

Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, 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.”

**Mayor Kovach welcomed the public to the hybrid 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 a public meeting as well as using ZOOM Video Meetings. Please be aware that this meeting is being recorded for the public record.

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](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**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting minutes of June 22 and July 13, 2022 as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
1 Abstention June 22, 2022 - Dineen  
1 Abstention July 13, 2022 Perloff  
Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS - JUNE**

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey seconded by Mr. Bruno, to approve the monthly reports for the month of June as submitted.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Bohnel, 76 Center Street, began by commenting on the photo behind the dais! Mr. Bohnel was the originator of the photo of the Pony Truss bridge printed in a starry night design. Mr. Humphrey bought it and donated it to the Town to be displayed. Beautiful!

Mr. Bohnel attended this evening's meeting to discuss the proposed playground bids that have been put out to attract engineers and consultants and asked if the overall budget being allocated is \$1,000,000 and what the expected engineering cost will be? Councilwoman Johnson replied \$30,000 to \$50,000 for engineering services and \$1,000,000 is possible but the project will be done in phases. Mayor Kovach further explained that all contracts will be awarded with a not to exceed figure. \$24,000.00 will be available from Open Space Fund through the County. Extensive fund- raising projects are planned and funds are being raised by contributors. A big thank you to Lou Tranquilli for his generous donation of \$25,000 for the playground project as the booster club's first sponsor! His company, Tranquilli Financial Advisor, will match resident fundraising efforts up to \$25,000. How it works, each \$5,000 raised through resident donations will unlock a matching \$5,000 donations from Tranquilli Financial Advisor. Following the Color Fun Run in June, \$5,000 was raised and with Mr. Tranquilli's matching sponsorship that brings the amount to \$10,000.

Mr. Bohnel commented that it does not appear that the Community Center is still being considered as a police station but in his professional opinion, the building is solid and can be made into an updated community space. WIFI, insulation in the walls and air conditioning would make for very usable, rental space.

Mr. Bohnel expressed concern over the traffic and crossing of Old 22 of the new apartment building, View 22, currently under construction. Chief Kubinak has purchased two solar crosswalk lights that are activated when attempting to cross. Clinton House location is definitely one location, this new site may be another.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

1. Patrolman Joseph Pietraszewski has completed his probationary period of one year on July 1, 2022. Chief Kubinak recommends Patrolman Pietraszewski be permanently appointed as a full-time member of the Town of Clinton Police Department. A motion was made by Mr. Perloff, seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the appointment.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

2. A letter of retirement received from Barbara Hartstell who has been with the Town of Clinton for 34 years as laboratory manager and supervisor at the Wastewater Treatment plant, effective November 1, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to accept with regrets.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

3. New Jersey League of Municipalities will be held November 15 – 17, 2022. Mayor Kovach asked Council to respond to the clerk with their intentions of attending.

4. Mayor Kovach and Kathy Olsen, CFO participated in a webinar with the EPA today. Congressman Malinowski has secured for the Town of Clinton to be receiving a \$2.1M grant for a \$2.6M water project, phases 3 & 4 and the Town will contribute 20% of the project or \$520,000.00 from the water budget, some of which may be in kind. The Town has also received \$900,000 for the sewer project with the help of Congressman Malinowski.

A line item on the State budget, \$3,000,000 for a new police building for the Town and thank you to Councilman Bruno for reaching out to Senator Mike Doherty for his support. We appreciate

his support and that of Senator Zwicker and Governor Murphy. Therefore, in the past six months, the Town of Clinton has received a total of \$6,000,000.00!!!!!!!!!!!!

**PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #22-08 – ABANDONED & FORECLOSED REGISTRATION**

A motion was made by MS. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #22-08:

**ORDINANCE NO. 22-08**

**ADDING CHAPTER 28 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON ENTITLED  
“ABANDONED AND FORECLOSED REAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION”**

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Perloff, to adopt Ordinance #22-08 on final reading.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #22-09 -VEHICLES & TRAFFIC AMENDMENTS**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bruno, to open the public hearing of Ordinance #22-09:

**ORDINANCE #22-09**

**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

Mr. Bruno reported that he talked with several residents and everyone appreciates this ordinance being enforced. Attorney St. Angelo mentioned a slight change in paragraph 2, Section 1A. The restrictions should be the same in the second paragraph, 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM. Correction will be made.

