taxpayers of Clinton an additional \$35,000 per year, and only serve a relatively small number of residents. We plan on hosting at least a couple of days per year to drop off bulk items. More information about those will be available soon.
- The Town is exploring our options for the next round of Community Choice Aggregation. As most residents are aware, the supplier in our last CCA agreement failed to live up to the rigorous standard of the NYS Public Service Commission, and was forced to cease operations in NY. Unfortunately, that left the majority of town residents paying the higher electricity rates of Central Hudson. We are simply exploring new options right now, hoping to safeguard the community from entering into another agreement with a supplier that is less than responsible. Joule Community Power, the administrators of our CCA, have come up with an improved model that they believe will do just that. Joule is holding 2 public presentations for the community. The first is tomorrow, December 14 at the Town Hall at 6:30. It will also be broadcast on our cable channel and streamed live to YouTube. The second presentation, presented on the same platforms will be January 25th at 6:30pm.
- I am pleased to announce that due to responsible fiscal management of the town over the last several years, our bond rating has been upgraded. After meeting with representatives from S&P Global, our rating has gone from AA to AA+. This is the second highest rating, behind AAA. As of January of this year, only 31 cities in the United States have a AAA rating. Suffice to say, this is great news for our community and the fiscal health of your town government. This will result in very low interest rates if the Town decides to borrow any money. It's worth noting that we are not currently planning on borrowing any additional funds.
- On our agenda this evening is the resignation from the Planning Board of Art Depasqua after 21 years of faithful service to the Town of Clinton. I would like to thank Art for his skillful guiding hand as the chair of the Planning Board, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. This, of course, means that we will have a vacancy on the planning

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board in January. Anyone that is interested in applying to fill that vacancy can contact my office at 266-5721, or by emailing townsupervisor@townofclinton.com. I will need all applications by December 26th, as we hope to conduct interviews in the last week of the year.

- Along those same lines, we are always welcoming people to join our volunteer boards. We currently have vacancies on the Conservation Advisory, Recreation, Cemetery, Climate Smart Task Force, and Scenic and Historic Roads Committees. Please reach out to the Town Supervisor's office if you have any interest in joining one of those boards.

TOWN BOARD REPORTS: Town Board reports are posted on the web:

Townofclinton.com, including: PLANNING BOARD, ZBA, CAC, CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE, RECREATION, BUILDING INSPECTOR, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, HIGHWAY, SCENIC AND HISTORIC ROADS, LIBRARY, ALTICE, ZONING REVISION, CEMETERIES, PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINES, OTHER (QUARTERLY: WIC, SAFETY)

Katherine Mustello– read from the Highway Report which is posted on the web.

Dean Michael - Winding down Zoning Revision, on Jan. 4 is the next meeting to finalize some items. Any further comments or changes, please let him know. Next step is to send the document to Dutchess County Planning review.

Eliot Werner – reviewed PB report; the ZBA had early meeting and reviewed what occurred in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approve Awarding Highways Materials Bid – Mustello/Michael

Councilman Mustello, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves awarding the 2023 Highway Material Bids to those vendors highlighted on **Attachment A: 2023 Highway Materials Bid Winners**. All aye. Motion carried.

2. Discuss/Approve Local Law: Amendment to Section 250-31 of the Town Code – Alternate Care Facilities – Whitton

Supervisor Whitton said there were a lot of opinions on the matter heard tonight, be assured the Board will consider all sides of this issues, we will take time to consider the law; it will be on the agenda for Jan 10 Town Board meeting; we will do what is right for the town.

3. Discuss Welsh Sanitation/Transfer station– Whitton/

As mentioned, it is ceasing December 31, visit town web for other considerations.

NEW BUSINESS

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1. Approve returning escrow funds – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 50 of 2022 authorizing the return of unused escrow funds.** In discussion, Councilman Werner said we returned over \$16,000 to our residents. Eliot thanked Arlene and Cathy who assisted in the research to return this money. All aye. Motion carried.

2. Approve MOU between CSEA and Town of Clinton – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the MOU by and between the CSEA Local 1000 and the Town of Clinton modifying the current Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective Jan 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025. All aye. Motion carried.

3. Approve EAP contract – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the EAP Agreement between The Work Place at Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital of Westchester Medical Center and the Town of Clinton effective January 1, 2023 and authorizes, empowers, and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the Agreement. All aye. Motion carried.

4. Approve SPCA contract – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Juliano that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the Dog Control and Housing Services Agreement between the Dutchess County SPCA and the Town of Clinton effective January 1, 2023 (two year agreement) and authorizes, empowers, and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the Agreement. All aye. Motion carried.

5. Approve banners on Friends Park ball field fence – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Juliano that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves placing advertising banners on the outfield fence at Friends Park to raise funds for the Clinton Rec department. All aye. Motion carried.

6. Approve Clinton Rec's 14th Annual Bon Fire on January 7, 2022 at 5:30 PM – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves Clinton Rec's 14th Annual Bon Fire on Saturday, January 7, 2023 at 5:30 PM at Fran Mark Rec Park. In discussion, people can drop off their Christmas trees cleaned of all decorations by the fence of the highway department (woodchips location) for the bonfire; the Rec Committee will have supplies for attendees to

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make smores and have hot chocolate, served by the ECFD Auxiliary. Dean Michael thinks the date is too early, the Board considered other dates, Town Clerk Mackin suggested Rec Director Dan Harkenrider be consulted before the Board changes the date as Rec Committee members are not available other Saturdays and the ECFD fire truck, rescue and auxiliary trucks are available on the 7th. MOTION TABLED UNTIL THE DECEMBER 29, 2022 ANNUAL MEETING.

7. Approve Annual Meeting on Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 6:30 PM – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves scheduling the Annual Meeting on Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 6:30 PM in the Clinton Town Hall. All aye. Motion carried.

8. Approve 2023 Reorganizational Meeting on January 3, 2023 at 6:30 PM- Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves scheduling 2023 Reorganizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6:30 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

9. Approve 2023 Holiday Schedule

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the 2023 holiday schedule, attached. Holiday time is paid to an employee for the hours they normally work that fall on the scheduled holiday. Seasonal, temporary, or substitute employees are not eligible for holiday pay. All aye. Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

1. Resignations and appointments

Resignations:

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to accept the letter of resignation of Arthur DePasqua from the Planning Board effective December 20, 2022. All aye. Motion carried.

Appointments:

Part time Winter Laborers

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Juliano to appoint Tim Horton as Part Time Winter Laborer (D5142.140) for 24hrs/week at \$15.76 per hour from Jan. 1, 2023 - March 1, 2023. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Juliano to appoint Andy Cooley as Part Time Winter Laborer (D5142.140) for 24hrs/week at \$15.76 per hour from Jan. 1, 2023 - March 1, 2023. All aye. Motion carried.

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2. Approval of Warrants – Michael

MM Councilman Michael, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves:

the **December 13, General Fund Warrant**, vouchers numbered 565 through 621, totaling \$ 176,526.13

the **December 13, Highway Fund** Warrant, vouchers numbered 278 through 309 , totaling \$40,609.14

The **December 13, 2022 Capital Project** fund warrant, voucher number 6 totaling \$72,640.80.

All aye. Motion carried.

3. Motion to Move Funds – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 51 of 2022 a motion to move funds at the December 13 2022 Town Board meeting**. All aye. Motion carried.

4. Supervisor's Report

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to approve the Supervisor's Report for November 2022. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to open the meeting to public discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

Kat Maxianova - Did we close the public hearing? Supervisor Whitton said yes, but will take written comments until January 9, 2023.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to return to the regular order of business. All aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk