

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
November 6, 2013**

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

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from September 25, 2013 and October 9, 2013. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Chairman Connolly explained corrections are needed regarding the PILOT payments to town of Sterling regarding Weke Peke property. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comment

There was none.

Municipal Borrowing- Town Treasurer

Town Administrator Ward reviewed Town Treasurer McIntyre informed him today he had a conflict and would be unable to participate in discussion at this evenings meeting. Administrator Ward reviewed he received the information regarding the borrowing from the Treasurer today, along with the motions needed to approve the borrowing. Chairman Connolly stated the board chooses to dispense the reading of the entire motion. Chairman Connolly explained the board has questions regarding this borrowing and would like the Treasurer to be available with an explanation of the borrowing. Administrator Ward explained this is a time sensitive matter and the paperwork is in route to secure these rates for the borrowing. Selectman Iacobucci asked if the Treasurer was still going out to bid at the last meeting, when this process began. Administrator Ward reviewed the process began at least a month ago; he explained he is aware the information was distributed to banks over a month ago. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the borrowing as presented to Robert Baird Company Inc. at 2.075%. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward reviewed the motion should include the written information presented by the Treasurer. The board agreed. (Information enclosed) The vote was unanimous.

Section 90C Retirement Program John Gannon

Attorney James McLaughlin was before the board representing Mr. John Gannon. Attorney McLaughlin distributed a packet of Information to the board. He reviewed the packet of information with the board explaining Mr. Gannon is a lifelong Clinton resident who served 30 years with the Fire Department. He explained he is before the board to ask for them to review and consider rectifying Mr. Gannon's retirement pension. He reviewed Mr. Gannon is dissatisfied with the Clinton Retirement Board's calculated benefits. Attorney McLaughlin explained Mr. Gannon retired in 1978 leaving service as a Captain in the department. His benefits were reduced in 2007 by \$200.00 after the Retirement board reviewed Mr. Gannon's benefits and determined he was not a Captain, and had never been one and should not have received the benefits for one. Attorney McLaughlin explained in the packet of information there is a document inviting Chief Hart to the meeting. Chief Hart approached the board and reviewed Mr. Gannon retired with service of acting Captain for 11 months. He reviewed Mr. Gannon served as Captain from August 1977 through July 1978. Attorney McLaughlin stated his benefit should not have been reduced in 2007, Mr. Gannon meets the qualifications as a full time Captain and the retirement benefit should have remained. He asked for the board to review and exercise their jurisdiction. Mr. Gannon is entitled to full benefit there should have not been a reduction. Chairman Connolly explained the board would refer to town counsel as to the appropriate board to make the determination for retirement benefits. Town Solicitor Gibbons reviewed the board hasn't met with the Retirement Board to discuss, he has some files regarding Mr. Gannon's benefits which show he was appointed acting Captain in September of 1977 and retired in July of 1978 receiving Captain Retirement benefits. Discussion continued regarding the type of Captain Mr. Gannon served as acting Captain or top Captain. Chief Hart reviewed at that time there were two tiers of Captains a lower tier and a top Captain. Fire Fighters at that time filled in on shift and it was the senior step employee who would cover. It is his understanding Captain Moore at that time appointed a provisional Captain until the employee could test for it. At that time there was one pay for Captain, 10 years later the union added a step a first year captain, which would not apply to this scenario. Chairman Connolly explained there is no disagreement, Mr. Gannon served as a Captain, but which was it the lower tier Captain or Top Captain. Solicitor Gibbons reviewed it is the interpretation of documents. Attorney McLaughlin stated Chief Hart explained Mr. Gannon served as Top Captain. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to invite the Retirement Board to discuss and review Mr. Gannon's benefits. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski asked for some research on the status of the addition of the Captain lower tier as stated by Chief Hart. He would like more information regarding the addition of the Captain position. The vote was unanimous. Attorney McLaughlin thanked the board.

