

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

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Present – Dineen, Humphrey, Intrabartola, Johnson, Karsh, Smith, 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 Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Karsh, to approve the council meeting minutes of October 22, 2019 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS – OCTOBER 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Smith, to accept the Monthly Reports for the month of October as submitted: Administrator’s Report, Clerk’s Account, Cat and Dog Licensing Accounts, Police Report, Sewer Collector’s Report, Tax Collector’s Report, Water Collector’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, and the Wastewater Treatment Plants Superintendent’s Report.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PROCLAMATION – ANDREW PLUMPTON

A proclamation was presented to Andrew Plumpton a Clinton Public School eight-grader who is the North-Voorhees Junior Athletic Conference Cross-Country Champion by Mayor Kovach with the attendance of Andrew’s family. Andrew secured his title on a 1.5 mile course with a time of 9:46, more than twenty seconds faster than the next runner out of nine participating schools. Mayor and Council congratulated Andrew for his fantastic accomplishment!

PROCLAMATION – CLINTON PUBLIC SCHOOL SOCCER TEAM

A proclamation was presented to the Clinton Public School Boys Soccer Team who are the 2019 North-Voorhees Junior Athletic Conference Champions. The team completed an extremely successful season

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under the guidance of Coach Timothy Bidwell, with a record of 5 wins, 0 losses and 3 ties. The entire soccer team and Coach Bidwill as well as family and friends were present for the reading of the proclamation by Mayor Kovach. Mayor and Council congratulated the team for their outstanding teamwork and their fantastic accomplishment!

RE-DEDICATION OF THE HONOR ROLL

Mayor Kovach read the original proclamation dedicating the Honor Roll Board to the citizens of the Town of Clinton who served their country. The original dedication was held on July 5, 1943 at 10:30 a.m. Eastern War Time, for the purpose of reading the Declaration of Independence, and of honoring those men and women of the community who are now serving in the armed forces of our country, in Civilian Defense activities, and as soldiers of the home front in factories and on farms. This proclamation was signed by Mayor Lester Oliver, Jr.

Mayor Kovach also read the program which was for the Rededication of the Honor Roll that took place on November 11, 1989 at 11:00 a.m. At this time other names were added who served in World War II, and in the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts. The original Honor Roll, complete with the eagle carving by F. Herbert Hand, was carefully restored by town workers.

Mayor and Council, at tonight's meeting, rededicate again adding the town resident, Collen William Randolph, who is a Vietnam Veteran. This dedication will be in honor of Mr. Randolph. Tonight's rededication took place in the council room due to the extreme cold weather and darkness.

To be put on the Honor Roll board there are two criteria that must be met. First, the person must have been a resident of Clinton when entering the military service, and second, must have received an honorable discharge. The first ceremony took place in front of the Clinton National Bank on Main Street, later the Honor Roll was moved to a small park located at Leigh and Center Street, and then eventually moved beside the Municipal Building on Leigh Street.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Mayor Kovach accepted a letter of resignation, with regret, from Deena Roberts who is on the Shade Tree Commission. Ms. Roberts will finish out the remainder of the year.
A motion was made with regret by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to accept Deena Roberts' letter of resignation.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

2. Mayor Kovach reminded Council that the League of Municipalities is next week down in Atlantic City from Tuesday to Thursday. She hopes to see everyone there.

3. Mayor and Council all received a letter from Winnie Scuteri about an issue that occurred on Election Day. It mentioned that some young people were in the community center playground talking foul language and playing loud profound music. Ms. Scuteri was very offended by it and ask the young

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people to stop and turn the music down which one boy decided to argue. Ms. Scuteri was wondering if there was an ordinance in town and if not can one be put in place against profanity in public places. Mayor Kovach did speak with Cory Kubiak, Police Chief, to see if there was a report put in. There was no record. The town cannot enforce this and the town attorney, Richard Cushing, will draft up a response to her letter.

