

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
February 12, 2014**

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

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from December 18, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting and Executive Session Potential Litigation update, for review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comment

There was none.

Joint School Committee Meeting for Appointment of Committee Member

Chairman Connolly explained the School Committee is in attendance to appoint the replacement of Ms. LeBlanc. He reviewed each candidate will be asked to make a statement, after which nominations for appointment will be accepted, and a Roll Call Vote will be taken. School Committee Chairman Mendoza thanked the board for hosting the meeting and thanked the candidates for their interest and coming forward willing to serve. He introduced the school committee members present, Mr. Joel Bates, Ms. Tena Zapantis, Vice Chairman Mr. Robert Ebstein and Superintendent Ingano. Chairman Connolly invited Mr. Gordon Graham to come forward and provide a brief statement as to why he wants to serve on the board. Mr. Graham thanked the board for allowing him to make a statement. Mr. Graham informed the boards he has been away from Clinton for awhile but he continued his relationship to education. He reviewed he was in Ireland and served on the Catholic School of Government and the All Children's board to maintain a balance with education and all kids. He explained he has written three books all of which have a picture of Clinton in the background of the covers. He views Clinton with high regards and feels he will bring a different approach to service on the School Committee. Chairman Connolly thanked Mr. Graham for his interest and willingness to serve. He invited Mr. Timothy Poynton before the board. Mr. Poynton thanked the board for inviting him to the meeting to make a statement as to why he has interest in serving on the School Committee. Mr. Poynton reviewed he has interest to serve because he feels he can help the town. He has been an educator for 15 years; he started as a counselor, and now is a professor at Suffolk University teaching future

counselors. He also is engaged in research of issues facing students from Kindergarten through Grade 12. He would appreciate the opportunity to serve and asked for the board to vote for him, if chosen he will execute the duties to the best of his ability. Chairman Connolly explained the third candidate Ms. Lisa McFee is unable to attend due to illness. Each member received her letter of interest. He reviewed her absence will have no reflection on the vote to be taken. Selectman Sargent thanked all the candidates for their interest and thanked Ms. LeBlanc for her service to the town. Selectman Sargent nominated Mr. Timothy Poynton to serve. Chairman Connolly as for further nominations, there were none, he closed the nominations. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Iacobucci "aye", Selectman Sargent "aye", Chairman Connolly "aye", Selectman LeBlanc "aye", Selectman Iacobucci "aye". School Committee members Mr. Ebstein "aye", Ms Zapantis "aye", Mr. Mendoza "aye" and Mr. Bates "aye". Mr. Mendoza thanked all the candidates for their interest, each have a specific skill set. He congratulated Mr. Poynton. Selectman Dziokonski stated Mr. Poynton had run for school committee in the past and suspects he will run for reelection. He thanked Gordon Graham for his interest, stating he has great respect for him and knows he has served the town faithfully in the past. Selectman Iacobucci explained all the candidates are highly experienced, he knows Mr. Poynton ran last year for election to the School Committee. He thanked Mr. Graham and Ms. McPhee for their interest.

WPAT Storm Water System Mapping Borrowing – Town Treasurer

Chairman Connolly reviewed the Town Treasurer Mr. McIntyre was unable to attend this evenings meeting due to scheduling conflict but Administrator Ward is prepared to answer any questions regarding this borrowing. Administrator Ward explained this is a low interest loan from the state, to cover the funding used for mapping of storm water system. It is in the amount of \$120,000.00. A vote of the board is required. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the borrowing as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Abandoned/Unsafe Properties Discussion-Board of Health

