

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, 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."

Mayor Kovach welcomed the public to the meeting and explained how the meeting will be run by reading the following statement :

NJSA 10:4-8(b) authorizes municipalities to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms. Recently adopted P.L. 2020, c.11 amends OPMA to clarify that in times of emergency public bodies may vote, accept public comment and cause a meeting to be open to the public via electronic means.

The Town of Clinton is using ZOOM Video Meetings. Please be aware that this meeting is being recorded for the public record.

We will continue to address all questions and comments for any topic that is not on the current agenda during public comments as well as comments during public hearings for any ordinances.

Please use the chat feature in ZOOM to indicate that you wish to be recognized for a comment or a question. You must provide your name and address to be recognized. You can also type in your questions. Feel free going forward to email councilmeeting@clintonnj.gov with any questions or concerns between meetings.

We ask that you keep your device muted until called upon by council. The meeting's moderator may also mute participants.

The mayor and council will respond to all votes via roll call with the exception of opening and closing of public hearings will be a voice vote.

The Mayor and Council will respond to all votes by raising hands or via roll call.

Please feel free to reach out with a note at jkovach@clintonnj.gov anytime!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to approve the minutes of February 10, 2021 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Two residents have expressed an interest in joining the Environmental Commission, Dean Solomos and Rebecca Walters. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Karsh to appoint Mr. Solomos and Ms. Walters to the Commission.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried
2. Mayor Kovach reported that Cannabis legislation has been adopted and is formally legal.
3. Council met with members of the Clinton Fire Department on February 22, 2021 to discuss the proposed fire district. A task force has been chosen by Mayor Kovach, Councilwomen Dineen, Johnson and Councilman Humphrey.
4. A letter of retirement was received from Police Sergeant Ollerenshaw effective July 1, 2021. Sgt. Ollerenshaw expressed pleasure spending the last 15 years serving the Town of Clinton.
5. Police Chief Kubinak introduced Melissa Tornberg as Clinton's newest Class 10th Officer. Ms. Tornberg addressed Council and gave a brief background of her education. A graduate of Middlesex County College and Centenary College, also worked as a paralegal in Woodbridge. Married with a 2 ½ year old little girl. Ms. Tornberg will be sworn in on March 1 in the office and sworn in publicly at the Council meeting of March 10, 2021 at the Clinton Fire House.

RESOLUTION #54-21 – HIRING OF POLICE OFFICER

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Karsh, to adopt Resolution #54-21 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 54-21

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton Police Department requires the hiring of a new officer, and;

WHEREAS, the position was advertised for, applications accepted and interviews performed,

WHEREAS, the Police Chief and Police Committee recommend that the following person be hired to fill the open position at the level of 10th Class Police Officer at the 2021 rate of 57,960.89

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hire Melissa Tornberg to fill the open position at the Town of Clinton Police Department effective March 1, 2021.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen,
Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

BANNER REQUEST

A request has been received from the Hunterdon County Library, to display a banner for New Jersey Makers Day, to be displayed from March 1 through March 20, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Traphagen seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the request.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #50-21 – REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

A motion was made by Ms. Intrabartola, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to adopt Resolution #50-21 as submit

**RESOLUTION #50-21
REFUND CONSTRUCTION PERMIT #2021-0025**

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2021 the Construction Department issued Permit #2021-0025 to Air Professionals in the amount of \$227.00; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2021 the Construction Department issued Permit #2021-16 to Air Professionals in the amount of \$227.00 for the same project causing a duplicate payment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council authorize the Chief Financial Officer to issue a refund to Air Professionals in the amount of \$227.00.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #51-21 – AWARD CONTRACT FOR GEORGE’S PLACE

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Karsh, to adopt Resolution #51-21 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #51-21
TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR GEORGE’S PLACE
ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton (“Town”) received and opened bids for the George’s Place Roadway Improvements project on January 26, 2021 pursuant to the authority of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the following bids were received;