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

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Humphrey to adopt Ordinance #22-08 on final reading.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 108-22 – CLUB LICENSE**

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Resolution #108-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 108-22  
ISSUANCE OF A NEW CLUB LICENSE  
INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE OF NEW JERSEY, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton amended the Town Code to allow for two (2) Club Licenses in the Town’s Downtown Commercial C-1 Zone District; and

**WHEREAS** a Club License may only be issued to organizations, corporations or associations with specific qualifications, a bona fide club with sixty (60) members or more; and

**WHEREAS** they must operate solely for benevolent, charitable, fraternal, social, religious, recreational, athletic or similar purposes and not for private gain and holds non profit status; and

**WHEREAS** the organization must have been in active operation for at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to time of submission for a license and must be in possession and use of a clubhouse for at least three (3) continuous years prior to submission; and

**WHEREAS** the Chief of Police has reviewed all pertinent information and the background checks of members in charge have been completed and all is in order; and

**WHEREAS** the appropriate fees have been paid to the State of New Jersey Division of Alcohol Beverage Control and the Town of Clinton; and

**WHEREAS** a lease agreement has been prepared between the Red Mill Museum Village and the Institute for Human Excellence and has been reviewed by the town attorney and found to be in order;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, Institute for Human Excellence of New Jersey, Inc. will be located at the Red Mill Museum Village, 56 Main Street, Clinton, NJ 08809, be granted a Club License that must be renewed on an annual basis, license runs July 1 through June 30 of each year.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #109-22 - 2021 ANNUAL AUDIT**

Council received copies of the 2021 Annual Audit in June for their review. Confirmation of Council’s review, the Group Affidavit was completed with signatures and Resolution #109-22 was adopted as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 109-22**  
**CERTIFICATION OF ANNUAL AUDIT**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

**WHEREAS**, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2021 as been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body, and

**WHEREAS**, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.S.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations" and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and,

**WHEREAS**, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

**WHEREAS**, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board, and

**WHEREAS**, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27 BB-54 to wit:

R.S.52:27 BB-52 – "A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the (Director of Local Government Services), under provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Governing Body of the Town of Clinton, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #110-22 – NJDOT GRANT SUBMISSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopt Resolution #110-22 as submitted:

**Resolution # 110-22**

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT  
WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE NEW STREET  
RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

WHEREAS, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as 2023-MA-00167 New Street Resurfacing Project to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Town of Clinton; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hereby approve the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Town of Clinton and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #111-22 – CANCELLATION OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS**

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Mr. Traphagen, to adopt Resolution #111-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #111-22**

WHEREAS, certain Capital appropriation balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be removed from the Town's books;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, that the following unexpended balances be cancelled:

**General Capital**

<b><u>Ord. No.</u></b>	<b><u>Date Auth.</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>	<b><u>Amt.-Funded</u></b>
2012-08	6/26/12	Various Improvements	\$ 1,417.35
2013-05	4/3/13	Various Improvements	\$ 174.15
2018-01	2/27/18	Purchase of Property	\$ 38,218.96

**Water Utility Capital**

2012-07	6/12/12	Water Utility Improvements	\$122,221.76
2013-04	4/3/13	Water Utility Improvements	\$519,426.68
2013-08	5/22/13	Halstead Street Water Mains	\$132,174.83
2013-17	8/21/13	Water Utility Improvements	\$ 16,025.00

2014-11	7/2/14	Water Utility Improvements	\$ 8,661.80
2015-03	3/24/15	Well#7 Improvement and Well #4 Decommissioning	\$ 67,530.23
2015-05	3/24/15	Water Utility Improvements	\$ 6,746.61
2016-07	7/12/16	Water Utility Improvements	\$ 11,085.95
2016-08	7/12/16	Water Utility Improvements	\$ 98,774.00

**Sewer Utility Capital**

2011-10	5/24/11	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 7,706.44
2012-06	6/12/12	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 34,570.71
2014-10	6/4/14	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 20,389.25
2015-10	5/12/15	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 2,252.31