FEE WAIVER REQUEST – CLINTON FIRST AID & RESCUE SQUAD

Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad is requesting the permit fee in the amount of \$276.00 for the HVAC work at the station be waived since they are a non-profit agency serving the Town of Clinton. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to grant the request in the amount of \$276.00.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

WATER REFUND – EMILY LORCHEIM – WATER ID #3731

Nancy Burgess, Water Collector, is requesting a refund in the amount of \$243.97 be issued to Emily Lorscheim. Ms. Lorscheim is the owner of 20 Rosemary Lane and her account has a credit balance.

A motion was made by Ms. Karsh, seconded by Ms. Johnson to issue the water refund in the amount of \$243.97.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #142-19 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by Ms. Karsh, seconded by Ms. Intrabartola to adopt Resolution #142-19 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 142-19

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Town of Clinton has received overpayments for the following block and lots,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to refund the overpayment to Corelogic Real Estate Tax Service c/o Centralized Refunds, P.O. Box 9202, Coppell, Texas, 75019-9978, for the following accounts:

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<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
19	7	McGuinness, Mark & Sara	\$ 2,589.45
31	5	McNamara Mark & Klemm Olivia	\$ 1,852.47

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector remove the overpayments on the above block and lots for the 4th quarter 2019.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #143-19 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to adopt Resolution #143-19 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 143-19

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Town of Clinton has received an overpayment for following block and lots,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to refund the overpayments for the following accounts:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1	37	Sleeve Ethel Trustee, Sliwa H&M T/C	\$ 479.88
13	14	15 East Main Street LLC	\$ 237.04
13	22	Tokalodamo Realty LLC	\$ 100.43
19	12.01	Moller, Judith E	\$ 388.01
20	4	Lish, Donna L	\$ 453.33
29	3.03 C0004	Flotteron, James & Joan	\$ 384.83

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector remove the overpayments on the above block and lots for the 4th quarter 2019.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #144-19 – AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Karsh to adopt Resolution #144-19 as submitted:

RESOLUTION # 144-19

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH
THE HUNTERDON COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND PROGRAM
FOR THE MUNICIPAL PARK UPGRADES**

WHEREAS, The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved an Open Space Trust Fund and established a Municipal Grants Program to provide County Funds in connection with preserving open space, natural areas, farmland and historic sites; to acquire, develop, improve and maintain county and municipal lands for recreation and conservation purposes; and preservation of historic structures, properties, facilities, sites, areas, or objects; or for the payment of debt service or indebtedness issued or incurred by the municipality for any of the purposes described above; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$1,046,734.17 from the County of Hunterdon to fund the Municipal Park and Playground Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, the governing body resolves that Richard D. Phelan, Business Administrator is hereby authorized to:

1. make application for such County Open Space Trust Funds,
2. provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
3. act as the authorized correspondent of the above named Municipality; and

WHEREAS, the County of Hunterdon shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Hunterdon County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Plan, applicable Freeholder Board Policies and the Procedures Manual for the Municipal Grant Program adopted thereto, and notify the Municipality of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality is willing to use the County funds in accordance with such adopted Policies and Procedures, and applicable state and local government rules, regulations and statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton that:

1. That Town of Clinton Mayor Janice Kovach is hereby authorized to execute any documents and agreements with the County of Hunterdon known as that Municipal Park and Playground Improvement Project;
2. That the Municipality has its share of funds, if required, in the amount of \$1,046,734.17;
3. That, in the event the County of Hunterdon's funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project;
4. That the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and
5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Suburban Consulting Engineer's and the Town of Clinton Parks and Recreation Commission.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #145-19 – REQUESTING STUDY COMMISSION TO REVIEW OPRA

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to adopt Resolution #145-19 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #145-19

**CALLING FOR STUDY COMMISSION TO REVIEW
THE OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton strongly believes in and supports open transparent government, and that citizens and residents have the right to be informed about the workings of government in order to best participate in a democracy; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2002 then Acting Governor DiFrancesco signed into law the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) which mandates that government records shall be available, with limited exceptions, for public access and simplifying the procedures for requesting such specific records; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the law was to provide the public with easy access to government records with an uncomplicated process for obtaining the records and eliminating bureaucratic red tape; and

