

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
December 4, 2013**

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

Public Comment

There was none.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from November 6, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting and Executive Session Union Negotiations update, for review and approval. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Iacobucci reviewed some typos that needed corrections, change Solicitor Sargent to Gibbons and 1 1/2 year to 11 months, Chief Hart to Moore were the needed corrections. The vote was unanimous.

Veterans Day Celebration- Veteran Services Officer Gerald Coppenrath

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has invited Veterans Officer Mr. Coppenrath to the meeting to discuss ideas for a town celebration on Veterans Day. Mr. Coppenrath explained to the board he had taken some time and researched what other communities do in celebration of Veterans Day. He reviewed he had been told there are no parades scheduled because it is a bad time of year for weather. He reviewed at this time the town celebration includes a remembrance mass at St. John's Church and a dinner at the Elks. He explained he had two small ideas to add to the day host a guest speak at the dinner and rotate a small ceremony annually at each cemetery. Selectman Sargent thanked Mr. Coppenrath for attending the meeting; he explained he is grateful to the Elks and VFW for the dinners they provide to Veterans as part of the Celebration. He reviewed a list of communities including Hudson which hosts a parade and has a guest speaker ceremony, Chelmsford hosts a remembrance celebration and includes a guest speaker, Norwood hosts a parade has a memorial dedication of a new street. He explained those are just a few communities around the state he would like to see Clinton enhance the celebration to honor the Veterans. He explained he expressed some new ideas to be added to the celebration and would like to work together to enhance the day. Mr. Coppenrath asked for a copy of the list of communities he reviewed. Selectman Sargent provided him with one, he explained it is available through the state website. Selectman Iacobucci explained he is also thankful for the

celebrations held at the Elks, VFW and the PAV, he would like to add to the programming a service at the Town hall or Central Park or even at the new monument located in Depot Square. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed he attended the Elks dinner and was the guest speaker. He will support anything the board does but suggests coordinating efforts with other agencies. Chairman Connolly reviewed there were some great ideas talked about and there will have to be work done to complete a concrete plan for acknowledgement of the Veterans on Veterans Day. The board agreed.

Administrative Business

Late Night Closings

Chairman Connolly reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of December 2013: Clem's Liberty Tavern, Clinton Lodge of Elks, Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Old Timer, Ringside Café, The Simple Man Saloon. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the requests as presented with any additional requests approved sent for Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

One Day Liquor License Request

The Old Timers Restaurant has submitted a One Day Liquor License application in conjunction with the Holiday Pops Concert to be held at the Clinton Town Hall on December 14, 2013. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the request. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

World Candle Lighting Ceremony

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received a request for approval to host the Annual World Candle Lighting Ceremony to be held December 8, 2013 at the Reservoir Pines Cemetery. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the request as presented for the December 8, 2013 Annual World Candle Lighting Ceremony at Reservoir Pines Cemetery. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Fiscal Year 2015 Town Budget

Chairman Connolly explained he would like to set the administrative parameters for the budget request. Administrator Ward stated he was anticipating starting the process early and would like to request a level service and level funded budgets be submitted by departments. Chairman Connolly agreed this is a great place to get started, it is early and a good way to establish a baseline. Board members agreed asking for each department to also submit requests for capital improvements along with expenditures for new programs and services. The board agreed a joint letter should be sent to each

department with requests. Administrator Ward reviewed there is an Administrative by law outlining the budget process. Chairman Connolly reviewed he supports a collaborative effort and has no objection to working together with a joint letter. Selectman Sargent explained he would like to work as a team with the Finance Committee.

