

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
January 21, 2015**

Selectman Dziokonski, Selectman Connolly, Selectman Iacobucci, Selectman LeBlanc and Chairman Sargent were in attendance. Attendees were Town Administrator Ward and Town Solicitor Gibbons. Chairman Sargent opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from December 17, 2014 Selectmen's Meeting for review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comment

There was none.

Renaming Richard Avenue to Reisner Way Public Hearing

Chairman Sargent reviewed the hearing had been published with a typo, it is not Richardson Place it is Richards Avenue. He invited the representatives requesting the change forward. Attorney Scott Mira representing William Reisner Corporation was before the board. He explained the request is to change the private way known as Richard Avenue to Reisner Way. He explained because there are no abutter on this way, it is used as a way into Reisner Corporation. He reviewed this will divert traffic from Elm Street onto newly named Reisner Way, which will be maintained by the Reisner Corporation. Chairman Sargent asked for Public Comment. Mr. Robert Latini of 117 Berlin Street was before the board. Solicitor Gibbons explained this is not a public hearing; it is a private piece of property allowing public access. There is no requirement for this to be a public hearing; it was not advertised in the newspaper as such. It is a private way being changed to a public way with no residents on the street, the property is owned by the Reisners. There are no requirements for a private way; it is under the control of the board of Selectmen. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the name change of Richard Avenue to Reisner Way. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Representative Harold Naughton

Representative Naughton was before the board to discuss state issues affecting Clinton. He started with good news the Home Rule Petitions regarding the elected to appoint positions were signed by Governor Patrick. He also discussed he has plans for the Nashua River, he has successfully been working on an environmental bank bill to get funding to restore the old town beach and fix the road. His long term goal is to

create the Nashua River Natural Cultural Heritage zone. The program will dovetail with Congressman Tsongas funding received for the other end of the Nashua, the Groton/Concord end. He explained it is in the preliminary stages perhaps they will explore making the old town beach a park and not a beach. He did explain the number one priority is to repair the roads. He also will be working to clean up the Nashua River. He reviewed he plans to propose a bill to Mass Highway, through the transportation bond bill to create a Route 62 Cultural Heritage Trail which would start off Interstate 495 in Berlin and continue through Clinton on to Princeton, this will dovetail with the Nashua River rehab. He feels it will drive tourism into the area. Chairman Sargent asked about the Church Street Housing Project, he understands the property is in bad shape and in need of some funding for restoration and repairs. Representative Naughton explained his personal friend is Jay Ash. He has intends to inquire with the Director of the Clinton Housing Authority to put together a punch list, so he will be prepared during budget cycle. Discussion continued regarding the announcement of the Olympics to be possibly hosted in Boston along with discussion of the budget cycle and the shortfall of cash. Selectman Connolly reviewed he has concerns regarding the schools getting overlooked; the demands counter the ability to educate the children. The newest pressure is the shift on the MCAS. Also the impact of charter and vocation schools along with the special needs funding needed. After covering all that there is little remaining to educate the youth. Representative Naughton reviewed he is opposed to many mandates; he filled a bill to increase funding to communities with a large percentage of IEP Special Ed program needs. This will study the geographical areas and determine where the need is greater. Representative Naughton thanked all of his supporters in this last campaign he worked very hard and was overwhelmed by the continued support her in Clinton. He has made a commitment to work hard for all of the towns within his district.

Clinton Fire Union- Fire Department Issues

Clinton Fire Union President Michael Lutes and Fire Union Treasurer P.J. Chamberlain were before the board to discuss a handful of issues regarding the Fire Union. Mr. Lutes reviewed the union had reached a MoA regarding the contract in May 2014, and didn't receive a copy of this until last week. This is not appropriate the document took a long time to receive. Chairman Sargent explained the document is created by the Solicitors office. Mr. Lutes explained it was unacceptable. He reviewed town meeting minutes from the June 2012 town meeting where an article was approved to fund the replacement of the roof at the Fire Station. This project still remains outstanding and at each inclement rain or snow storm the roof continues to leak and cause damage to the building. Chairman Sargent reviewed this is being managed by the Permanent Building Committee, who have awarded the contract to a company who plan to begin the project in the Spring. Mr. Lutes explained the Fire Department applied for and was awarded a