WHEREAS, over the course of 18 years OPRA has been a positive light, but it has also been fraught with abuse and misuse, and has become an unanticipated financial cost to the taxpayers of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton has labored under a well-intended law that has spiraled out of control, due to the volume and nature of requests, the cost to taxpayers in responding to the requests, and the potential liability in having to pay disproportionate prevailing party attorney's fees should the requests turn into litigated matters, as well as the liability in determining which documents shall be released, with or without redaction, while attempting to maintain individual privacy; and

WHEREAS, it is not only the volume of OPRA requests that challenge our resources, but it is also the cost associated with reviewing, retrieving, and processing the OPRA request(s) by public entity personnel and counsel and possibly defending our action(s) before the Government Records Council or in Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton received and responded 84 OPRA requests in 2017, 150 OPRA requests in 2018, and to date has received and responded to 87 OPRA requests as of September 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton municipal staff has spent approximately 100 hours responding to OPRA requests received in 2019 to date, and approximately 160 hours in 2017, and 200 hours in 2018; and

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WHEREAS, due to the often conflicting case law and Government Record Council decisions, as well as the unique characteristics of OPRA request, the Town of Clinton must often times rely on the municipal attorney to review certain OPRA requests, resulting in additional fees of approximately \$2,000 in response to OPRA requests in 2017, \$3,000 in response to OPRA requests in 2018, and currently has spent \$2,500 in response to OPRA requests in 2019; and

WHEREAS, OPRA requests can be time consuming and costly; and **WHEREAS**, with limited exceptions OPRA has not been amended to address the clear and apparent advancement in technology that has changed the way government records are created, stored, and/or transmitted; the various interpretive decisions; privacy concerns; abuse for commercial gain; and/or the ever increasing cost to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, as the current law approaches its twentieth (20th) anniversary it has outgrown its original intended use and has become ripe for comprehensive review and reform;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Town of Clinton appeals to the legislature to form a Commission comprised of Mayors, Municipal Clerks, Municipal Managers, Attorneys, Police Chiefs, open government advocates, privacy experts, members of the media, citizens and other appropriate stakeholders, to review and examine the effects of OPRA on local government and the needs to be fulfilled by the law, and use the Commission's findings to perform a comprehensive reform of OPRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Michael Doherty, Assemblyman John DiMaio, Assemblyman Erik Peterson, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senator Weinberg, Executive Director of the Government Records Council, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #19-15 – FOSTER WHEELER BOOSTER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Intrabartola to introduce Ordinance #19-15 on first reading:

ORDINANCE #19-15

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF
\$1,550,000 FOR THE FOSTER WHEELER BOOSTER PUMP STATION
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT IN AND BY THE TOWN OF CLINTON, IN THE
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
AN ADDITIONAL \$1,550,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN FOR
FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION AND AMENDING THE PROJECT

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DESCRIPTION AND PERIOD OF USEFULNESS SET FORTH IN BOND
ORDINANCE #17-11 OF THE TOWN FINALLY ADOPTED DECEMBER 12, 2017

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. Section 3(a) of bond ordinance #17-11 of the Town of Clinton, in the County of
Hunterdon, New Jersey (the "Town") finally adopted December 12, 2017 (the "Prior Bond Ordinance") is
hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the
financing of which the bonds are to be issued is for the Foster Wheeler Booster and Fox
Fire Pump Station Improvements, which shall include demolition of the existing hydro-
pneumatic tanks, removal and replacement of electrical power and control wiring,
replacement and reconfiguration of the finished water piping and valves, installation of
new booster pumps addition of flow meter, pressure transmitter and gauges, installation
of remote communications for SCADA and related equipment and further including
temporary operations and all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto
as well as all planning efforts for this project through the implementation of the water
system's Asset Management Plan, periodic updates thereto forming the basis of the
system's Capital Improvement Plan and consequent funding analysis necessary to ensure
fiscal sustainability of the system to proceed with this project.

Section 2. The period of usefulness set forth in Section 6(b) of the Prior Bond Ordinance is
hereby amended to be 40 years.