Committee Reports

Senior Building Committee

Selectman LeBlanc explained the Committee agreed to appoint Mr. Phil Duffy as the Administrative Coordinator for the project, this will allow him the oversight of the Administrative and Financial aspects of the project. Administrator Ward reviewed the bids were opened today for the project; they came in right on target of the estimated \$100,000.00 or so. The Clerk of the Works advertisement will go out next week. Selectman Sargent asked about the landscaping for the property. Administrator Ward explained the Superintendent of Public Works will try to get to it by next week. The Contractor will be taking over the sight at the end of the month. Selectman Sargent asked the length of time for the construction. Administrator Ward reviewed it should be 200 days once construction begins. Selectman LeBlanc explained the committee will be meeting more frequently with the contractor and architect. Administrator Ward reviewed the next meeting will project the budget.

Radio Communications Subcommittee

Selectman Dziokonski reviewed the committee met on Monday, and are planning to find a way to develop an RFP for the tower to be constructed on Park Street at the water tank. He explained Superintendent McGown will work on it. At the next meeting the committee hopes to put together an RFP. Administrator Ward agreed.

Christmas Lighting Committee

Selectman Dziokonski explained there was a meeting recently to follow up on the Lighting Ceremony, it went well. At this time the decorations are complete for the season, each year we hope to add to the decorations and celebration. The Director of Park & Recreation Ms. Brodie is investigating the cost to enhance the electrical service to the park. This would enable there to be more decorations throughout the park. The board discussed it would be a benefit to the park to upgrade electrical services for all of the events hosted annually including Olde Home Days. Selectman Dziokonski thanked the Clinton Fire Department for all of their assistance in hanging the wreaths.

Children's Holiday Party

Selectman Sargent reviewed the Children's party was held on Saturday and was a well attended event. He thanked Ms. Corbosiero for organizing the event. Chairman Connolly and the board members agreed.

Government Reorganization Event

Chairman Connolly reviewed the committee met and had advertised the RFP for Facility Study. Administrator Ward reviewed 8 to 10 requests were made for the proposals, the deadline for submittal has been set as December 11, 2013 at 2:00PM. The committee will meet again on December 12, 2013 to review.

Cable Advisory Committee

Selectman Iacobucci explained rescheduled the meeting to December 10, 2013.

FY2014 Tax Classification Hearing – Board of Assessors

Chairman Connolly opened the FY 2014 Tax Classification Hearing inviting the Assessors forward. Mr. David Baird Chairman of the Assessors was before the board. Mr. Baird reviewed a packet of information distributed to the board. He reviewed if the board was looking to make an increase, the rate of 163% would make the rate increase similar in a dollar amount for residential and commercial, there would be a small reduction in the rate but the same % to both. Discussion continued regarding the valuation changes and shift changes. Mr. Baird explained the tax base majority is residential. Selectman Sargent made a motion to set the rate at 165%. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Iacobucci explained he would like to make a proactive approach to get more industry to town and create a single rate. It would be good for the town and attract business' which will create jobs. Many surrounding communities have a single rate; Northborough returned to a single rate, the City of Worcester is reviewing a single rate. This would be the best way for Clinton for the future; it will protect the residential tax rate. Selectman Sargent reviewed he will not place a burden on the residents, there are seniors and young families that struggle to pay. Chairman Connolly reviewed he agrees the town should return to a single rate, it is counterintuitive. Clinton wants to be a commercial town; all communities with a split rate are trying to decrease the split. He explained he is in favor of changing the split to create an equal dollar amount increase to both rates. He would like support an amendment to the motion to change the rate to 163%. Discussion continued Selectman Sargent stated he isn't willing to burden residents further. Selectman Iacobucci stated his parents had to sell business. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to amend the current motion to a rate of 163%. Selectman Connolly stepped down from Chair and seconded the motion. The vote was 2/3 Selectman LeBlanc, Sargent and Dziokonski were in opposition. Motion doesn't carry. Chairman Connolly asked for the

vote on the original motion to set rate at 165%. Vote was 3/2 Selectman Iacobucci and Chairman Connolly were in opposition. Motion carried.

Chairman Connolly announced the board has a scheduled Executive Session under Article 3 to review Union Negotiations and will not return to open session. Board entered Executive Session at 7:50PM until 8:10PM.

Selectman Sargent made a motion at 8:12PM 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