

Mayor Schaumburg called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Pender, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mayor Schaumburg 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.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the minutes of September 25, 2007 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to accept the monthly reports for the month of September as submitted:

Clerk’s Account, Construction Control/Inspection Report, Fire Official Report, Police Report, Sewer Collector’s Report, Tax Collector’s, Water Collector’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Wastewater Treatment Plants Superintendent’s Report, Water Superintendent’s Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

1. Safe House ID program, currently being run through Springfield Fire Department, as a fund raiser. Reflective house numbers for easy detection when a light is directed on it. For more information, contact 888-267-2601. Mr. De Cleene will pass information on to the Emergency Services Foundation.
2. Mr. Cutter provided a narrative for the Stormwater Management Award submission. The category is the Local Public Education Award and the Illicit Connection and Outfall Pipe Mapping Program Award. Mayor Schaumburg complimented Mr. Cutter on a phenomenal job!

- 3. Parks & Playgrounds has received an application for a benefit show and concert on October 13, 2007, 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mayor Schaumburg discussed the application with Ginny Rylak and Parks and Playgrounds approved the application. Mrs. Rylak has confirmed the chaperones attendance and has notified the police. It is the responsibility of Parks and Playgrounds to approve applications, not the Mayor and Council. Mayor Schaumburg asked Council liaisons, Ragozine and Shea to look at the new forms prepared by the Committee and forward it to Mr. Cushing for review and specifically to check on liability matters.

RESOLUTION #112-07 – DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to adopt Resolution #112-07 authorizing the Mayor to execute a Discharge of Mortgage.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

(A copy of this Resolution is attached to these minutes)

SPECIAL EVENT – CHRISTMAS PARADE

Council is in receipt of an application from Frank Hooper and Dan Torrone to hold the Clinton Guild Christmas Parade. The hours of the annual parade are from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Mr. Hooper explained that Dan Torrone will be taking over the major planning of the event. Mr. Torrone stated that the event remains a rain/snow event but a disclaimer for the weather is being considered for the sake of participants in case of cancellation.

A motion was made by Mr. Pender, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to grant the special event request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – FEE WAIVER REQUEST

The Knights of Columbus is requesting a fee waiver for the food license to operate a food concession at the annual Haunted Mill on October 19, 20, 26, and 27, 2007. The food license is \$150.00 and the fee waiver for the Fire and Health Permits in the amount of \$42.00. This is a non-profit organization. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Shea, to grant the request as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #07-15 – NO LEFT TURNS

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene seconded by Mr. Ragozine, to adopt Ordinance #07-15 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #07-15
ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 135-35 OF THE
CODE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON
HUNTERDON COUNTY
VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC,
TO PROHIBIT LEFT TURNS FROM UNION ROAD AT CERTAIN HOURS

Vote all ayes

Motion carried

Mr. Harrison questioned the need for this ordinance and stated that he has not seen much traffic come through Spruce Run Road and Hillside Drive since the “No Outlet” signs were posted. Chief Matheis stated this ordinance is a preventive measure and traffic has been light because of the summer months, however, it is inevitable that traffic tie ups on Route 78 will send traffic overflows through Rupells Road and down Union Road.

A copy of this ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review on October 17, 2007. A second reading and public hearing will be held November 27, 2007.

(A copy of this ordinance is attached to these minutes)

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #07-16 – SIGN ORDINANCE

Mayor Schaumburg thanked Lou Tranquilli, Chairman of the Sign Committee, and all the members, merchants, the Planning Board and Councilman Rob Ragozine for all the work put into creating a document that would work for everyone. Mayor Schaumburg read a letter from resident Steve Lione, 7 East Main Street, regarding neon signs.

Mr. Ragozine addressed the council and the audience and explained that compromises were made by everyone to create a uniform structure for things in town and that there has been no enforcement until now. Zones C-1 –2 –3 –4, on Old Highway 22, Main Street and East Main Street, are now permitted to have neon “OPEN” signs. Mr. Shea asked if grandfathered permitted signs will now be permitted? Yes, Mr. Ragozine replied. Mr. Shea then asked about security issues and would the merchants be permitted to leave lights on until 11:00 p.m. Yes, external is permitted, internal, no. Chief Matheis stated that businesses are encouraged to have internal security lights.

Mrs. Insel stated that the Planning Board agreed that neon lights should not be permitted. Mr. Joseph commented that neon OPEN signs on Main Street are essential. Arthur Schwartz, Portraits by Anna, said the vote was unanimous that neon OPEN signs be permitted. However, Mr. Ragozine corrected Mr. Schwartz as to the vote, Mr. Ragozine voted no on the neon signs. Discussion continued about the neon signs. Mayor Schaumburg asked Council if the neon signs should remain in the new ordinance as is or if it should be amended.

Leave as is: Shea, Pender, De Cleene, Harrison

Amend: Ragozine, Insel

A motion was made by Mr. De Cleene, seconded by Mr. Pender, to adopt Ordinance 07-16 on first reading as submitted:

ORDINANCE #07-16
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON AMENDING
THE LAND USE CODE, SECTION 88-4

Vote all ayes
Nays – Ragozine and Insel
Motion carried

The Ordinance will be published in summary in the Hunterdon Review edition of October 17, 2007, posted on the Clinton web site and copies made available to requestors at no charge. The clerk was authorized to receive a summary from Planner, Beth McManus. A public hearing will be held November 27, 2007.

(A copy of this ordinance is attached to these minutes)

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #07-17 – BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Ragozine thanked the Parks and Playgrounds Commission for their hard work to come up with an Ordinance that will protect the Commission and the Town. Attorney Cushing’s office prepared the ordinance which was done legally and the structure was unanimously voted on. Fees for the facilities will now be outlined. Rosemary Pendergast, Chairwoman of the Commission, stated all members are happy with the results and thanked Council for their efforts.