Recreational Vehicle Traffic in South Meadow Road Area

Police Chief Laverdure was before the board to discuss concerns raised at the last meeting regarding recreational vehicle traffic on South Meadow Road. Chairman Connolly explained there has been an increased problem with ATV traffic on private property, and the board has discussed posting signage on town land. Selectman LeBlanc reviewed he would like the town property to have the signage to assist the Police in the removal of motorized vehicles on the town property. He explained he is aware the traffic is entering the property illegally by riding along the railroad tracks. Chief Laverdure reviewed he is unaware of all of the ATV laws, he knows the vehicles are not allowed to drive on town property and are only allowed on private property with written permission of property owner on the operator at the time of use. Selectman LeBlanc explained he is aware the Officers have been challenged by the boundary markers. Chief Laverdure explained he hadn't heard of this, he is aware it is illegal to ride along the tracks. Selectman LeBlanc stated he would like the town property to have signage to determine town owned land. Chief Laverdure explained he will stop up to the area and review. He explained the department has been spending more time in the area monitoring. Chairman Connolly reviewed Superintendent McGown is aware of town property and there is no trespassing on the property, at this time we haven't heard any complaints from the railroad. The board thanked the Chief for the review.

Trash/Recycle Collection Privatization-Superintendent of Public Works

Superintendent McGown was before the board to request the board form a study committee to explore privatizing the trash collection with curbside recycling for the town. Mr. McGown explained to the board the contract had expired 2 days ago and at this time there is no procurement for public waste. He would like to review privatizing the service, at this time the fee is \$2.50 per bag. The DEP will soon be requiring curb side recycling which the private companies do provide at this time the town is not set up for curb side recycle pick up. He has opted to do an 8 month extension to the contract and hope to have this time to formulate the exploratory committee. Selectman Sargent asked if privatized will there be a preferred vendor or will the residents have their own choice. Mr. McGown explained this will be reviewed by the committee. He explained he has reviewed surrounding communities which have curb side programs, like Holden offers two size bags and fees are \$18 for large bag and \$12 for small. Selectman Dziokonski asked if this should be referred to Government Reorganization Committee for review. Chairman Connolly reviewed this should be reviewed as a separate issue with its own committee. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the board establish by appointment a sub committee to review the Trash/Recycle Collection for the town. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The board agreed they will appoint members at the next meeting.

Continue Out of Agenda Order

Chairman Connolly stated he will continue out of the agenda order with Old & New Business, while Superintendent McGown present.

Old & New Business

Waste Management Trash Disposal Contract

Superintendent McGown reviewed with the board he is requesting the board's approval for a six month extension of the municipal solid waste disposal contract between the town and Waste Management in order to allow time to explore the privatization of trash collection service. Mr. McGown reviewed the new contract will have a cost savings of about \$15,000, the rate went from \$80 per ton to \$70 per ton. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the Waste Management Trash Disposal contract extension as recommended by Superintendent McGown. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous.

Goals & Objectives

Chairman Connolly reviewed this discussion will be tabled until the next meeting. The board agreed.

Administrative Business

Late Night Closings

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of November 2013: Clem's Liberty Tavern, Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Old Timer, Ringside Café, Spruce Street Tavern, The Simple Man Saloon and Polish American Club. 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. The vote was unanimous.

Town Hall Use Events

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received applications for rental of the Fallon Memorial Auditorium:

01/18/14 Comedy Night Fundraiser Clinton Fire Fighters

Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve use of the Fallon Auditorium of the town hall on January 18, 2014. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

01/25/14 GAELA Dance & Auction Fundraiser Clinton Athletic Booster Club

Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve use of the Fallon Auditorium of the town hall on January 25, 2014. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business Continued

Traffic Committee Report of Recommendations

Chairman Connolly reviewed the Traffic Committee held a meeting on October 11, 2013 to review many issues brought to them. He asked if the board had reviewed the report as presented and would like to individually approve each recommendation or accept them as a group. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to accept all articles as presented by the Traffic Committee based upon the report presented for review. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Sargent asked if there will be a new street sign added to Longedge Road. Selectman Connolly reviewed he will read each item and recommended action as presented by the traffic committee. Selectman Dziokonski asked for review of the Wilson Street requests for signs that were requested to by residents. Administrator Ward reviewed the recommendation by the Police Chief is to add signage on Wilson Street and increase traffic monitoring by department. Chairman reviewed Traffic Committee Report of Recommendations:

Downtown Sign Replacement Update – The Superintendent of Public Works updated the committee that his department has replaced most of the outdated signage in the downtown area.

