

July 12, 2022 Town Board Meeting
July 12, 2022

Schultzville, NY

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, and Katherine Mustello. Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin was also present. Councilman Chris Juliano was absent. There were three people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVE MINUTES

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2022 Town Board meeting. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION:

Dan Harkenrider – Recreation Director - thanked the Town Board for the enormous support this year, with the help of Carol Mackin we have a strong Recreation Committee. Started numerous clubs: hiking, knitting, card club; we opened a concession stand “the Snack Shack” which is open during camp and open weekends starting this weekend. Wifi is installed at Fran Mark Rec Park. Camp has started; doing a basketball clinic in August. We have concerts with food trucks in the Park, which was successful. Movie night July 16 showing Home about 9:00 PM at Fran Mark Park. We have a weekly senior drop-in center every Friday with Pleasant Valley along with Senior Trips. We have a grant for Friends Park for a new fence, walkway and new bathrooms. Thanked the highway dept. also for their support.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS

The COVID-19 pandemic has been fading from our consciousness over the last few months. I know that many of us would like it to be permanently in our rearview mirror. Unfortunately, there is a new variant that has been spreading quite rapidly compared to previous variants. The good news is that this variant shows evidence of being less deadly than previous variants. This is all to say, that the Town of Clinton is currently identified by the CDC as having a moderate risk level. Please take appropriate precautions, especially if you happen to have pre-existing conditions that put you at an increased risk of severe disease.

In past months, I have used this time to update residents on the status of our Community Choice Aggregation program. The third-party supplier, Columbia Utilities, was attempting to leave the agreement, thereby forcing 25,000 customers to the higher electricity rate being charged by Central Hudson. The attorneys for Joule have been in negotiations to resolve the problems. Early reports indicate that we will be able to finish the current contract with rate changes for our residents, although the company administering the supply may change. As always, I will continue to give updates when appropriate.

The Spaceman Shootout basketball tournament is taking place on July 30th, to raise awareness for mental health and suicide prevention. Teams can register up until this Friday. Contact my

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office for the registration form. All are welcome to come by to watch the tournament. There will be activities for all ages. It is a worthwhile day in the park.

I want to highlight the projects that this Town Board has been working on this year. Starting soon, residents will see the Masonic Hall being repainted. There will be a new heating system being installed in the Highway Garages. We expect work to begin this fall on an accessibility ramp on the library, along with a new automatic door. A concession booth, referred to as the Snack Shack, and Wi-Fi access has now been added to Fran Mark Park. We are preparing bids for a new fence and accessible walkways and bathrooms at Friends Park. All of this is possible through the American Rescue Plan money and Community Development Block grants. These improvements have kept the Town Clerk's and Supervisor's office busy throughout the first half of the year, and we are excited to start seeing the results, and for the community to benefit from all these new projects.

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)

Dean Michael- next ZRC meeting is next Wednesday 7-20, furthering the discussion on definitions.

Katherine Mustello– a lot going on in the Library, check their website, the CAC revamped the garden out front. Allen Road paving will restart July 26.

Eliot Werner– reviewed the ZBA and Planning Board meeting minutes, they are on the website. The Planning Board reviewed eight STR applications last year and six so far this year. If we get another six in the second half of this year, we'll have a total of twenty—roughly a one-third response and Dean suggests we send a certified letter to the other two thirds. Supervisor Whitton will follow up with the ZEO.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approve LL3 Senior Citizen Tax Exemption – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 31 of 2022 hereby adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2022, entitled “ Local Law Increasing Income Eligibility for Senior Citizen Tax Exemption”** a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution; and Be It Further Resolved, that the Town Clerk is directed to enter this Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and give due notice of the adoption of this Local Law to the Secretary of the State of New York. In discussion, supervisor Whitton explained that this law is going to update the income requirements for seniors looking to qualify for a property tax exemption. The exemptions vary based on a sliding scale of income. Our current law allows seniors with incomes of \$32,400 or less to receive an exemption. This proposed law will raise the threshold by \$5,000 to \$37,400 or less. Municipalities have the option to permit seniors to subtract from their incomes all medical and prescription drug expenses that are not reimbursed or