A motion was made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mrs. Insel, to adopt Ordinance #07-17 on first reading as submitted.

ORDINANCE #07-17
AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS
COMMISSION AND PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A BOARD OF
RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Ordinance will be published in the Hunterdon Review edition of October 17, 2007. A public hearing will be held November 27, 2007.

A copy of this ordinance is attached to these minutes)

CELL TOWER LEASE

Mr. Cushing explained a request that had been made by a wireless communication provider to erect an antenna on the Youth Correctional Facility Property in Clinton Township. Mr. Cushing wishes to advise the Department of Treasury in writing because the location for this tower would be on the easement held by the Town to maintain a Town of Clinton water tank but owned by the Department of Corrections. Mr. Cushing’s intentions are to send a letter and form an agreement as to the collection of a fee. The Town maintains the water tank, the State is the ground lease holder. A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Shea, authorizing Mr. Cushing to send the letter to New Jersey Department of Treasury. Mayor Schaumburg stated she will also reach out to the State.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad referred to an “EMS (Emergency Medical Services) System Review” recently released in the newspaper. The Squad submitted a copy of the New Jersey State Department of Health’s Office of Emergency Medical Services for the municipality’s review. Copy available in the Clerk’s office.

2. Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce – Nomination Form 2007, Awarding Kids in Business. Names being accepted of any student who owns a business that should be recognized. Notify Clerk if interested.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**Councilman Harrison**

1. Fire Department – sealed and striped the parking lot in order to proceed with the parking program. Fire Department Attorney, Al Rylak, is waiting for the department to answer the questions posed by Chief Matheis.
2. Water – the Knolls water main project is progressing well, full power has been restored to residents.

Councilman Shea

1. Shade Tree Commission – Pat Goehe will attend the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Seminar in Cherry Hill on Friday, October 26, 2007, cost is \$100.00 per person.

Councilwoman Insel

1. Smart Growth received a draft of the “Clinton Circulation Study Existing Conditions Report” at their meeting October 4, 2007 prepared by Orth-Rodgers. The next meeting will be scheduled in approximately two months, further information may become available. Copies will be provided to the Planning Board and available in the clerk’s office.
2. Smart Growth finished their revisions to the Master Plan and requested the Planning Board hold a special meeting to discuss the revisions on October 30, 2007. At the Smart Growth meeting on November 20, the Committee, will accept public comments.

Councilman De Cleene

1. Rescue Squad – reported 136 calls for the month of September. On November 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. the squad will hold a vehicle technology class.
2. Roads – Overnight parking restrictions on all public roads will begin November 15 through April 1st from 2:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. except Main Street and East Main Street which is 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
3. Emergency Services Foundation meeting October 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Attorney Richard P. Cushing, Esq.

1. Mr. Cushing responded to an inquiry made by Council regarding engine breaking and stated that the Town cannot impose regulations on Route 31 or Interstate 78 because they are State Federal highways. Engine Breaking, also known as Jake Breaking, is regulated by the Federal Government and considered a safety feature. Mr. Cushing suggested reaching out to Congressman Rush Holt.

Kathy Olsen, C.F.O.

Ms. Olsen discovered that a bill for Penn Bower in the amount of \$278,402.60 was inadvertently left off the bill list. Ms. Olsen asked Council to approve the payment of this bill.

Robert A. Cutter, PW/Business Administrator

1. Leaf Clean up will begin mid October with chipping to continue until October 31st. Yard debris can now be bagged in clear plastic or biodegradable bags. A notice will be posted on the web site.
2. The Public Works crew have cleaned the weeds and mulched on Main Street, a practice that will take place in the Spring and the Fall.

3. Municipal auction will take place on Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.
4. Mr. Cutter asked Mr. Harrison if October 19th at 10:30 a.m. would be agreeable for a Personnel meeting, Mr. Harrison said it would be.

Police Chief Matheis

Chief Matheis requested permission from the Police Committee to hire two substitute crossing guards, Karen Cruse of Marudy Drive and Candice Warren of Kinter Street. These hirings have become urgent because two current guards have given notice. A motion was made by Mr. Ragozine, seconded by Mr. Pender, authorizing the Chief to hire the two women as recommended.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mayor Christine Schaumburg

Mayor Schaumburg commented that she has received complaints of commuters of the Park and Ride at Clinton Point are parking on upper Center Street. In 2001, a no parking more than six hours was imposed, however, no signs were posted. It has now become evident that signage is required and signs will be posted "No Parking – Monday through Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m." from Georges Place to the east on Center Street.

Mayor Schaumburg also announced that the North Hunterdon Municipal Court has finalized the Interlocal Agreement and will place it on the October 23, 2007 agenda. The Mayor was happy to announce that all eight remaining towns have decided to stay. Thank you to Rob Ragozine, Shaun Van Doren, of Tewksbury and Larry Remaly from Franklin Township, who personally approached Lebanon Township and Glen Gardner' Governing Bodies and clarified some questions, thereby, the Towns have agreed to stay with the court. Union Township is the only town at the moment unsure of their future.

APPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison seconded by Mrs. Insel, to approve the standby and overtime pay as submitted for September 7, 2007 through September 20, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Kathy Olsen, CFO, noticed that a bill for Penn Bower was inadvertently left off the voucher list. The work was completed from September 4 through September 19, 2007. A motion was made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. De Cleene, to approve the voucher list and the amendment to include Penn Bower in the amount of \$278, 402.60 for the Phase I project of the Clinton Knolls, also attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: De Cleene, Harrison, Insel, Ragozine, Shea, Mayor Schaumburg

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Ragozine seconded by Mr. De Cleene to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVED BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

Christine Schaumburg, Mayor

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Town Clerk