

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Bruno, Johnson, Kashwick, Padmos, Perloff, 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."

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 with any questions or concerns between meetings. Please feel free to reach out with a note at jkovach@clintonnj.gov anytime!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Traphagen seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting and Executive Session of February 8, 2023 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Padmos to approve the budget meeting minutes of February 15, 2023 as submitted.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORT

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Traphagen, to accept the Monthly Report submitted for the Clinton Police Department for the month of January.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

George Tiboni asked questions of the Flood Plain Ordinance and asked if there are maps available for review. Mr. Phelan explained there are maps through FEMA and there is a link on the Town website. Mr. Phelan and Mayor Kovach are meeting tomorrow through zoom, a webinar to discuss the Flood Plane Ordinance and the DEP requirements being imposed on municipalities. Mr. Phelan offered to assist Mr. Tiboni if he wished to reached out with specific questions.

6465

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

1. Friendly Son's of St. Patrick held their Parade Launch Event last night, Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Grand Marshal introduction, Rob Gibby, Grand Marshal, Bill Wilson; Irishman of the Year Introduction Bunny O'Keefe, Irishman of the Year, Don O'Keefe. The weekend events will include the Parade on Sunday, March 12, 2023 followed by the after party at the Red Mill, entertainment provided by the Amish Outlaws, raffle tickets also available!
2. Fourchette celebrating 10 years in business with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
3. Letters have been dropped off to homes from two location scouting production companies. Both are independent films, Eugene the Mechanic with Nick Nolte and the other an Apple TV series. The State Commission is working with the companies and is aware of their interest in filming in the Town of Clinton.
4. Governor Murphy will hold a roundtable discussion at Pru Thai on Thursday, February 24, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. The press has been invited, topic is Liquor License Reform.
5. A letter of resignation received from Louise Hartzog, Tax Assessor assistant and field inspector. March 4, 2023 will be her last day. A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Traphagen, to accept Ms. Hartzog's resignation with regrets.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

6. Annual current assessment cards were mailed to residents and several questions have been raised on Social Media. Mr. Phelan, BA and Ms. Olsen, Tax Collector are preparing answers to many FAQ's that should be helpful to residents. There will be a post on the Town website and residents are encouraged to sign up for alerts which will be sent to emails.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #23-04 – POLICE FEES

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #23-04:

ORDINANCE # 23-04

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 73-3 OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON CODE REGARDING FEES CHARGED BY THE TOWN OF CLINTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Kashwick, seconded by Ms. Padmos to adopt Ordinance #23-04 on final reading.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #23-05 – REVISED FLOOD HAZARD MAPS

A motion was made by Mr. Kashwick, seconded by Mr. Perloff, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #23-05:

Ordinance No. 23-05

AN ORDINANCE BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON AMENDING THE TOWN OF CLINTON CODE REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 88-59, ENTITLED “FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION;” ADOPTING REVISED FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; DESIGNATING A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

Councilman Kashwick had several questions to many sections of the ordinance as submitted on first reading. After addressing each of Mr. Kashwick’s concerns, Mr. Phelan and Attorney St. Angelo will make a few minor changes and a corrected version will be distributed.

There being no further comments, a motion was made by M. Johnson and Mr. Traphagen to close the public portion of the meeting.

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Ordinance #23-05 on final reading.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

RESOLUTION #61-23 – CLOSE ESCROW ACCOUNT

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Padmos, to adopt Resolution #61-23 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #61-23

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2018, River 49 LLC, provided Escrow Funds to be deposited in a Town of Clinton escrow account, for work associated with a Site Plan;

WHEREAS, the project has been completed and the Town Professionals have approved its release;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, to authorize the Chief Financial Officer to issue a check to River 49 LLC in the amount of \$280.00 to close the current escrow account.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

6467

RESOLUTION #62-23 – OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by Mr. Traphagen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Resolution #62-23 as submitted:

RESOLUTION #62-23

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:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
21	23	Christie, James & Donna	\$ 3,193.12
31	29	Mincks, Steven & Elizabeth Labor	\$ 3,807.06

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector remove the overpayments on the above block and lots for the 1st quarter 2023.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

R. Phelan, Business Administrator

Following the Presidents Day holiday Monday, February 20, 2023, Republic Haulers are still catching up on garbage.