Hillside Avenue “Dead End” Sign Request – Ms. Jacqueline Wheeler of 8 Hillside Avenue sent a letter requesting that a “Dead End” sign be installed at the entrance of Hillside Avenue. She indicated that vehicles are turning around in her driveway when they get to the end of the street and realize they have to go back. *The Traffic Committee is recommending that a “Dead End” sign be installed at the entrance to Hillside Avenue.*

No Parking Sign Request at the Corner of Main Street & Brook Street – Ms. Emily Daidone contacted the Selectmen’s Office requesting that a “No Parking” sign be installed on Main Street in front of Jon’s Sandwich Shop. She owns the building and indicated that cars are continually parking on the sidewalk. *The Traffic Committee recommends that the request be denied and to have the Clinton Police Department monitor the situation with cars parking on the sidewalk.*

Handicapped Parking Near Entrances to Central Park – Dr. Jerome Philbin wrote a letter expressing concern that there is not adequate handicapped parking near the entrances of Central Park. He suggested that two (2) parking spaces with van access be designated at the Walnut Street entrance. *The Traffic Committee recommends that two (2) parking spaces with van access be created at the Walnut Street entrance to Central Park.*

Caution Children at Play Sign Request for Blossom Street – Selectman Marc Iacobucci was approached by residents of Blossom Street requesting that a Caution Children at Play sign be installed on their street. The Traffic Committee recommends that a “Caution Children at Play” sign be installed on Blossom Street.

Exclude Truck Traffic from Exiting Pleasant Street onto Grove Street – The Superintendent of Public Works has requested that the Traffic Committee consider a truck exclusion zone on Pleasant Street from the Nypro driveway up the hill to Grove Street. Trucks are having a hard time negotiating the vehicle congestion near Turini’s Diner. The Traffic Committee recommends that no truck traffic be allowed to exit onto Grove Street. Signage should be located at the corner of School Street and Pleasant Street to alert truck drivers.

Handicapped Parking on Union Street Near Intersection of Walnut Street – The Selectmen’s Office received a complaint from an out of town visitor that there were no handicapped parking spaces designated in front of the Museum of Russian Icons. The Traffic Committee recommends that handicapped parking spaces be created on Union Street in the vicinity of the Museum of Russian Icons with the number of spaces to be determined by the Superintendent of Public Works.

Longedge Road “Dead End” Sign Request – The Police Chief indicated that residents of Longedge Road have expressed concern regarding the number of vehicles that are taking a right turn exiting Clinton Hospital and traveling down their street only to find that they have to turn around when they get to the end of the road. The Traffic Committee recommends that a “Dead End” sign be erected at the entrance of Broadway Street and Longedge Road to alert drivers that there is no outlet on that street.

Signage to Reduce Speed of Vehicles Traveling on Wilson Street – Residents of Wilson Street attended a recent meeting of the Board of Selectmen expressing concern with the speed of traffic traveling along Wilson Street from Berlin Road to Clamshell Road. They requested some type of signage and police patrols to reduce speed on the street for the safety of the children living in the neighborhood. The Traffic Committee recommends that the Clinton Police Department conduct speed enforcement to slow traffic on Wilson Street with a recommendation from the Police Chief for signage.

Traffic Calming Device Request for Crosswalk at Intersection of Berlin Street & Wilson Street – Residents of Wilson Street attended a recent meeting of the Board of Selectmen indicating that it is dangerous for residents of the neighborhood to cross at the intersection of Wilson Street & Berlin Road to bring children to the Philbin Memorial Park. The Traffic Committee recommends that a traffic calming device be located on Berlin Street near the crosswalk to the park.

Traffic Light Timing Pattern at Intersection of Main Street & Church Street – The owner of Dunkin Donuts expressed concern about the backup of vehicles in front of his business that were waiting for the change of traffic lights at the intersection of Main

Street & Church Street. The Traffic Committee recommends that the traffic light pattern not be changed.

Blinking Light at the Intersection of Green Street & Chestnut Street – The Selectmen’s Office received a call from a resident at the Brady & Sullivan property on Green Street indicating that it is difficult to exit onto Chestnut traffic. The Traffic Committee recommends that the traffic light not be activated, but that a “Not Right Turn” sign be erected on Green Street to prevent trucks from turning uphill onto Chestnut Street which is causing their landing gear to damage the road.