Chairman Connolly invited Board of Health members forward for discussion. Mr. Steven Lipka Chairman of the Board of Health and Mr. Tom Bonci Health Agent were before the board. Mr. Lipka thanked the board for having the discussion, he explained he would like the boards support on resolving the issues of abandoned properties. At this time there are about 12 homes owned by large banks having the taxes paid by processing centers and no maintenance to properties. He asked for support of the board in forming a subcommittee for guidance on how to approach this issue. Selectman Iacobucci stated this is a great idea, he commended the Board of Health for being proactive, he asked if there is a way to do a title search on the properties. Selectman Connolly reviewed the town could secure the homes and then attach liens to

the property for the cost incurred. Mr. Lipka agreed and stated there needs to be a committee in place to establish a process, he would like input from the Solicitor, a Finance Committee member, a Selectman and Board of Health member. Chairman Connolly agreed a committee should be established including a Finance Committee member, the Building Commissioner, Town Solicitor, Town Administrator and a Board of Health member. Mr. Lipka reviewed he has reached out to some Department Heads already and all were willing to help out. The board agreed to appoint the committee at the next scheduled meeting.

FY14 Community Block Grant Hearing- Director Phil Duffy

Mr. Duffy stated he had published the hearing to begin at 7:30PM and it is a few minutes prior. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to continue out of agenda order with Veterans Agent Discussion. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Veterans Day Celebration- Veterans Agent Gerald Coppentrath

Chairman Connolly requested a meeting with the Veterans Agent relative to his recommendations for possible Veterans Day activities in Clinton. Veterans Agent Mr. Gerald Coppentrath was before the board to review the possibilities for activities on Veterans Day. He indicated he submitted a list of recommendations to the board including the recommendation to add a speaker to the luncheon hosted at the Elks, a rededication of the War Memorial in front of town hall if renovations are complete and a ceremony at a cemetery, changing each cemetery per year. The board agreed with these recommendations and asked Mr. Coppentrath to coordinate them for next year's Veterans Day celebration. Mr. Coppentrath agreed.

FY14 Community Block Grant Hearing- Director Phil Duffy

Chairman Connolly opened the Public Hearing scheduled for the FY14 Community Development Block Grant. Community & Economic Development Director Phil Duffy was before the board, he explained he is required to provide the board with an update. The FY11 CDBG activities have been completed. The renovations to Grove Street have been completed and look nice. The housing rehabilitation was wrapped up in December and 8 units were successfully renovated. The FY13 CDBG awarded is being used for the Senior Center project, the first construction meeting was held as of Friday the construction contractor will take over custodianship of the building. The demolition crew is scheduled to begin on Tuesday the completion date for the project is scheduled for November 13, 2014. He expressed he hopes it is a successful project. The Complete Streets Survey, an evaluation of roads and an assessment of the community needs will be completed as well. The Beta Group of Lincoln Rhode Island will be awarded the contract; they plan to begin work 1 week from Friday. The FY14 CDBG application will be for 2 programs housing rehabilitation to renovate up to 8 units and infrastructure and rehabilitation of Nelson Street, from Church to Union Street. The rehabilitation will include a new roadway, new curbing and sidewalks to the eastern side of the street. He explained the funding is limited to \$457,000, therefore he would like to

request approval if the grant is awarded to use supplemental funding from Chapter 90 in the amount of \$45,000.00 and \$35,000.00 from program funding, which is funding within the department. Funds paid back on borrowing as part of housing rehabilitation program loans, there are restrictions this is an allowable use. This funding will be contingent upon the grant being awarded. Chairman Connolly asked if the DPW Superintendent is aware Chapter 90 funds are proposed to be used are part of funding for the project. Mr. Duffy explained yes he is aware and he is absolutely supportive. Mr. Duffy reviewed Nelson Street is the proposed target area which was determined by collecting public input at previous public hearings. Chairman Connolly explained this is a public hearing he opened the hearing for public comment in favor of the grant application. Ms. Casey Chaffin of 22 Nelson Street was before the board, she stated she is a resident of Nelson Street. She explained all the Nelson Street residents are excited and very supportive of the grant application; they have drafted a support letter and collected signatures to be included in the application packet. If the project were to be completed it will be amazing for Nelson Street. She explained the residents are willing to help out and participate with anything they can do. Chairman Connolly thanked Ms. Chaffin and explained attending the meeting is very helpful and supportive. Mr. Bernard Hastings of 12 Nelson Street was before the board, he stated he is supportive of the Block Grant application and hopes the funds are awarded. He explained Nelson is a one way street and gets a lot of use. It is located close to the school and is used by the school buses frequently. He explained any funds that can be used to fix the street is greatly appreciated. Chairman Connolly asked for public comments in opposition of the grant application. There were none. Selectman Sargent made a motion to affirm the community funds from Chapter 90 and the program funding will be used if the grant is awarded. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the FY14CDBG application as outlined by Mr. Duffy. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Class II Motor Vehicle Dealer License Hearing- 556 Main Street