George’s Place Roadway Improvements

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| S&G Paving, Inc. | \$ 94,099.85 |
| Reivax Contracting | \$100,333.00 (Error-Listed Bid \$122,873.00) |
| Crossroads Paving | \$107,295.50 (Error-Listed Bid \$171,398.00) |
| Top Line Construction | \$107,365.21 |
| Esposite Construction | \$113,588.30 |
| DeSantis Construction | \$113,636.93 |
| Fischer Constracting | \$113,857.33 |
| American Asphalt | \$114,135.57 |
| Your Way Construction | \$115,095.70 |

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Black Rock Enterprises | \$115,379.08 |
| Capital Paving | \$118,515.22 |
| Riverview Paving | \$118,894.04 |
| Onorati Construction | \$129,259.80 |
| Pittenger Paving | \$177,978.10 |

WHEREAS, after review by the Town Engineer, Purchasing Agent and the Town Attorney, S&G Paving, Inc. has been determined to be the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, a certificate of available funding has been presented;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that a contract is hereby awarded to S&G Paving, Inc., in the amount of \$94,099.85 for the George's Place Roadway Improvements Project, and that the Mayor and Town Clerk of the Town of Clinton are hereby authorized, respectively, to execute and attest to an agreement with S&G Paving, Inc., pursuant to bid specifications and receipt of a Performance Bond and Certificate of Insurance.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach
ABSTAIN: Intrabartola

Vote all ayes
Abstention 1 (Intrabartola)
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #52-21 – WATER CAPACITY RESERVATION

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Mr. Traphagen, to adopt Resolution #52-21 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 52-21

RESOLUTION APPROVING WATER CAPACITY RESERVATION EXTENSION

APPLICATION # L20-02

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2015, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton adopted Ordinance 15-1, which amended Chapter 142 of the General Ordinances of the Town of Clinton by creating procedures for applying for and receiving approval for water reservations; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020 the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton adopted Resolution 87-20 which approved Water Reservation Application # L20-02 submitted in the name of Town Center at Lebanon, LLC (Borough of Lebanon Block 4, Lots 1.03 & 1.04, Tax Map Page 4, located at 400-500 Corporate Drive); and

WHEREAS, the above-reference approval was valid for twelve (12) months, to which it was scheduled to expire on April 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town has received a request from the applicant, Town Center at Lebanon, LLC, to extend the permit approval for another twelve (12) months; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated February 15, 2021, the Town's Water Consulting Engineer, Suburban Consulting Engineer's, has recommend that said extension be granted: and

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2021 the Town's Water Committee held their monthly meeting in which they have reviewed and approved Town Center at Lebanon, LLC's request for extension with a new expiration date of April 22, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter 142, Section 1, Sub-section J(3) of the Town's Ordinances, the Mayor and Council hereby approves the extension of Water Reservation Application # L20-02 in the amount of 16,778 GPD through April 22, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be provided to the Applicant, Suburban Consulting Engineers, and the Town of Clinton Superintendent of Water.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #53-21 – OPPOSING ACS – 1571/1576 and S-1956

A motion was made by Ms. Karsh, seconded by Mr. Traphagen to adopt Resolution #53-21 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 53-21

RESOLUTION OPPOSING ACS -1571/1576 and S-1956

WHEREAS, New Jersey General Assembly Bills ACS 1571 and 1576 and Senate Bill S-1956 seek to impose prevailing wage requirements on any property where a public body has provided, approved, or authorized a tax abatement or tax exemption; and

WHEREAS, Payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) are the single-most powerful tool available to municipalities to encourage property owners and developers to make improvements to property or to locate a project in a distressed or blighted area and are granted only where the municipality has determined that the project would not occur but for the PILOT; and

WHEREAS, PILOTS have been instrumental in the construction of affordable housing, environmental remediation, historic preservation, and the installation of infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Increasing the cost of already challenged projects by requiring a private property owner to pay prevailing wages for improvements on their property, as is contemplated by the above bills, will prompt a greater demand on the municipality to provide additional concessions, such as increased density or building heights, in the PILOT at the expense of property taxpayers, which will diminish municipal revenue and property tax relief, and may even prevent projects from moving forward; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has not only affected the public health, it has impacted our main street businesses and halted development, requiring municipalities to use every tool available to encourage and spur post-COVID development, without the economy-stunting limitations of ACS 1571/1576 and S-1956; and

