

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Carberry, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:**

Mayor Kovach 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. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of September 10, 2013 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Shea)  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 10, 2013 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Shea)  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS – AUGUST**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to accept the monthly report of the Police Department for the month of August as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Whitney Wetherhill, 36 West Main Street, commented on the unsightly conditions of West Main Street and the trash and recycling that appears to constantly be sitting at the curb. Ms. Wetherill suggested contacting the landlords of the rental properties and advise the tenants to the scheduled pick ups. Tuesday is trash and Friday is recycling. Mr. Phelan was directed to contact the property owners and tenants of West Main Street.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

1. Rolling Thunder, Inc. National members will be placing wreaths on the graves of Veterans at the Somerset Hills Cemetery on December 14, 2013. This project is part of the “Wreaths Across America” program. The cost of each wreath is \$10.00 and donations will be used to purchase the wreaths. If interested, checks are payable to “Rolling Thunder Charities Inc., Wreaths Across America Project. Their goal is to raise \$13,000 by November 25, 2013.
2. Raritan Valley Rail Coalition is requesting municipalities to contribute \$100 in dues to help raise sufficient funding to launch a web site and social media to spread the word to the public and rail riders about the economic benefits one seat ride service would provide

Raritan Valley Line towns. Council discussed the donation and although council supports the lobbying efforts, a monetary donation will not be possible. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to send a letter to the coalition thanking them for their efforts which the Town supports, however, the Town of Clinton will not be making a donation at this time. Ms. Sosidka suggested they contact HART to spread the word.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

3. 2013 New Jersey Complete Streets Summit scheduled to be held Monday, October 21, 2013 in New Brunswick at the Rutgers Student Center.
4. Roger R. Locandro, Mayor of Stockton, reaching out to be placed on an agenda to discuss Community Energy Aggregation.
5. InAwe Foundation hosting a breakfast September 26, 2013 at the Mountain View Chalet from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., \$15.00 per person. The topic is “The Foundation for an Awesome Life!
6. Plan Smart, NJ, 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner, will be held Thursday, November 14, 2013 at the Heldrich, New Brunswick, NJ 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
7. The Salvation Army reaching out seeking assistance in identifying groups of employees who would like the opportunity to staff a kettle for a day, a week, a weekend or even just a few hours for the upcoming holiday season.
8. North Hunterdon Rotary Club celebrating 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala, Friday, October 25, 2013 at the Grand Colonial.
9. A letter of resignation from Deb Schaffer, from the Environmental Committee, has been received. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast to accept the resignation as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

10. A citizen involvement form has been received from Patty Smeltzer of Center Street and a recommendation from Chairman, Jeff Schaumburg, to appoint Mrs. Smeltzer to the position on the Environmental Commission. At the recommendation of Mr. Schaumburg, Mayor Kovach made the appointment and requested that Mrs. Smeltzer be invited to a council meeting to be introduced to the council. Mrs. Smeltzer will attend the October 8 Council meeting.

### **COUNCIL VACANCY**

In accordance with Title 19 and the Municipal Vacancy Law, the Republican County Committee has submitted three names for consideration by the Mayor and Council to fill the vacancy on the Town Council created by the resignation of Megan Jones-Holt on September 3, 2013.

Albert D. Rylak, 126 Center Street  
Rosemary Pendergast, 20 spruce Run Road  
Rosemarie Milligan, 101 West Main Street, Apt. 23

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Smith, to select Albert D. Rylak to fill the vacancy on council.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Mr. Cushing proceeded to administer the oath of office to Mr. Rylak and expressed his pleasure in doing so for a long time colleague. Mr. Cushing said it is “an honor and a privilege” to swear in Mr. Rylak, an alumni of Gebhardt & Keifer. After the swearing in, Mr. Rylak took a seat at the dais followed by a round of applause from Council and audience.