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paid by insurance. After discussions with our Tax Assessor and Town Attorney, I have left that option out, as it would put an undue burden on part time employees, while benefitting a relatively small number of residents. We had a very generous offer from a resident willing to volunteer to do perform that job, unfortunately our Town Attorney believes that there are legal hurdles preventing us from allowing a volunteer to perform those tasks, including privacy concerns. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

2. Approve ARPA funds for the purchase of gutters on pavilion and Snack Shack – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves spending \$685 in ARPA funds to purchase the gutters at the pavilion and Snack Shack at Fran Mark Rec Park. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

3. Approve the purchase of gutters from Valley Seamless Gutters (Jack Persley) – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the purchase and installation of gutters for the pavilion and Snack Shack at Fran Mark Rec Park from Valley Seamless Gutters at a cost not to exceed \$685. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

4. Approve cemetery Rules and Regulations update – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the revised Cemetery Rules and Regulations, dated July 12, 2022. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Grant in the amount of \$4252 for the purchase of two AED's - Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the Grant Agreement between the Town of Clinton and the John T. Sloper Community Fund of the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley in the amount of \$4,252 for the purchase of two AED's, and authorizes, empowers and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement In discussion, Cathy Gallinger, the Secretary to the Supervisor, performs a yearly check on all of our AED's. This year, she discovered that several needed battery and pad replacements, and that we could add a couple of AED's throughout town property. One at Friends Park and one in the Schoolhouse Building. Cathy recognized the large expense this represented, and took it upon herself to look for grant opportunities. She applied for, and was awarded this grant. I would like to thank Cathy for going above and beyond her job description by securing this funding for the Town. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

2. Approve purchase of replacement compressor - Whitton

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MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the purchase and installation of a replacement compressor through Tekcon at a total cost not to exceed \$6100.00. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

3. Approve sealcoating Fran Mark Rec Park walkway and parking spot

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the sealcoating of the Fran Mark Park walkway and handicapped parking spot by Mackin's Sealcoating at a cost not to exceed \$450.00. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

1. Resignations and appointments

Resignations:

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board accepts the resignation of **Maya Goer-Palenzuela from the CAC, effective June 14, 2022**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board Accept the **resignation of Eric Sternberg as maintenance worker** effective July 30, 2022. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

Appointments:

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the appointment of **Alice Bacon to the CAC, filling the unexpired term of Maya Goer-Palenzuela, from July 12, 2022 to December 31, 2023**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the **appointment of Marilyn Donohue to the CAC, to a new, partial two-year term from July 12, 2022 to December 31, 2023**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves **the appointment of Amanda Tiedemann as Substitute Employee effective July 5, 2022**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves **the appointment of Alaina Dampf as a Camp Volunteer effective July 5, 2022**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the appointment of **Caleigh Byron as gate guard effective July 5, 2022 at a rate of pay of \$13.00 per hour**. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board approves the appointment of **Allison Hewitt to the position of Lifeguard, effective July 5, 2022 to September 7, 2022 at a rate of pay of \$15.30 per hour.** All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

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 July General Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 296 through 350 totaling \$ 107,991.35, the July Capital Project warrant number 4, totaling \$153.21 and the July Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 149 through 168, totaling \$ 54,445.19. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. 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. 32 of 2022 a motion to move funds at the July 12, 2022 Town Board meeting.** All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

4. Supervisor's Report

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the Supervisor's Report for June, 2022. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael to open the meeting to public discussion. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

Joyce Morse – Library trustee, spoke about a July 23 event at the Library, look for library budget proposition on the ballot.

Rich Morse – Historical Society exhibit is farming 1900 to 1920, it is a great exhibit done by Craig Marshall. Community Day will take place in front of the Historical society Sept. 3.

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

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ADJOURNMENT

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Michael that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM. All aye except Councilman Juliano who was absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk