

June 10, 2025

Schultzville, NY

The Clinton Town Board held the Regular Town Board meeting on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Mike Whitton, Deputy Supervisor Eliot Werner, Councilwomen Katherine Mustello, Councilman Charlie Dykas and Marion Auspitz as well as Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin. There were approximately 20 people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the May 13, 2025 Public Hearing minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the May 13, 2025 Town Board Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Art Pritchard representing the Warren Lodge Masons – Memorial Bench**

The Masons of the Warren Lodge presented a bench to the Town with the memorial plate labeled “the battle within” as a resource for those in need of support or to have a quiet few moments at the Fran Mark Park. The title battle within is derived after a brother from a lodge in Buffalo came back from Afghanistan and took his own life. It is to bring light to the plight of the PTSD that many of our veterans suffer from. Art gave the history of the Warren Lodge and its namesake Joseph Warren, a Revolutionary War hero who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He then described the Mason’s mission.

Marion Auspitz said the Masons redid the kitchen and Art did all the cabinetry.

Mike Whitton thanked all Masons for the donation and for the dedication to the community is astounding.

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION: (Agenda Items only)** **None**

### **SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:**

- The Clinton Town Offices, Highway Department, Justice Court Office, and Court will be closed for the Juneteenth holiday on Thursday, June 19, and for Independence Day on Friday, July 4. The Clinton Community Library will be closed on those days, as well.
- The Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Committee and the Clinton Garden Club are looking for volunteers to help maintain their gardens this summer. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact the Town Supervisor’s office. We will put volunteers in touch with the chairperson of the Town CAC, Barbara Mansell.

- As part of Dutchess County's ongoing efforts to build an inclusive community for those with disabilities, they are inviting families and residents of all abilities to a free sensory-sensitive screening of "How to Train Your Dragon" on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Lyceum Cinemas in Red Hook. Doors open at 10 a.m., and the movie will begin at 10:30 a.m. Registration for this free event is required, and residents can register online at [dutchessny.gov/movie](http://dutchessny.gov/movie).
- The East Clinton Fire District held a vote to decide whether residents in the East Clinton service will fund a new facility. The funding was approved by a vote of 161-65.
- Approve Excel Elevator Agreement - Whitton  
The agreement with Excel has been going year to year for the maintenance of our elevators. The elevator in the Masonic Hall has suffered from mechanical failure, and Excel was asked to make the repairs. However, the rate of pay for their mechanics seemed quite high to me. A rate that is about 25% lower was negotiated for this and future repairs, with future increases of no more than a 3% increase. This new yearly contract represents those changes.

#### **DEPUTY SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:**

- Developments with the Schultsville Cemetery - the highway department did a nice job creating a parking area up top.
- Thanked Lori Brands on the committee who got in touch with the VFW and they will be putting up flags on veterans' graves going forward, which stopped during Covid.

#### **TOWN BOARD REPORTS:** Posted on the web, [townofclinton.com](http://townofclinton.com).

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)

#### **Councilwoman Mustello –**

CAC – meets tomorrow, looking for volunteers for maintaining gardens.

Planning Board – read from report, posted online.

ZBA – read from report, posted online.

#### **Councilman Dykas-**

Recreation report - read from the report, posted on line.

Hometown Heroes - read from the report, posted on line. Approached the Boy Scouts to research some tombstones looking for a fallen soldier we can honor with a banner.

Cell phone serve – in touch with Verizon and optimum to work on improving service with senator Hinchy's office.

#### **Councilwoman Auspitz –**

Library - read from the report, posted on line.

Highway – read from the report, posted on line.

Maintenance – nothing new.

**Deputy Supervisor Werner –**  
Zoning Administrator – no report.

Building Inspector - read from report, posted online.

CSC – well attended, updated the committee on the grant to study the highway department. Met with new educator at Cornell Cooperative Extension. Work continues on climate action plan.

SHRAC – met May 19; road clean up went well.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. None**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Approve Agreement with Excel Elevator – Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Amending the Excel Elevator Contract dated 5/29/25 and authorizes, directs and empowers the Town Supervisor to sign the Agreement.** Whitton lowered the rates by 20 percent. All. Aye. Motion carried.