Chairman Connolly opened the hearing for the Class II license application for 556 Main Street, he invited applicant forward and state their name. Mr. Freddy Rubio and Jessica Rubio came forward. Ms. Rubio stated she is the interpreter for her father. Chairman Connolly asked for a description of the business plan. Ms. Rubio explained at this time they offer a vehicle detailing and repair business which they would like to expand the business with the license. It is slow during the winter months and a dealer's license will enhance business. The license will allow for more investment into property that will allow for improvements to the building adding a bathroom and small office. The intention is to start the business small and then possible grow it bigger adding financing in the future. They are requesting approval for 5 to 7 vehicles, ranging in prices from \$1000 to \$5000. Chairman Connolly opened the hearing for public comment in favor, there was none. He asked for public comment in opposition, there was none. He opened the hearing for questions from the board. Selectman Iacobucci asked if the application request was to have 5 to 7 automobiles. Ms. Rubio explained yes, they will

be small sedans and small SUV's nothing bigger. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to grant the Class to License to Freddy Rubio for 6 autos at 556 Main Street. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was 2/3 in opposition Selectman LeBlanc, Dziokonski and Sargent. Chairman Connolly stated the motion failed the license was denied.

Class II Motor Vehicle Dealer License Hearing – 678 Main Street

Chairman Connolly opened the hearing for the Class II license application for 678 Main Street, he invited applicant forward and state their name. Mr. John Torbay and Mr. Richard Torbay of Shrewsbury were before the board. Chairman Connolly asked for a description of the business plan. Mr. John Tobay explained he has made an offer to purchase the property, subject to getting the license. The plan is to sell cars valued between \$4000 and \$7000 and offer repair service as well. Selectman Iacobucci asked how many autos will be for sale. Mr. John Torbay stated there is parking available for 35 spaces, he would like approval to sell 25 cars and keep the rest available for parking. Chairman Connolly asked how many cars will be for sale. Mr. John Torbay stated 25 cars. Chairman Connolly opened the hearing for public comment in favor, there was none. He asked for public comment in opposition, there was none. He opened the hearing for questions from the board. Selectman Iacobucci asked if the vehicles for sale will be late model vehicles. Mr. John Torbay explained he intends to sell light pickup trucks, around 2008 or 2009 models. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to grant the Class II license to PHL, Inc. at 678 Main Street to sell 15 vehicles to start. There was no second to the motion. Chairman Connolly stated the applicant is denied there is no license to grant. The request has been denied. Mr. John Torbay asked for more explanation. Chairman Connolly explained there was a motion with no second, in order to call for a vote there needs to be a second. The process requires a majority vote, 3 votes from the board for the license to be granted. At this time there was a motion with no second. Mr. Richard Torbay stated they are open to 15 cars. Chairman Connolly stated for clarity he will step down from the chair and seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Sargent stated there is a motion made by Selectman Iacobucci and seconded by Chairman Connolly. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski explained he has consistently voted against license requests, there are enough in town. He stated he feels they detract from the town, he was surprised to see the previous applicant denied. He will be voting no on general principle. Vice Chairman Sargent stated he agrees there are too many used car dealerships in town. Mr. Richard Torbay stated it is a commercial zone area, is it the number of cars. Vice Chairman Sargent stated there are too many dealerships. Mr. John Torbay stated he found it strange the property had been a gas station prior, which always offered repair service and was a used car dealer besides. He likes the town of Clinton and has already spent money at the town hall, around \$600.00 in the application process. He is willing to start with 15

