

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Bruno (zoom), Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Traphagen (zoom), Mayor Kovach

Absent: Perloff

**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.”

OPMA authorizes municipalities to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms.

The Town of Clinton Council is meeting in person as well as providing an option for the public to participate via ZOOM video meetings. Please note that the option to attend is being provided as a courtesy, therefore, if Zoom becomes unavailable during the meeting and it cannot quickly be fixed, Council will continue with the remainder of the meeting.

For those joining us via Zoom, please raise your hand during designated times to be recognized for a comment. Whether you are appearing in person or via Zoom, you must provide your name to be recognized.

Please feel free going forward to email [councilmeeting@clintonnj.gov](mailto:councilmeeting@clintonnj.gov) with any questions or concerns between meetings. Please feel free to reach out with a note at [jkovach@clintonnj.gov](mailto:jkovach@clintonnj.gov) anytime!

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Kovach stated the minutes of November 8, 2023 will be tabled to the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE**

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS**

1. Finance Committee met and reported the Town is in a good financial place.
2. Veteran’s Day breakfast at the Towne Restaurant was well attended and much appreciated.
3. Ribbon cuttings for Chameleon Blue and El Quetzal were celebrated and wonderful!
4. The League of Municipalities was last week and many great sessions were offered. Suburban Consulting received an award for the Foster Wheeler & Fox Fire Booster Pump Station Modifications which was presented at a luncheon of the New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers. Mayor Kovach and Water Superintendent Art Dysart attended.
5. Mayor Kovach was inducted into the Mayor’s Hall of Fame for serving 10 consecutive years and continues!
6. Attended the Government Day in Clinton Public School yesterday along with other council members. The group explained their roles in government.

7. Route 173 road work is completed. Chief Kubinak and Mr. Phelan worked with DOT to get the work done smoothly. Mayor Kovach asked the Chief to thank Sgt. McGuire for all his attention to the project.

**RESOLUTION #154-23 – SALARY**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Padmos, to adopt Resolution #154-23 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 154-23**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton Police Department has entered into a shared service agreement with Clinton Public School to provide a School Resource Officer, and;

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

**WHEREAS**, the Police Chief recommended that Brian Testa be hired to fill the open position of School Resource Officer effective May 24, 2023 at a rate of \$32.00 per hour;

**WHEREAS**, the Police Chief is recommending a pay rate adjustment to \$35.00 per hour effective December 1, 2023 due to comparable pay in surrounding districts;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton approve the rate adjustment for Brian Testa effective December 1, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #155-23 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

A motion was made by Mr. Kashwick, seconded by Ms. Padmos, to adopt Resolution #155-23 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 155-23**

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that there will be excesses in certain appropriations over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriations for the year 2023 and it has also been determined that certain appropriations are deemed to be insufficient to fulfill the purposes of such appropriations; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides for the transfer of the amount of such appropriations as may be deemed in excess to such appropriations as may be deemed to be insufficient; and

**WHEREAS**, the transfers about to be authorized do not affect any appropriations, to which or from which transfer are prohibited under the statutes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following transfers between 2023 appropriations be authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58:

	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>
Buildings & Grounds – Other Expenses	\$ 4,000.00	

Streets & Roads – Other Expenses	5,552.00	
Liability Insurance – Other Expenses	10,000.00	
Shade Tree - Other Expenses		\$ 9,552.00
Gasoline – Other Expenses		10,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>\$ 19,552.00</u>	<u>\$19,552.00</u>

ROLL CALL: Bruno, Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

### **BANNER REQUEST**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Padmos, to approve the banner for the Yuletide Bonfire as requested.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

### **CORRESPONDENCE – NONE**

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL**

#### **Police Chief Kubinak**

1. Created a group of community members for an OEM local emergency management plan.

#### **Mr. Phelan**

1. Will be out of the state for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December, someone will need to operate zoom.

#### **Councilman Bruno**

1. Clinton Fire Department will be holding their annual coin toss today 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Councilman Kashwick**

1. Attended the Sustainable Jersey Award luncheon with Councilwoman Padmos and achieved the Bronze recertification! A press release will be made soon.
2. Attended the Senior Expo with Councilwoman Padmos on Monday, November 20, 2023.
3. Shade Tree – last five trees expected to be planted next week.

#### **Councilwoman Johnson**

1. Councilwoman Johnson explained there are new grant funds being made available through Jake's Law and Green Acres program. This grant was once available only to counties but is now available to municipalities. There are many guidelines to follow and must be submitted by February 7, 2024. Councilwomen Padmos and Johnson are working on preparing the application and speaking with Town Engineer Clerico and obtaining an environmental preliminary assessment. These services will be covered by a recent grant.

**Councilwoman Padmos**

Reiterating what Ms. Johnson reported on the new grant, Ms. Padmos attended the League of Municipalities and spoke with Martha, the Green Acres representative. Martha said it was nice meeting with Ms. Johnson and explained that due to the story that Ms. Johnson spoke of last year at the booth, that is the reason it is now open to municipalities!

Board of Health – Rabies clinic ran smoothly. 129 vaccines were given out.

**Councilman Traphagen**

Communications Committee – after Thanksgiving, the committee will be moving forward with a new vendor and the process and procedures will be reviewed.

The Boy Scout breakfast honoring Paul Muir went very well! Mr. Muir has done so much for the Scouts and was very influential with eagle scout projects. Thank you to all who attended.

**STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. Kashwick seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the standby and overtime attached to these minutes for the period of October 27 through November 9, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson seconded by Ms. Padmos to approve the voucher list attached to these minutes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Mayor Kovach wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and reminded everyone to shop small business Friday and visit the Winterfest!

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Padmos, seconded by Ms. Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 a.m.

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Janice Kovach, Mayor