Section 3. The improvement described in Section 5(a) of this bond ordinance has heretofore
been authorized to be undertaken by the Town as a general improvement. For the improvement or
purpose described in Section 5(a), there is hereby appropriated the supplemental amount of \$1,550,000,
such sum being in addition to the \$1,200,000 appropriated therefor by the Prior Bond Ordinance.
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c) and contingent upon the approval of the Director of the Division of
Local Government Services, no down payment is provided for the cost of the improvement since the
project described in Section 5(a) hereof is being funded by the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank.

Section 4. In order to finance the additional cost of the improvement or purpose, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$1,550,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 5. (a) The improvement heretofore authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds are to be issued is for the Foster Wheeler Booster and Fox Fire Pump Station Improvements, which shall include demolition of the existing hydro-pneumatic tanks, removal and replacement of electrical power and control wiring, replacement and reconfiguration of the finished water piping and valves, installation of new booster pumps addition of flow meter, pressure transmitter and gauges, installation of remote communications for SCADA and related equipment and further including temporary operations and all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto as well as all planning efforts for this project through the implementation of the water system's Asset Management Plan, periodic updates thereto forming the basis of the system's Capital Improvement Plan and consequent funding analysis necessary to ensure fiscal sustainability of the system to proceed with this project, as described in Section 3(a) of the Prior Bond Ordinance, as amended herein.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or bond anticipation notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is \$2,750,000, including the \$1,200,000 authorized by the Prior Bond Ordinance and the \$1,550,000 bonds or bond anticipation notes authorized herein.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is \$2,750,000, including the \$1,200,000 appropriated by the Prior Bond Ordinance and the \$1,550,000 appropriated herein.

Section 6. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date, unless such bond anticipation notes mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all

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matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 7. The Town hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Town is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 8. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 5(a) of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Town may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 40 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the 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 as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$1,550,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$240,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement. Of this amount, \$240,000 was estimated for these items of expense in the Prior Bond Ordinance, and no additional amount is estimated therefor herein.

Section 9. The Town hereby declares the intent of the Town to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 4 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 5 of this bond ordinance. This Section 9 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

Section 10. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 5 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 11. The chief financial officer of the Town is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with

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the sale of obligations of the Town and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Town. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Town pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Rule”) for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Town and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Town fails to comply with its undertaking, the Town shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 12. The full faith and credit of the Town are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Town, and the Town shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Town for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 13. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A copy of this ordinance will be published in the November 20, 2019 edition of the Hunterdon Review. A public hearing will be held December 10, 2019.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Mayor Kovach received an invitation to the 39th Annual Crystal Ball for anyone who is interested. The tickets are \$400 and is scheduled for November 16, 2019.
2. Daytop New Jersey is hosting their annual Holiday Brunch. Mayor Kovach stated she is unable to attend and if anyone else is interested the date is December 12, 2019.

3. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture is seeking sponsors for the summer food service program. If anyone is interested in working with them the information will be in the clerk's office.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & TOWN OFFICIALS

Police Chief Cory Kubinak

Chief Kubinak reported a written press release was put out about the incident recently at the Holiday Inn. However, in that press release some of the information was distorted. The person responsible was arrested and no one was injured.

Chief Kubinak said he flew out to the state of Colorado to understand better their overview on medical and recreational marijuana use and regulations. Marijuana is legal in Colorado. He will give Mayor and Council a more detail report on what he has found out. Here a few items. There is very little regulation on it presently. Dispensaries only allow a person to purchase one at a time but it does not stop the person from going to several other dispensaries and purchasing more on the same day. There is no limit on the number of plants you have if it is home grown. As of now in Colorado you cannot publicly smoke marijuana. Colorado sells about 413,000 lbs. per year and 12,000,000 lbs. of edible marijuana per year. The edible marijuana is more popular because it affects you faster. Body fat comes into play when it is ingested. Chief Kubinak said this was a very interesting and a unique experience. It is eventually going to come to New Jersey and the hardest part is discovering the impaired drivers. There is no scientific method to determining level of impairment like there is for alcohol. It is all subjective.

Kathy Olsen, CFO

Ms. Olsen said she received a letter today from Brenda Karcher from the Waste Water Treatment Plant requesting time for her maternity leave. Ms. Karcher is asking for six weeks temporary disability and additional six weeks under the Family Leave Act. Ms. Olsen will have a resolution prepared for the next council meeting.