WHEREAS, the Bills, as currently configured, do not appear to ensure that the State provide the gap financing necessary to make municipal redevelopment projects financially viable, or to provide funding to municipalities to re-engage professional services in order to restructure and amend redevelopment plans, redevelopers agreements and financial agreements (costs already born by local taxpayers), nor to address settlements impacting the much needed and long overdue construction of affordable housing units as those agreements will need to be renegotiated at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton is concerned that towns will be responsible for these added costs by reducing project revenue to taxpayers or by increasing density, intensity and height of projects and plans moving forward without an assurance in this proposed legislation that the State is considering new financial tools for local municipalities to attract investment and make projects financially viable; and

WHEREAS, it is unclear from the proposed legislation the impact to community givebacks that were already negotiated in the best interest of local municipalities and under local control (infrastructure upgrades, workforce development programs, environmental remediation, contributions to Affordable Housing Trust Funds, etc.), and whether an economic impact assessment been conducted, especially in light of the pandemic and urgent need for economic recovery.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON that the Town of Clinton opposes the passage of ACS 1571/1576 and S-1956 for the above stated reasons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of the within Resolution its Representative to the New Jersey Assembly and to its State Senator.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #55-21 – SUPPORT OF H.R. 946 (SALT ACT)

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adopt Resolution #55-21 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #55-21

Resolution in Support of H.R. 946 – The Stop the Attack Local Taxpayers Act

WHEREAS, each provision of the Federal Tax Code, which is incredibly complex, was enacted for a reason. While some of those reasons may no longer serve the public's interest, others remain fair and effective tools that promote the general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the deduction for state and local taxes (SALT) has been a feature of the tax code for more than 100 years. In 1913, the first federal income tax form allowed taxpayers to deduct state and local taxes, one of only six deductions allowed at the time; and

WHEREAS, a federal tax reform law passed in 2017 capped the deductibility of state and local taxes at \$10,000 forcing double taxation for residents that pay in excess of that amount, as well as harm to states and communities that rely on tax payments that support public services which benefit all citizens, such as

K-12 schools, law enforcement and public safety, transportation and infrastructure, and vital community and public health services; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey 9th District Congressman Bill Pascrell has introduced H.R. 946 the Stop the Attack on Local Taxpayers (SALT) Act, which eliminates the \$10,000 cap on property tax deduction and retroactively removes the cap; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers in all 50 states benefit from the SALT deduction that is claimed by taxpayers of all income levels; and

WHEREAS, the deduction is especially important for middle-income homeowners, as fifty percent of the deductions claimed by taxpayers making \$50,000 to \$100,000 are for property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the SALT deduction does not unfairly benefit taxpayers in high tax states. To the contrary, low tax states are generally more dependent on the federal government, receiving more in federal funding than they pay in federal taxes. According to one study, New Jersey, New York, and Illinois are among the states that receive less than \$1 from the federal government for every \$1 paid in federal taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Town of Clinton, supports the full tax deductibility outlined in H.R. 946 and urges all members of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation as well as all members of congress to support the SALT Act, with voice and vote, to restore the fair and reasonable SALT deductibility provision from the Federal Tax Code; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Congressman Tom Malinowski, Senators Booker and Menendez, President Joe Biden and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #21-03 – AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #21-03:

ORDINANCE #21-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON TO ADDRESS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT AND THE UNIFORM HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CONTROLS (UHAC) REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE TOWN'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Karsh, to adopt Ordinance #21-03 on final reading.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #21-06 – REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 135

A motion was made by Mr. Traphagen, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #21-06:

ORDINANCE #21-06

ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 135, ENTITLED VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