**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

Mayor Kovach read the proclamation designating October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Leanne McGowan advocate and volunteer of SAFE in Hunterdon, attended this evening’s meeting to accept the proclamation and to give a brief overview of the many events scheduled to bring awareness to the public. A Candlelight Vigil will take place on October 2, 2013 at 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. to honor survivors and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and raise awareness of the effects of violence on individuals of families and our communities. Other events scheduled for the month of October are:

- October 1 – 31 “Clothesline Project” Survivors of domestic abuse created t-shirts as Part of their healing process. On display at North County Branch Library
- October 4 - Slow Pitch Softball Tournament at Diamond Nation
- October 5 & 6 - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Superhero Weekend at Comic Fusion, Turntable Junction
- October 16 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Kitchens of Hunterdon Tour

Councilman Rylak commended the work done by SAFE volunteers and stated he has a great respect for them. Mr. Rylak, an attorney, has done work pro bono for the organization, formerly known as the Women’s Crisis Center. Mr. Rylak lobbied to have the name changed and saw it through because the center was not just for women, as men were also victims of such abuse.

**PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE #13-15 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC FINES**

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #13-15:

ORDINANCE #13-15

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 135 ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON PERTAINING TO THE FINES FOR VIOLATION OF THE WEIGHT LIMIT ON MAIN STREET HISTORIC TRUSS BRIDGE

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Smith, to close the public portion of the meeting.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Carberry, to adopt Ordinance #13-15 on second reading as presented.

ROLL CALL: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #136-13 – EXTEND CONTRACT WITH NATIONAL METERING**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to adopt Resolution #136-13 authorizing the extension of the original contract to October 9, 2014 as presented:

**RESOLUTION # 136-13**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND CONTRACT WITH NATIONAL METERING  
FOR THE INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT WATER METERS**

WHEREAS, On October 9, 2012, the Mayor and Council awarded a contract to National Metering for the installation of new water meters; and

WHEREAS, the initial term of the contract was for a period of twelve (12) months; and

WHEREAS, the bid specification allowed for three (3) additional one (1) year contract extensions to be awarded at the discretion of the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS, National Metering has performed all of the contractual services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the bid specifications to the satisfaction of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to extend the contract for a second twelve (12) month period, with the term now ending on October 9, 2014; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2013, the Chief Financial Officer had certified to the Town Clerk that sufficient funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, that contract with National Metering for the installation of new water meters is hereby extended until October 9, 2014 in accordance with the bid specifications.

ROLL CALL: Carberry, Pendergast, Rylak, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A suggestion was made to have a message posted on the Town website that National Metering is a legitimate contractor hired by the Town of Clinton.

**WATER REFUND – BARBARA ASPIN**

A request has been received from Nancy Burgess, Water Collector, to refund \$62.63 to Barbara Aspin, Account #2908, for overpayment of a water bill. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to refund the \$62.63 as requested.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach  
Abstain: Rylak

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Rylak)  
Motion carried

**CORRESPONDENCE – NONE**

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS**

**Richard Phelan, Business Administrator**

1. Mr. Phelan requested an item be placed on the next agenda to discuss the Best Practices Inventory for the Division of Local Government Services. Council will receive a worksheet for their review prior to the meeting of September 24, 2013.

**Councilman Smith**

1. Attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Zachary Dau on September 14 and presented him with the proclamation prepared by the Mayor and Council.
2. Buildings & Grounds Committee discussed a project in conjunction with diesel tanks and looking into changing out the metering operations that we currently have because they are defective. We have received bids and the lowest was \$20,000 under the next bidder, on a wireless system. This would be used by fire, rescue, police and all Town vehicles and they would enter a code number on the computer. This would keep track of all fuel usage.

Committee received a request for a trash can and Art Dysart, Assistant Superintendent, is looking into it.

A resident requested a sign be placed at the De Mott Pond Rain Garden. The Committee is concerned as to placing all the requested signage and the funds to do so. Another request was to replace the "Town of Clinton Historic District" sign on Center Street. Research is taking place as to where these signs originated. Mr. Shea stated that if the sign is historic, possibly the Historic Commission would be able to fund a new replacement sign and Mr. Carberry, Environmental Commission liaison, agreed.

Mr. Smith suggested a list should be prepared of all requests prior to budget time.

3. Water Committee holding a pump house tour, Saturday, October 5, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. Three council members will be attending.
4. Met with Lebanon Borough officials and discussed the water main replacement project to be re-bid for Myrtle Avenue and now including Brunswick Avenue, bids being received mid October. This is to accommodate Lebanon Borough's paving project.

Clinton Township Planning Board granted approval for the Well 11 site and for the site of the new emergency generator. The Planning Board's one stipulation in the resolution is to have a new fence installed.