Federal Grant for a new Primal Vent at the station. He reviewed this has not been completed and the state had come out and completed an inspection where \$10,000 worth of equipment had to be thrown away because it was covered in diesel soot and unable to be used. Mr. Chamberlain explained he hates having to come before the board but wanted some action taken regarding the new system. He reviewed a timeline of when the grant was awarded and the matching funds approved at town meeting. He also reviewed dates and requirements completed by him to keep the process moving. At this time the system is in need to be sent out for bid. He reviewed he delivered the specs to Mr. Ward and a bid was advertised for December 3, but the bid process was postponed. He is unsure of the lack of progress and the only resolution in getting things done was to come to the board. Chairman Sargent asked if he asked the acting Fire Chief. Mr. Lutes explained they have made him aware. Administrator Ward explained the project has been sent out for a new bid process to be opened on February 18, 2015. Mr. Lutes recused himself from the upcoming discussion, because he is a candidate for the position. Mr. Chamberlain explained the Fire Chiefs exam was given on March 22, 2014, and the results were available as of June 2, 2014. The union has questions regarding where the hiring process stands. Chairman Sargent explained the town didn't receive notice until right before the holidays, at this time an Assessment Center will be used to complete the screening process for the Chief's position. The state didn't issue a list to the town until December of the candidates eligible for the position and there is also an appeal period. Discussion continued regarding the town discontinuing with civil service, the board asked the Fire Union representative if they would support the support this decision. Mr. Chamberlain explained at this time having no research on the decision, he would say no, he wouldn't support it. Selectman Connolly expressed he board intends to research this topic and make an effort to find out all the pros and cons. He explained it may help collaborated getting fire fighters in place much quicker. Mr. Lutes and Fire Fighter Gregory Nelson explained the hiring authority is required to call for the list, it is not a lack on Civil Service part, it is a lack on the towns end. Fire Fighter Dustin Whitaker explained the former Chief explained it is cheaper to pay overtime then to higher. He said the former Chief explained he worked under the direction of the board and that was the thought process. Solicitor Gibbons reviewed this issue shouldn't be debated tonight; research should be completed to compile the pros and cons. A decision can be made after the information is gathered. Mr. Lutes explained no there would be no support without research. Solicitor Gibbons stated all should keep an open mind and pursue research on this issue. Mr. Whitaker reviewed the Candidates for the Chief's position received their test scores back in June, he then attended a radio communications committee meeting in July, he is aware the Town Administrator knew the candidates received scores. Chairman Sargent explained the town legally cannot proceed without receiving the test scores from Civil Service. Mr. Whitaker explained the union inquired with Civil Service and were informed the town was unable to be reached,

there were several attempts made to reach Mr. Ward and received no response. Selectman Iacobucci asked who the union spoke to at Civil Service. Mr. Whitaker explained he will have to check with union lawyer for that information.

Administrative Business

Late Night Closings

Chairman Sargent explained the board has received requests from the usual establishments requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of February 2015: Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the requests as presented with any additional requests approved sent for Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward reviewed the list of establishments are the same as prior months. The vote was unanimous.

Police Monthly Report

Chief Laverdure submitted a monthly report relative to the operations of his department for the month of December 2014 for the Selectmen's review and approval. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Town Hall Use Events

Chairman Sargent reviewed an application has been submitted for use of the Fallon Memorial Auditorium by the Leprechaun Society for use on March 14, 2015 to host the annual event. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the date as requested. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

Animal Control Officer Ticket Book

Administrator Ward reviewed the ACO Paul Wood has requested the board approve a ticket book. He explained in the past he has issued letters with the cited violation of dog laws or regulation in Clinton, now he would like a citation book where all the violations will be listed out and he will just have to check off the violations and issue to owner. From there he will have the ability to follow up with civil action at the Clinton Court. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Connolly explained since Mr. Wood has been hired, this is the least he has ever received dog complaints. Administrator Ward explained he will work with the Solicitor on the final draft of the citation book.

Draft Facility Consolidation Report

Selectman Connolly reviewed the board has received a copy of the draft facility consolidation report from the Government Reorganization Committee prepared by the Cecil Group. He explained he hoped board members had reviewed. Selectman Connolly made a motion to accept the draft as submitted by the Government Reorganization subcommittee and authorize it be distributed to the departments affected. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion Administrator Ward reviewed he will distribute to the departments and ask for feedback and input from the departments, so the plan can be ready for town meeting. Chairman Sargent thanked the committee and Administrator Ward for all of their work on the plan. Selectman Iacobucci thanked the committee also. The vote was unanimous.

CHS Drama Club Donation Request

The Board of Selectmen received a letter requesting a donation to the Clinton High School Drama Club for their upcoming performance. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to make a \$150.00 donation to the Clinton high School Drama Club in the same amount that was donated last year. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Community & Economic Development Report

Selectman Iacobucci expressed he would like to see a plan from the Community & Economic office implementing steps to draw businesses to Clinton. It is important for the town to have a strategic plan. Chairman Sargent agreed stating he can submit a plan within a month. Selectman Dziokonski explained the board is still waiting on feedback from the Economic Conference conducted recently. Selectman Iacobucci agreed explaining he would also like to see a plan for the vacant building on town; it has been 4/5 years since he has been in the office and these building still remain vacant. He would like to be proactive.

Congress on the Corner

Chairman Sargent announced Congresswoman Niki Tsongas will host "Congress on the Corner" at the town hall Saturday January 24, from 10 to 11 AM.

Goals & Objectives Discussion

Trash Removal Privatization Committee

Selectman Iacobucci explained the committee has been meeting and most recently finalized a Draft Solid Waste Regulations to be reviewed within the next 2 to 3 weeks. These will be reviewed by the DEP representative Irene Congdon. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed all this information will be made available and the private haulers will have to work with the Board of Health. He reviewed they will have to become licensed.

Selectman Dzikonski announced the board will review the Oxford Court Refinance Agreement at the next meeting.

Selectman Iacobucci made a motion at 8:13PM to adjourn. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Corbosiero
Administrative Assistant to the
Clinton Board of Selectmen