**Sewer Utility Capital**

<b><u>Ord. No.</u></b>	<b><u>Date Auth.</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>	<b><u>Amt.-Funded</u></b>
2016-06	7/12/16	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 46,772.54
2016-11	10/11/16	Purchase Pickup Truck	\$ 4,198.89
2017-07	10/23/17	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 158.78

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #112-22 – CANCELLATION OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS**

A motion was made by Ms. Dineen, seconded by Mr. Bruno, to adopt Resolution #112-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #112-22**

WHEREAS, certain Capital appropriation balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be removed from the Town's books;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, that the following unexpended balances be cancelled:

**General Capital**

<b><u>Ord. No.</u></b>	<b><u>Date Auth.</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>	<b><u>Amt.-Unfunded</u></b>
2014-08	6/24/08	Various Improvements	\$ 4,094.15
2014-18	10/14/14	Halstead St. Improvements	\$ 41,657.90
2015-11	6/9/15	Various Improvements	\$ 24,282.67
2016-10	10/27/16	W. Main St. Pedestrian Project	\$ 4,550.16
2019-01	3/26/19	Amending Ord. 2016-10	\$ 17,955.96
2018-01	2/27/18	Amending Ord. 2017-09	
		Purchase of Property	\$ 250,000.00

**Water Utility Capital**

2013-08	5/22/13	Halstead St. Water Main Proj.	\$ 3,213.91
2015-03	3/24/15	Well #7 Improvements and Well #4 Decommissioning	\$ 106,760.00
2015-04	3/24/15	Improvements to Well #4	\$ 276,978.11
2017-12	12/12/17	Glen Eagles, Muirfield Lane And Heatherhill	\$ 625,290.62

**Sewer Utility Capital**

2019-13	10/22/19	Sewer Utility Improvements	\$ 1,344.21
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ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #113-22 – AWARD OF CONTRACT – TENNIS/PICKLEBALL COURTS**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adopt Resolution #113-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 113-22**



**RESOLUTION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR CLINTON COMMUNITY CENTER**

**TENNIS COURT IMPROVEMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton (“Town”) received and opened bids for the Clinton Community Center Tennis Court Improvements on June 30, 2022 pursuant to the authority of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the following bids were received;

**Clinton Community Center Tennis Court Improvements**

Shore Top Construction Corp.                   -\$137,450.00

Halecon, Inc.                                       -\$149,510.00

**WHEREAS**, after review by the Engineer, Purchasing Agent and the Town Attorney, Shore Top Construction Corp. 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 Shore Top Construction Corp., in the amount of \$137,450.00 for the Clinton Community Center Tennis Court Improvements, and that the Mayor and Town Clerk of the Town of Clinton are hereby authorized, respectively, to execute and attest to an agreement with Shore Top Construction Corp., pursuant to bid specifications.

**TAKE NOTICE**, that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, at a regular meeting held on July 27, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

Ms. Johnson explained that the funds will be made available through the County Open Space funds. Construction is expected to begin in August. A blurb will be in the next newsletter to share the good news!

**RESOLUTION #115-22 – EXTENSION OF DUE DATE FOR TAXES**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bruno, to adopt Resolution #115-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 115-22**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER TAX REMITTANCE GRACE PERIOD FOR THE AUGUST 1, 2022 TAX BILL TO THE DATE OF AUGUST 30, 2022**

WHEREAS, the printing and mailing of the 2022 property tax bills was setback due to the delay in the certification of the annual tax rate by the Department of Community Affairs and the Hunterdon County Tax Board;

WHEREAS, the 2022 tax bills will be printed and mailed to the property owners of the Town of Clinton prior to 8/4/2022; and

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:4-66.3(d) provides that the current years taxes shall not be subject to interest until the twenty-fifth day after the tax bill for the third installment is mailed and NJSA 54:4-64 further provides that the property taxpayers shall be given adequate notice of the date when taxes are due before interest is charged on delinquent tax payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that in accordance with State Law, the grace period for the August 2022 property tax bill is extended to August 30, 2022, after which time said payments will be delinquent and subject to interest penalties calculated from August 1, 2022, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that interest will be charged on all tax payments received after August 30, 2022.