Water allocation permit has been received and distributed to the Water Committee. Committee to notify municipalities that wish to tie into the Town of Clinton water and advise that a concept of their proposed project be submitted. The committee is discussing a concept plan that when a project is planned, there will be a non-refundable quarterly rate to reserve water allocation, and after a one to two year time frame, if the project has not begun, the water allocation will go back to the town for other possible projects. There is currently a waiting list for anticipated projects and the Town wants to be assured that there is allocation for Town of Clinton and open space projects. Mayor Kovach asked if the permanent extension act could override the Town plans and Attorney Cushing was directed to look into that.

Attorney Walter Wilson is in the audience tonight and sent a letter to the Water Committee, asking for water allocation for the proposed Twin Ponds project. Mr. Smith explained that the Water Committee just received this water allocation permit from the State and our Town Attorney still has to review it. No decision is coming tonight, this still has to go to the Water committee for discussion and that is where the final word will come from. Mr. Wilson was here tonight for that specific purpose, to find out where the final decision will come from.

#### **Councilman Shea**

1. Road Committee will have a special meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. The State Department of Transportation rejected their initial design for the street crossing on Leigh Street and now the town must go through a re-design to meet the state requirements.

Mayor Kovach stated that she was contacted by someone from the DOT office and they will be scheduling a study and come out to the town to assess the "right turn only" lane at the Exit 15 traffic light. This subject was discussed at the council meeting of September 10, 2013.

2. SWAC – this was the first meeting since May and this meeting addressed State grant availability information and updates on marketing efforts. Interesting information on updates of recycling endeavors, years ago, Hunterdon County was one of the worst in recycling, now we are at 37%. More community involvement is being sought and a perfect goal would be 50%. Clinton, however, is the highest in recycling in the County.
3. Shade Tree commission reviewed the current plan and must submit a new five year plan to the State. More requests have been coming in for tree removal of an urgent sense and therefore the need to do some budget shifting in November to remove a series of trees. JCP&L has been trimming trees to clear the lines to prevent outages, however, the work has not been delicately completed and Mr. Shea has asked the men to try and shape them with a bit more care. The men agreed and have trimmed up some of those trees. Residents are encouraged to do tree trimming on their property and sidewalks by doing the trimming themselves or by hiring a professional. Donations are also accepted

towards planting of new trees and Ms. Sosidka offered to have something put on the website notifying the public.

**Councilwoman Sosidka**

1. Board of Recreation – Town Picnic scheduled for June 7, 2014.
2. Historical Commission did not have a meeting in August.
3. Website/Newletter committee making progress. Met with provider to discuss updates. In January noticeable changes to the design work will be seen. Trying to make communications more mobile friendly. Ms. Sosidka asked Council what would they like to see on the site?

**Councilman Pendergast**

1. Sewer meeting Friday, September 27, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.  
Doug Berry from the treatment plant will be resigning as of Friday, September 27. Internal posting of the position has been made and an ad will be in the Hunterdon County Democrat in the edition of September 27, 2013.
2. Clinton Fire Department hosted their last Grill Night, it has been a great season!
3. The Clinton Fire Department opened their doors for the Town of Clinton Volunteer and Employee Appreciation BBQ. Everyone had a nice time!

**Councilman Carberry**

1. Mr. Carberry requested an insurance meeting with Mr. Pendergast and Mr. Phelan.

**STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the stand by and overtime for August 16 through August 29, 2013 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach  
Abstain: Rylak

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Rylak)  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Carberry, seconded by Mr. Pendergast, to approve the stand by and overtime for August 30 through September 12, 2013 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach  
Abstain: Rylak

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Rylak)  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Mr. Pendergast, seconded by Mr. Carberry to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Carberry, Pendergast, Shea, Smith, Sosidka, Mayor Kovach  
Abstain: Rylak

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention (Rylak)  
Motion carried

**HUNTERDON ART MUSEUM**

A check in the amount of \$2,000 has been received from the Hunterdon Art Museum and a signed Repair Escrow Agreement as per council meeting of September 10, 2013 and the repairs to the sidewalk on the Museum property.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Carberry seconded by Mr. Rylak to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Town Clerk

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Mayor Janice Kovach