Additional Parking Spaces on Mechanic Street – Selectman Iacobucci would like to discuss the possibility of increasing the number of parking spaces on Mechanic Street. The Traffic Committee feels that there is currently adequate parking on Mechanic Street.

One Way Traffic on Mechanic Street – Selectman Iacobucci would like to discuss the possibility of making Mechanic Street a one-way road. The Traffic Committee recommends that Mechanic Street not be changed to one-way.

The vote was unanimous to accept traffic committee report and recommendations as presented.

Sunday Holiday Liquor Sales

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received a request from Apple Country Market for permission to extend the hours of their liquor license on Sundays during the holiday season beginning November 17, 2013 through December 29, 2013.

Request for Fire Chief Civil Service Examination

Administrator Ward notified the board the Massachusetts Human Resource Division has announced a Fire Chief promotional exam to be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014. Communities that wish to participate in the exam must notify the Massachusetts Human Resource Division in writing no later than February 3, 2014. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the town of Clinton request to be included in the upcoming Fire Chief promotional exam with Massachusetts Human Resources Division. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the request. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward explained this will allow the town to be included in the process; the promotion would be made through an assessment center. The vote was unanimous.

Reserve Fund Transfer – Radio Communications Equipment

Chairman Connolly asked for more information explaining this request is supported by the subcommittee. Selectman Dziokonski serves on the subcommittee he explained this funding request is to replace a coaxial cable and antenna used by the radio communications systems, the cable is 20 years old and needs replacement. The

request is for \$6000.00. Administrator Ward explained this is an approximate cost estimated by the Fire Chief. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed this cable will be reusable once a new tower is approved. The request is approved by the Radio Communication subcommittee. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the reserve fund transfer request as presented by the radio communications subcommittee in the amount of \$6000.00. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Commercial Garage/Repair License Process

Selectman Iacobucci explained the subcommittee had completed a draft license policy and application. There is a scheduled meeting for November 20, 2013 with garage owners to review the process and answer questions.

Letter to DCR Open Wachusett Reservoir

Selectman Iacobucci reviewed he read in the recent Sunday Telegram an article regarding the opening of the Wachusett Dam, he explained he would support having this open more than once a year and asked for the board to support a request to the DCR. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to have a letter drafted to the DCR requesting the Dam be open more often to allow more accessibility to residents. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Annual Flu Clinton

Administrator Ward announced the upcoming Annual Flu Clinic hosted by the board of Health is scheduled for November 7, 2013.

Action Item List

Chairman Connolly requested the action items be deleted and the Goals and Objective be moved to this part of the meeting. The board agreed.

Committee Reports

Town hall Restoration Building Committee

Selectman LeBlanc reviewed the committee has had a meeting and reviewed the completed jobs from last year and are working on a list of building maintenance projects which are needed. The committee will meet again to review and finalize status of projects.

Christmas Lighting Committee

Selectman Dziokonski reviewed is going great the Fire Department has agreed to work together with the committee and hang the wreaths on High Street for November 30, 2013 Shop Local Day Children's Holiday Party and Tree Lighting events. Students at the Clinton High School workshop Class under the direction of Shop teacher Mr.

Toby Crowley are creating Candy Cane decorations to be used to decorate Central park. Also there has been an initial meeting with National Grid to discuss the process of replacing the streetlight poles on High Street. Committee been busy and there is a lot of community involvement.

Cable Advisory Committee

Selectman LeBlanc explained the Committee continues to meet to discuss the purchase of new updated equipment and finding a studio location, next meeting scheduled November 12, 2013.

Government Reorganization Committee

Chairman Connolly explained he committee is working on developing a facility management plan and pursue an RFP to hire a consultant to prepare the department. Next meeting scheduled November 14, 2013.

Chairman Connolly announced the board has a scheduled Executive Session under Article to review Union Negotiations and will not return to open session. Board entered Executive Session at 8:30PM until 9:05PM.

Selectman Dziokonski made a motion at 9:06PM to adjourn. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Corbosiero
Administrative Assistant to the
Clinton Board of Selectmen