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #116-22 and 117-22 – HIRING OF CROSSING GUARDS**

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adopts Resolutions #116-22 and #117-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION # 116-22**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton Police Department requires the hiring of one new Crossing Guard, and;

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

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police recommends that the following person be hired to fill the open position at a rate of \$19.90 per hour;

Leo Rodrigues

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hire Leo Rodrigues to fill the open position of Crossing Guard effective July 27, 2022.

**RESOLUTION # 117-22**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Clinton Police Department requires the hiring of one new Crossing Guard, and;

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

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police recommends that the following person be hired to fill the open position at a rate of \$19.90 per hour;

Janet Chamberlain

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton hire Janet Chamberlain to fill the open position of Crossing Guard effective July 27, 2022.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #118-22 - SALARY RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adopt Resolution #118-22 as submitted:

**RESOLUTION #119-22**

**2022 SALARY RESOLUTION**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Clinton in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

That the following position titles within the Town of Clinton in the County of Hunterdon, the respective salaries or compensation set forth below are hereby fixed as the maximum amounts to be paid for the year 2022:

**POSITION**

**SALARY**

Chief of Police

\$158,448.30\*

The foregoing resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication thereof according to law.

\*Salary includes shared services agreements.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #119-22 – AMENDMENT TO CODE BOOK**

Removed from agenda, Resolution #119-22 will not be presented, this action will be introduced as an ordinance at the next council meeting with a second reading September 14, 2022.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Thank you received from Katherine Leddy, recipient of the Good Kid Award, graduate of Voorhees High School.

## **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL**

### **Councilwoman Dineen**

Land Use Board – meeting September 7, 2022.

Buildings and Grounds – next meeting Friday, August 5, 2022

### **Councilman Traphagen**

Rescue Squad reported 366 calls for the month of June reported 2109 over the past 6 months 402 up from 2021.

Mayor Kovach asked Councilman Traphagen to request the presence of the squad to be at the Hunterdon Games on August 20 at Finn Park.

### **Councilwoman Johnson**

Requests for proposals have been sent out for the professional design and construction administration services for the municipal playground. Submissions to be opened and reviewed August 9, 2022.

Summer Rec program has been an outstanding success! Samantha LeStrange did an awesome job! So many to thank for helping make this such a wonderful year; Just Chill, Towne Restaurant, Clinton Fire Department for the spray down, Raritan Headwaters for an educational program and the Environmental Commission for gardening with the kids!

Superhero Sprint will be held October 8, 2022 on Main Street. Ms. Johnson working with Mr. Traphagen in conjunction with organizer Eric Eisenhardt. Volunteers have been secured and proceeds from the event will go to the park project.

School – construction on the playground is going well, waiting on equipment and hopeful for September. Mayor Kovach and Chief Kubinak have met with Dr. Cohen to discuss safety locks on the school and other safety measures. Mayor Kovach and the Chief would like to have a joint meeting to discuss having someone in the school at all times such a class III officer or a SRO. Good discussions to be held.

OPOID litigation, paperwork has been finalized and the Town will be receiving \$90,000.00. Ms. Johnson is on the league task force and will be holding on webinar for towns involved as to how funds can be allocated. Watch for further information, possible October meeting.

Booster Club, next meeting, August 16 in the Council Room for anyone interested in joining. Once again, thank you to Lou Tranquilli for his generous donations. Next fundraiser August 26, 2022, Pints for the Park, at Sunken Silo on Route 22 West. \$1.00 oysters from Metropolitan and entertainment. An adult event!

### **Councilman Bruno**

Shade Tree – responded to a call from a resident on Busher to remove a tree and have given their permission to remove the tree that is located in the right-of-way. Pruning trees on Main Street were discussed, one definitely needs to be removed. Other trees that are in need of pruning will be completed by the DPW with direction and assistance of Shade Tree members. The dead ash trees project has been completed on Haver Farm and Goosetown Drive. Discussion regarding the large trees at the Community Center playground were addressed as to remove them or let them stay. In recent years, Town Arborist, Lou Spanner, inspected the trees and thought they had a 2-3 year life span but the Commission will ask Mr. Spanner to visit the park for another inspection.