### **2. Approve Ragsdale Settlement – Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 25 of 2025 authorizing the attorney for the Town of Clinton Shane J. Egan, Esq., to enter into a settlement agreement with the attorney for petitioner, Hilarie L. Thomas, Esq., the terms of which are set forth in the attached Consent Judgment and hereby authorizes Shane J. Egan, Esq., to sign said Consent Judgment on behalf of the Town of Clinton.** All aye. Motion carried.

### **3. Discuss a Purchase Order system – Mustello**

Councilwoman Mustello uses a similar system in her personal job at the school. Explains how the system works. We need to figure what is the path the request follows, the Town Supervisor is the final approval. Supervisor Whitton said we are currently using a voucher system; an item is purchased and then approved which leads to mismanagement of money. A PO system would make it so a purchase has to be approved first then ordered. It was suggested to have a minimum level for a purchase without prior approval. Eliot Werner talked about the procurement policy being in place, Mike Whitton talked about situations where items are purchased and forgiveness

is given. Eliot said the current rules in the procurement policy should be followed. What is to prevent circumventing this new system? Katherine Mustello offered if a purchase is made that circumvents the policy, they have to write a letter after the fact with a reason why to answer to the auditors.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **1. Resignations and appointments – Werner**

None

### **2. Approval of Warrants**

MM Councilwoman Mustello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the:

June General Fund Warrant, Vouchers Numbered 235 through 289, Totaling \$132,123.13 and the

June Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered Vouchers numbered 169 through 197, Totaling \$92,080.89 and the

June Capital Fund Warrant, vouchers Voucher Numbered 8 and 9, Totaling \$1325.00  
All aye. Motion carried.

### **3. Motion to Move Funds – Whitton/Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Mustello to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approve **Resolution No. 26 of 2025, a motion to move funds at the June 10, 2025 Town Board meeting.** All aye. Motion carried.

### **4. Supervisor's Report – Whitton /Werner**

No motion this month the report was received late in the day today.

## **OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilwoman Werner to open the floor to public discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

Carol Bancroft Library Director– Joyce Morse -Board member- explained the importance of filling out the survey on the web. Explained the need for more space for the Library.

Lynne Miceli - re senior exemption, asks the Board to put the Senior 467 Exemption on the agenda, it is calculated like the Star exemption.

Nancy Drago – Chair of Friends of the Library, announced the upcoming garden tour, 8 gardens to tour. Friends of Clinton worked tirelessly to create Community Day. Impressed with their effort.

Dan Berndt – correcting misinformation around Six Senses property. People are saying that it could be a 77 house project if not Six Senses. Described the use of the property over the years. No builders ever came to build 77 houses over the years. Distributed a map from the pb webpage to show where building can be situated; stop spreading this misinformation. You can change your minds about instituting a moratorium. The people want you work for the people not Six Senses. Wants an informative Town Hall meeting on this topic.

Ann Marie Tucker – VP Friends of Clinton. Thanked the community. The sun came out for the parade; the enthusiasm of the community is amazing. The Clinton post office won the float award. Listed the vendors who participated; the kids had fun in the mud. Described the event. They are still selling hats. Listed next event for their group.

Jeff Newman – law around hotels, motels, inns need revision. It is misinformation that anyone can put a hotel on any property in the hamlet, it needs a special use permit first and to come before the PB. They have to follow the regulation for hotels which limits its size. Discussed various zoning development methods. Discussed developing the zoning law.

Paul Thomas – re: hospitality revisions, there was a comment that we should have a workshop on that, we should have an open house for people to come and discuss these issues in a general way. We can see conceptually how people feel before the final draft is being put together. Will there be the circulation of the schedule of uses with the zoning revision? Eliot said it will there. We will add the schedule of uses and bulk regulations also and post for the public hearing. We should have the planner look at the individual laws as we go forward.

Victoria Polidoro -lawyer for Six Senses - thanked the Board for their fairness on this issue. The property has operated as a conference center since 2003. The Six Senses meets many parts of the comprehensive plan. The TB should look at the wider goals of the community not those of a few neighbors. Negated some comments made during the PH, happy to answer questions.

Cynthia Koch – remembered Dick and Norene Collier who recently passed away. Norene was a founder of the Library and the CAC. Also instrumental in writing environmental laws; Dick was a great volunteer and a leader creating Walkway over the Hudson. They planted the forest by the Nature Trail and asked the public to remember them when walking there.

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilwoman Werner that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 8:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Carol-Jean Mackin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carol" and last name "Mackin" clearly distinguishable.

Carol-Jean Mackin,  
Town Clerk