There being no public comment, a motion was made by Ms. Intrabartola, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to close the public portion of the meeting.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Ms. Karsh, seconded by Ms. Intrabartola, to adopt Ordinance #21-06 on final reading.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #21-07 – REFUNDING OF BOND ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to introduce Ordinance #21-07 on first reading:

ORDINANCE #21-07

REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE REFUNDING OF ALL OR A PORTION OF CERTAIN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE TOWN, APPROPRIATING \$7,300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE BY THE TOWN OF REFUNDING BONDS IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$7,300,000 FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Town of Clinton, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey (the "Town"), is hereby authorized to refund all or a portion of the following bonds:

- (i) \$678,000 outstanding principal amount of General Improvement Bonds, originally issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$2,328,000 on August 1, 2013 (the "Dated Date"), which outstanding principal amount matures on August 1 in each of the years 2024 through 2026, inclusive (the "Refunded General Improvement Bonds"), and which are subject to redemption on or after August 1, 2023 (the "Redemption Date") at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Refunded General Improvement Bonds to be redeemed; and
- (ii) \$1,000,000 outstanding principal amount of Sewer Utility Bonds, originally issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$1,500,000 on the Dated Date, which outstanding principal amount matures on August 1 in each of the years 2024 through 2033, inclusive (the "Refunded Sewer Utility Bonds"), and which are subject to redemption on or after the Redemption Date at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Refunded Sewer Utility Bonds to be redeemed; and
- (iii) \$4,793,000 outstanding principal amount of Water Utility Bonds, originally issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$8,043,000 on the Dated Date, which outstanding principal amount matures on August 1 in each of the years 2024 through 2033, inclusive (the "Refunded Water Utility Bonds" and, together with the Refunded General Improvement Bonds and the Refunded Sewer Utility Bonds, the "Refunded Bonds"), and which are subject to redemption on or after the Redemption Date at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Refunded Sewer Utility Bonds to be redeemed.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof and the costs of issuance associated therewith, negotiable refunding bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$7,300,000 (the "Refunding Bonds") pursuant to the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey (the "Local Bond Law").

Section 3. The Town desires to provide for the refunding of all or a portion of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds outstanding and the interest and redemption premium, if any, thereon in order to provide for savings in debt service as a result of lower interest rates in the bond market.

Section 4. An aggregate amount not exceeding \$150,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-51(b) has been included in the aggregate principal amount of the Refunding Bonds authorized herein.

Section 5. The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Town Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Town is increased by the authorization of the Refunding Bonds provided in this refunding bond ordinance by \$7,300,000 and that \$6,471,000, representing the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds, will be deductible from gross debt. The obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by law.

Section 6. A certified copy of this refunding bond ordinance as adopted on first reading has been filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey prior to final adoption.

Section 7. This refunding bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law, provided that the consent of the Local Finance Board has been endorsed upon a certified copy of this refunding bond ordinance as finally adopted, which consent will be so endorsed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-2.5.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A copy of this ordinance will be published in the March 3, 2021 edition of the Hunterdon Review. A public hearing will be held March 24, 2021.

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

Councilwoman Johnson

School Board - Dr. Cohen and staff are re-analyzing the current situation and would like to have the school re-open to more hours now that COVID cases are in a much improved yellow zone. Thoughts were to bring back the 7th and 8th grade students, however, parents are asking younger grades to return because the older children are helping with the younger grades at home. Once again, Ms. Johnson expressed thanks to the staff and families for their patience and coming up with new ideas to keep everyone engaged!

Week of March 1, 2021 is Bulldog Book Bonanza! Ms. Johnson, Ms. Intrabartola and Mayor Kovach will be reading to the students and Chief Kubinak and Chief Hedden have been asked to read as well! Thanks to Kindergarten teacher, Cassie Rudd, for coming up with the wonderful idea!!