Councilman Humphrey

1. The Clinton Fire Department had their meeting yesterday, November 11, 2019. They had 16 service calls for October and a total of 240 service calls for the year.

2. The Beer Festival at the Fire Department was a big success. Several thousand dollars were raised for the department.

3. The Environmental Commission will be submitting their Sustainable Jersey application. In 2020 the Commission plans on putting together a full Green Team to go after Platinum certification.

Based upon a seminar members of the Environmental Commission attended on single use plastics the Commission is putting together a peer to peer program to encourage businesses in town not to use single use consumables such as straws, shopping bags, plastic cups, and plastic bottles. This will be implemented mid-2020.

4. For the Communications Committee, the December issue of the newsletter is running about a week behind. It should be submitted by the end of the week. The web site is up and running. Councilman Humphrey wanted a discussion with Mayor and Council about building a directory of business on line. This will be introduced sometime in the beginning of 2020.

5. From doing the Sustainable Jersey application it brought up an idea of putting up a set of rules on the agenda as well as putting up a set of rules entering the council room for the public as part of the transparency effort the State is trying to obtain. This item can be discussed in the future as well.

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Councilman Smith

1. December 2, 2019 will be the next meeting for the merger of the High Bridge and Clinton Rescue Squad Emergency Services. Both parties are ironing out some issues such as LOSAP.
2. There is water committee meeting tomorrow, November 13, 2019 and a sewer committee meeting on Friday, November 15, 2019.

Councilwoman Karsh

1. The Economic Development Committee is meeting tomorrow. They are going to seek grant funding for a community wide economic development strategy plan. It will cover the entire community. Plus they are working on getting marketing material so if anyone has any pictures without children's faces that would be great. The committee needs about two to three high quality pictures. Also they will be looking for some testimonials of the town on how great it is to have a business here and life here. Need three diverse people for the testimonials.
2. Another item Ms. Karsh is moving towards putting together a Complete Streets Policy. Once this policy is implemented then the town can apply for grant funding for Safe Routes to School. This is a policy that addresses the way in which you plan your streets which includes all aspects such as bike safety, pedestrian safety, and traffic flow. Suggestions were made to look at the town's last study that was done years ago. The study was done but nothing was implemented on record. The town is doing the policy but it is not on record. It needs to be on record to obtain any grant funding.
3. On Thursday, November 14, 2019, Mayor Kovach and Ms. Karsh will participating in the Ride To Rails. They will be taking the NJ Transit train out of High Bridge to Newark to get a sense of what the commute is for the commuters along with the 78 /22 Coalition group. They will report back how it went.
4. Ms. Karsh said she will be with her in-laws for the month of December therefore will not be here for the two December council meetings. Ms. Dineen, Ms. Johnson, and Mayor Kovach will be covering her meetings.
5. The website is live. Ms. Karsh would like to thank the Freeholders for granting us the funds to change the website.

Councilwoman Dineen

1. Buildings and Grounds met last week and discussed the possibility of car charging stations around town. The fence by the Public Works barn is complete.
2. The Land Use Board also met last week. They heard an application received from PNC Bank to bring their disability parking spaces up to code. There was public hearing on 72-74 West Main Street property. Ms. Dineen due to conflict was not in on that discussion.
3. The Shade Tree Committee met end of October. They are continuing working on the Community Management Forestry Program. Deena Roberts will be retiring and John Kashwick will be taking over her position. The committee will met for their regular 3rd Thursday in November but there will be no meeting in December.

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Councilwoman Intrabartola

1. Again the website is up and live. Would like to thank Mike Humphrey, Reilly Karsh, Sherry Dineen, and to Rich Phelan and all others who participated to get it up and working. Everyone worked great together to get each page going. If any changes need to be done it can be taken care of in live time. It is very exciting to have it working correctly. The search box works great to find a specific item. Eventually would like to have a business listing on the site as well.

PPROVAL OF STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the standby and overtime pay attached to these minutes for October 18, 2019 through October 31, 2019.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Karsh to approve the voucher list as attached to these minutes.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Intrabartola, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 P.M.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Nancy A. Burgess, Deputy Clerk

Mayor Janice Kovach