cars and hopes the board will look at it and approve grant the business opportunity. Selectman Iacobucci stated he wants to grant the license and give him the chance to start a business that will bring people to town, possibly visit other businesses in the community; it is a good thing for the town, as the policy makers for the town the board should grant businesses opportunity in town. He explained he supports giving the business opportunity to see what type of business is run. He supports granting the business opportunity, he feels the town isn't getting anywhere with empty buildings. Mr. Richard Torbay stated they intend to purchase the building. Chairman Connolly explained he is supportive of approving the license, it is a positive for the town he wishes the board will reconsider granting the license. He supports the same reasons Selectman Iacobucci stated he encourages business. Mr. Richard Torbay explained he understands used car dealers have a bad reputation, they will run a corporate style business, they have a lot of experience as used car salesmen and wish for the opportunity, he knows there are a lot in town. Selectman Iacobucci explained there are tools in place to inspect the business. Mr. Richard Torbay stated they intend to sell hybrid cars that were one owner vehicles. Mr. John Torbay explained they will run a nice clean business if given the opportunity. Vice Chairman Sargent stated there is a motion and a second to grant a Class II to sell 15 cars. The vote was 3/2 Selectman Sargent and Dziokonski in opposition. Motion carries. Selectman Dziokonski explained in related discussion. Chairman Connolly asked would the board reconsider granting the previous applicant. Selectman Dziokonski agreed, he stated he would vote yes on previous applicant as good will. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to ask for reconsideration of the motion to grant a Class II License to Freddy Rubio at 556 Main Street. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Chairman Connolly stated the board is reconsidering the motion made by Selectman Iacobucci to grant a Class II License to Mr. Freddy Rubio at 556 Main Street, to sell 6 vehicles. Selectman LeBlanc had seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Sargent stated there are too many car dealers in town. Selectman Dziokonski stated he feels that way too but fair is fair. The vote was 4/1 in opposition Selectman Sargent. Motion carried the board asked Administrator Ward to contact the applicant.

Administrative Business

Late Night Closings

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of February 2014: Clinton Lodge of Elks, Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Old Timer, Liberty Tavern, Ringside Café, Polish American Veterans & The Simple Man Saloon. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the requests as presented with any additional requests approved sent for Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Works Monthly Report

Superintendent of Public Works submitted a monthly report relative to the operations of his department for the month of December 2013 for the Selectmen's review and approval. Selectman Sargent made a motion to accept the report as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Iacobucci asked for the date of hire of the employee to be included in the report. The vote was unanimous.

Water & Sewer Abatements

Superintendent of Public Works McGown submitted a list of water/sewer abatements in the amount of \$6124.69 from the last billing cycle for the boards review and approval. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the abatements as submitted in the amount of \$6124.69. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Town Hall Use Events

The board has received one request for use of the auditorium for review:

Discover Clinton Festival of Flavors 04/10/14

Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the request for town hall use for Discover Clinton on April 10, 2014. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

Massachusetts Probation Service 5K Road Race

The Massachusetts Probation Service has sent a letter requesting permission to hold a 5K road race in Clinton on Saturday, June 21, 2014. Race headquarters will be the Probation Service Training Academy on Chestnut Street in Clinton. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the request of the Massachusetts Probation Department to hold a road race on June 21, 2014. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Sargent stated he has concerns regarding the congestion at the location, he asked for the Police Department to be informed of the request. The vote was unanimous.