Board of Recreation – met and discussed sub committees to create activities to keep folks engaged during the pandemic, possibly virtual events as well. A meeting with the engineer is being scheduled, the Mayor, Councilwomen Intrabartola and Johnson will meet along with Mr. Phelan and the buildings and grounds crew. They will talk about resurfacing the tennis and basketball courts and creating a multi-purpose court. Costs are uncertain at this point but there is approximately \$113,000 to to begin work. Fund raising will begin soon and interested folks are asked to reach out.

Councilman Humphrey

Newsletter – has gone to print! Mr. Humphrey thanked Ms. Intrabartola for submitting two great articles with photos on Environmental Commission Chair, Veronique Lambert and Shade Tree Chair, John Kashwick!

Clinton Fire Department has membership applications from two young men, Joshua Biggs of Glen Gardner and Eric Figler of Clinton. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Intrabartola to accept the men as members of the Clinton Fire Department.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Mayor Kovach and Mr. Humphrey attended an organizational meeting of the re-organization of Hunterdon County Governing Officers Association which is a county affiliate of the League. They will meet once a month, the last Tuesday of every month via zoom. Any elected member can participate, no fee. Mr. Humphrey is the Vice President of the group!

Mayor's walk will be Sunday, 11 a.m., meeting at the Hunterdon County Library and walking the service road to the reservoir. Mayor Michele Lee of High Bridge will be joining the group!

Councilwoman Intrabartola

Roads Committee – Councilwoman Dineen took the liberty of beginning the report, discussing the Georges Place road project that is currently going out to bid. Ms. Dineen wanted to thank Ms. Intrabartola for going door to door seeking support for bringing a natural gas line to the area prior to the project. Once a project of this magnitude is completed, there is a moratorium for breaking up the road. With the help of the Eyer's of Fairview Avenue, enough families showed an interest for bringing the gas line to Harrison, Fairview and Georges Place! Elizabethtown Gas will install the line at no cost to residents, however, residents will have to pay for connections at the time they wish to connect.

Councilman Traphagen

Historic Commission – Mr. Traphagen reported on Preservation New Jersey and EDA's new Historic Tax credit program. \$50M is designated to historic commercial property owners and designated properties in a designated area to receive up to 40% of a project to help with improvements. This may be available in the summer.

Raritan Township's Historic Preservation Commission is seeking to make Old Clinton Road a notable historic thoroughfare beginning in Raritan, through Franklin and ending in Clinton Town.

Rescue Squad has an upcoming meeting and just completed their last ice water drill at the Water Street access to the river, across from Mr. Traphagen's house!

Councilwoman Dineen

Land Use Board met February 2 for the completeness hearing for the Moebus Tract subdivision. They currently have three lots for open space, residential and commercial and would like to further subdivide to five lots.

Frank Gallagher expressed his plans to open a Lobster Roll Shop and purchase the building at 2 East Main Street.

March 2 is the completeness hearing for 13 Moebus Place, the Pulelo LLC storage facility on Route 31.

Finance Committee will hold budget workshop meetings March 3 and March 9, 2021 at 6pm via zoom. Budget expected to be introduced March 24, 2021. Watch for the Mayor's budget letter to be coming out soon.

Police Chief Kubinak

Sergeant Ollerenshaw's last day will be July 1, 2021. Michael Del Russo was named 2020 Officer of the year! Banner year, congratulations to Del Russo!! Coming in a close second place was Alberto Bonilla and Jose Gonazalez! Congratulations to all the men!

Councilwoman Karsh

Water – continuation for the water reservation for Lebanon Towne Center as approved earlier this evening. Water availability continues at 35,000 per day.

Clinton Guild postponed their meeting but folks are encouraged to SHOP LOCAL!!

Economic Development Committee will meet the second week of March and will report back following the meeting.

Mr. Phelan, Business Administrator

Following some recent upgrades to computers, users may have had problems with zoom. If anyone is experiencing problems notify Mr. Phelan. Everyone seems to be operating without problems this evening.

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Ms. Intrabartola, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the standby and overtime attached to these minutes for the period of February 5 through February 18, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the voucher list as attached to these minutes .

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Traphagen, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Janice Kovach, Mayor