Buildings and Grounds – a bench on Main Street was damaged by mischief and the police are taking care of that!

Police building committee – still options on the table, discussions continue.

Water Committee met – shortest meeting ever!! Water is still wet!! Ha!

### **Councilman Humphrey**

Newsletter - articles due August 1<sup>st</sup>!

Mr. Humphrey asked the buildings and grounds committee and the roads committee to look at the bricks on West Main Street, they are a tripping hazard and not capable for a wheelchair to pass.

Environmental Commission – discussed native plant species and the non-native species that can take over. Some towns have forbid the planting of bamboo which can be very invasive. The Commission is also seeking members for the Green Team. The Town is losing grant money by not having an active Green Team, including funds that could used for the playground.

### **Councilman Perloff**

Guild meeting is tomorrow morning, distributing a working contact updated list, complete with owner contact information to help with Economic Development planning. New brochures are available with a calendar of upcoming events. Once again, the Guild requested the closing of Lower Center Street on Friday evenings for Music on Main. The Chief explained that if there is a large crowd, the street can be closed and the Guild should contact the non-emergency number.

Recreation Commission – discussions regarding the fee schedule for the Community Center continue and Mr. Perloff appreciates all the feedback. The schedule should be determined soon. A request to use Gebhardt Field was made by the Black Hawks, a modern team with florescent uniforms! They may return in September. A team from Ottawa, Canada is looking for a practice facility. Exciting that they came upon Clinton! An article is being prepared for the newsletter.

The Town Picnic planning is coming together. A list of vendors has been prepared to be sure all permits are in order.

A request to prepare a proclamation on behalf of the Mayor and Council to present to Bill Colantano for 8 years of service to the Clinton Community Youth Association. The proclamation will be prepared and presented at an upcoming meeting.

National Night Out is August 2, 2022, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at North Hunterdon High School.

Schedule of upcoming rec events will be posted on the Rec website.

### **STANDBY AND OVERTIME**

A motion was made by Mr. Bruno seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the standby and overtime attached to these minutes for the period of June 10 through June 23 and June 24 through July 7, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bruno, Dineen, Humphrey, Johnson, Perloff, Traphagen, Mayor Kovach

Vote all ayes  
Motion carried

**RESOLUTION #119-22 - EXECUTIVE SESSION - NEGOTIATIONS**

A motion was made by Mr. Traphagen, seconded by Ms. Dineen, to adopt Resolution #119-22 to enter into executive session at 8:46 p.m. to discuss a matter of negotiations, no action will be taken.

**RESOLUTION # 119-22**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act; *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, declares it to be the public policy of the State to insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act also recognizes exceptions to the right of the public to attend portions of such meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council find it necessary to conduct an executive session closed to the public as permitted by the *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the executive session;

NOW, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that they will conduct an executive session to discuss the following topic(s) as permitted by *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*:

A matter which Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court requires be kept confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon:

\_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_\_A matter where the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

\_\_\_\_\_A matter whose disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

\_\_\_\_\_A collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions thereof (Specify contract:

\_\_\_\_\_A matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

\_\_\_\_\_ Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

\_\_\_\_\_ Investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

\_\_\_\_\_ Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party; (the general nature of the litigation or contract negotiations is:

\_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position in the litigation or negotiation; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his or her ethical duties as a lawyer; (The general nature of the matter is: \_\_\_\_\_

OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position with respect to the matter being discussed; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists);

\_\_\_\_\_ Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective or current public officer or employee of the public body, where all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected have not requested in writing that the matter(s) be discussed at a public meeting; (The employee(s) and/or general nature of discussion is \_\_\_\_\_

OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would violate the employee(s) privacy rights; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the threat to privacy rights no longer exists.;

\_\_\_\_\_ Deliberation occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty or loss of a license or permit;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council hereby declare that their discussion of the subject(s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Town Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Town or any other entity with

respect to said discussion. That time is currently estimated to be: \_\_\_\_\_

(estimated length of time) OR upon the occurrence of \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

Vote all ayes

Motion carried

Council returned to the regular meeting at 9:08 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon returning from Executive Session and there being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Traphagen seconded by Ms. Dineen to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

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Cecilia Covino, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

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Janice Kovach, Mayor