District Local Technical Assistance Grant Awards

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission has announced that Clinton has been awarded two District Technical Assistance Grants for an Economic Development Self-Assessment Tool and a Downtown Housing Study. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to accept the grant. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the Chairman sign the paperwork on behalf of the board regarding the grant. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Open Space Plan Letter of Support

The Open Space Committee is requesting a letter of support from the Board of Selectmen for the updated Open Space Plan that will be submitted to the state for approval. Chairman Connolly explained the board received a updated copy of the Open Space Goals & Objectives for the boards review. Selectman Dziokonski explained this will be under the Park & Recreation Department. Mr. Duffy explained he served on the committee as well and this is a revision or update to the original Open Space Plan. It has to be submitted to the state and the committee would like the Selectmen to attest to review and endorsement of the plan. He explained public hearings were held and the public input was to enhance recreational activities, so the proposals are under the direction of Parks & Recreation Director Jessica Brodie. Discussion continued regarding the activities that will be pursued are disc hockey and a deck hockey facility. The board agreed these would be great enhancements to the town. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to endorse the Open Space Plan with a letter of support as requested. Selectman Sargetn seconded the motion. 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 of "The Wizard of Oz". Selectman Sargent made a motion to make a donation to the Clinton high School Drama Club in the same amount that was donated last year. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Goals & Objectives Discussion

Chairman Connolly explained he would like to waive the review and discussion of Goals & Objections, the Town Solicitor is absent he would prefer to review when he is in attendance. Selectman Sargent reviewed the Veterans Day Activities can be noted completed, the board agreed. Administrator Ward reviewed the Facility Consultant will begin interviewing Department heads as of Friday.

Committee Reports

Trash Removal Privatization Committee

Selectman Dziokonski explained the committee has been meeting and most recently met with two vendors to discuss curb side pickup. The intention is to meet again with two more vendors in two weeks.

Lighting Committee

Selectman Dziokonski reviewed in preparation for the budget, he asked Administrator Ward if he had received any information from National Grid representative regarding the Street Lights on High Street. Administrator Ward explained no not at this time. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed this information is needed regarding the process & procedure of updating the street lights, he feels this is a good time to review and

present a request at town meeting. He explained the town will be receiving funding from the landfill project and this would be a good project to use it on.

Senior Center Building Committee

Selectman LeBlanc reviewed they will be meeting again on Tuesday to interview candidates for the Clerk of the Works. He explained a subcommittee of Mr. Duffy, Administrator Ward and Superintendent McGown has reviewed the candidates and selected thee to be interviewed by the committee.

Cable Committee

Selectman Iacobucci reviewed this committee has been meeting and is scheduled to meet again on February 18, 2014 at 7:00PM. The public is welcome to attend.

Communications Committee

Chairman Connolly explained recently he reviewed an article in the newspaper regarding regionalized dispatch of joint communities. He understands there is a communications committee but would like the board's permission to engage in dialogue with surrounding communities regarding the regionalization of dispatch. He explained he would like himself and Administrator Ward to discuss with Berlin & Bolton regionalization. Selectman Sargent stated there is a committee to review and he will not support closing the Police station at night. Chairman Connolly agreed and said that he absolutely is not in favor of that, he isn't suggesting that. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to authorize Chairman Connolly and Administrator Ward to join in on communication with Berlin/Bolton on regional dispatch review. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Chairman Connolly reviewed this is just authorization to engage in discussion to see if it is a good fit for Clinton. Selectman Sargent asked if there is a Communications Committee why they aren't reviewing this. Chairman Connolly explained the discussion is to simply open a dialogue and gather information. Selectman Dziokonski who serves on the Communications committee explained at this time the focus of the committee has been reviewing the radio problems that the Fire Department is experiencing. He explained he is in support of the motion and would like the board of Selectmen to examine all options, even if the town were to regionalize they would not close the Police or Fire Stations at night. Chairman Connolly explained no one is in favor of closing any facility, it is not an authorization meeting it is just an initial conversation. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Connolly stated the board will be entering Executive Session under article 3 for Fire Union negotiation update at 8:30PM, and will not return to open session. Roll Call Vote to enter in Executive Session: Selectman Iacobucci "aye", Selectman

Dzikonski "aye", Selectman LeBlanc "aye", Selectman Sargent "aye" and Chairman Connolly "aye."

Executive Session Article 3 Fire Union Negotiations 8:30PM- 8:55PM

Selectman Iacobucci made a motion at 8:55PM 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