K. Olsen, CFO/Tax Collector

Reminder – 100% virtual budget meeting, Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Sewer Capital in review.

Councilman Perloff

Clinton Guild met and thank Mayor Kovach for joining them. April 1st will be the scavenger hunt. Will hear about Sweetheart Week at the next meeting, tomorrow morning and report at the next Council Meeting. Guild would like to discuss with the Chief the open question about road closures on Friday nights, Music on Main, which begins Memorial Day Weekend and ends Labor Day weekend.

Farmer's market, a vendor had trouble getting a large table through the door. Mr. Phelan will check the doors to see if they can accommodate the table for the vendor.

Nourish to Heal is partnering with the Hunterdon Art Museum (HAM) at a ticketed event Saturday, February 25, 2023 at Nourish to Heal. It is a behind the scene culinary journey!

HAM is also starting a poetry and film workshop on February 26.

Red Mill Museum Village is hosting two paranormal investigations, February 25 and March 25, 2023. Visit website for details.

St. Patrick's Day Parade, as mentioned earlier, Sunday, March 12 and the after party. March 11 is the Pub Night at the Red Mill. The Run O'the Mill 5K also on Saturday, March 11.

Recreation – Welcome to Rachel Young who was appointed this evening the Committee. Rachel will be helping out run the Egg Hunt March 31 with MaryAnn Shea and Kristina Tuxhorn.

The Whitehouse Wind Symphony at the Red Mill July 7, 2023.

Economic Development Committee will be meeting on February 28, 2023. The picture frame was a lot of fun and held up well. A little mending needs to be done but ideas of putting it up for parade day or Run O'the Mill are being considered. Even a pop up as a game, "Where's the Frame"?! Mayor Kovach stated that Eric Eisenhart of Base Camp had "underground run clues. A playful event, finding clues to continue.

Councilman Kashwick

Shade Tree – Annual report and Tree City applications have been submitted for approval. Arbor Day is scheduled for April 25, 2023, location of planting will be forwarded to Mr. Phelan. Committee is working on implementing the grant and working with Mr. Phelan and Ms. Olsen regarding going out for bids.

Environmental Commission postponed their meeting and hoping to reschedule next Monday.

Platinum Club enjoyed a very informative presentation on identify theft presented by Patrolman Ellis and Sgt. Robbins at the Library. Norma Kania, Chairperson of the Club, planning bus trips and tours for the upcoming months. Senior Brunch scheduled for June 4, 2023 at the Fire Department.

Councilwoman Johnson

Summer recreation sign ups are now closed, over capacity with 153 children enrolled. Senior counselors are still needed, must be over 17 years of age. Final trip information and scheduling to follow.

Park Committee met and are ready to begin purchasing equipment. Should be finalizing in the next few weeks and are currently working with Mr. Phelan, Ms. Olsen and Attorney St. Angelo.

Additional opportunities for participation in the National Opioid Litigation settlements is ongoing, documents have been forwarded to Attorney St. Angelo for review.

Councilman Traphagen

Historic Commission met at Bonnell's Tavern and had a very informative visit with Mr. Hank Bonnell. Mr. Bonnell shared his plans and gave a tour to the Commission members today.

Rescue Squad – 328 calls for the month of January, 45 in the Town of Clinton; 5 interactions and 1 water rescue.

Newsletter is complete!

6469

Councilwoman Padmos

Platinum Club- presentation on scams was very interesting. Texts, calls and email scams are rampant, be careful and notify police immediately. The format will be library setting at 4:45 p.m. and speakers will be arranged. The Club is arranging bus trips, possibly the Hunterdon County Arboretum and shopping trips!

Councilman Bruno

Land Use Board cancelled their March 7, 2023 meeting. The Moebus Tract, aka, Clinton Commons, will be coming before the board for several meetings beginning March 21, 2023.

Mayor Kovach

Mark your calendars!! Hunterdon Games, August 19, rain date, August 20, 2023. Axe throwing will be added to the activities!

Town Wide Garage Sale will be held June 1, 2023, rain or shine. No fee to join in!

New Jersey Government Week will be held, accepting ideas for events!

STANDBY AND OVERTIME

A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Padmos to approve the standby and overtime attached to these minutes for the period of February 3 through February 16, 2023.

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

Vote all ayes
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Johnson seconded by Mr. Perloff to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Janice Kovach, Mayor