

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
September 7, 2011**

Selectman Connolly, Selectman Sargent, Selectman LeBlanc, Selectman Dziokonski and Chairman Dickhaut were in attendance. Attendee was Town Administrator Ward. Chairman Dickhaut opened the meeting at 7:05PM.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from the July 20, 2011 Selectmen's Meeting and August 9, 2011 Selectmen's Meeting including Executive Session for Landfill Consent Order and Union Contract Discussion for review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Liquor License Issuance Hearing – 180 Church Street

Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing for 180 Church Street inviting the applicant to come forward. Ms. Achara Weydt of Achara Weydt Corporation d/b/a Thai Time Restaurant of 180 Church Street was before the board. Chairman Dickhaut asked Ms. Weydt to explain her request for a beer & wine license. Ms. Weydt stated the Thai Time Restaurant has been open for awhile and she has been approached by customers to have beer & wine. She feels a license would make her business a more attractive choice that customers will enjoy. Chairman Dickhaut asked board members if they had any questions for Ms. Weydt. Selectman LeBlanc asked if the restaurant will be offering beer & wine selections from Thailand. Ms. Weydt explained yes she will offer beer & wine selections from Thailand. Selectman Dziokonski stated he is a fan of the Thai food; he has eaten at the restaurant and enjoyed it. Ms. Weydt thanked Selectman Dziokonski for the compliment. There no other question or comments from the board. Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing up for public comment; she asked if there was any comment against. Building Commissioner Zahariadis stated he wanted to make the applicant aware of the new state building code which requires any establishment with seating over 50 will have to have sprinklers, the law has changes it used to be 100, now it is any new license with 50 or more seats. Ms. Weydt explained the restaurant seats 45. Administrator Ward reviewed the Building Commissioner and Fire Chief will perform an inspection and sign off on the license, also the license holder is responsible to carry liability insurance. Ms. Weydt explained she is aware she is requires to have insurance. Chairman Dickhaut asked for public comment in favor there was none. Chairman Dickhaut closed the hearing. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to grant a Beer & Wine License to Ms. Achara Weydt of Achara Weydt Corporation d/b/a Thai Time Restaurant of 180 Church Street. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The board wished Ms. Weydt well with her new endeavor.

Common Victuallers License - 230 Sterling Street

Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing for 230 Sterling Street Common Victuallers License; she invited the applicant to come forward. Mr. Jason MacAlister d/b/a Mac's Dog Attack of 230 Sterling Street. Chairman Dickhaut asked Mr. MacAlister if he was planning on running a hot dog truck, she explained at the Depot Square a location listed on his application there is already a hot dog vendor. Mr. MacAlister explained he would like to operate his hot dog stand from 10 PM to 2 AM not at the same time as the other vendor; he is also interested in the soccer fields and near the church after mass on Sundays. Chairman Dickhaut asked if Mr. MacAlister has run this type of business before. Mr. MacAlister explained yes he has experience with running a concession stand at a race track up north. Chairman Dickhaut asked where he will be parked near the church. Mr. MacAlister explained he doesn't have an exact location but would like to park close to the church, off the street and before the crowds arrive. Selectman Sargent explained the masses are scheduled on Sundays from 8 AM through 10 AM, the only time to park before the crowds is 7 AM. Chairman Dickhaut explained there would be not business there near the morning masses. Mr. MacAlister explained it is just a thought. Selectman Sargent expressed concerns regarding the Depot Square location and the proposed hours of operation, being open until 2AM will only bring trouble, he is not in favor. Selectman Connolly stated the approval could be subject to review of the Police Chief regarding the locations and hours. Selectman Dziokonski asked where Mr. MacAlister will park during the soccer games. Mr. MacAlister explained he intends to park in the parking lot. Selectman Dziokonski explained that is a public parking area, he has concerns regarding a vendor parking in the lot. Selectman Connolly explained the soccer fields are under the control of the school department. Selectman Dziokonski explained the board could not grant permission for the school property. Mr. MacAlister explained he is not exactly sure of the soccer schedule and he is unsure of the exact times of operation in that location but he will contact the school and the soccer league. Selectman Connolly made a motion to table the application until more information is available regarding the boards concerns. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Common Victuallers License - 50 High Street

Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing inviting the applicant to come forward and explain his business plan. Ms. Theresa Kane of 2 Goss Street was before the board he reviewed he plans to operate a coffee & gift store to include an espresso bar. She explained the store will offer all types of coffee and a range of alternate drinks along with gifts from around the world. The store will offer items made in the USA by people with disabilities. The store will operate as a non-profit to support people with disabilities. Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing for Public Comment in favor, there was none Comment in opposition there was none. The hearing was closed. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the Common Victuallers License for The Polus Center for

Social & Economic Development, Inc. d/b/a The World Gift Espresso Café. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Chairman Dickhaut wished Ms. Kane good luck with the business on behalf of the board. The vote was unanimous.

Class II Motor Vehicle License – 47 Fuller Street

Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing inviting the applicant to come forward. Mr. Sean Gilcrest of 315 Grant Street in Leominster, d/b/a Sean's Auto Repair was before the board. Chairman Dickhaut asked where the business is located. Mr. Gilcrest explained he is located off of Main Street. Chairman Dickhaut asked if he has been in the used car business before. Mr. Gilcrest replied no. Chairman Dickhaut asked how many cars is he interested in selling. Mr. Gilcrest stated 10. Chairman Dickhaut explained she has a difficult time reviewing Class II License request, all of the applicants come in with the explanation of only selling great cars and then there are nothing but eye sores around town. Selectman Sargent stated he strongly supports approving this request; Mr. Gilcrest is the best mechanic in town. Selectman Connolly stated he is familiar with the sight. Building Commissioner Zahariadis stated he is familiar with the sight also and Mr. Gilcrest if approved will have to go to the ZBA and Planning board for approval also. He reviewed across the street from Mr. Gilcrest's location is a license at Gervais Auto Sales. Selectman Dziokonski asked if the location is in a commercial zone why ZBA approval needed is. Building Commissioner Zahariadis explained it would not be allowed at all in a residential location and requires a special permit to be in a commercial zone. Chairman Dickhaut asked for public comment against, there was none, in favor there was none. Selectman Sargent made a motion to grant a Class II Auto License to Sean Gilcrest d/b/a Sean's Auto Repair for up to 10 cars. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski explained he agrees with Chairman Dickhaut there are used car dealers everywhere in town. The vote was 3/2 in opposition Selectman Dziokonski and Chairman Dickhaut.

Department Head Update

Building Department: Building Commissioner Zahariadis

Chairman Dickhaut invited Building Commissioner Zahariadis to come forward before the board. She explained the board used to hold Department Head Meetings to have an opportunity to speak with the Department Head and allow them to speak with the board. Commissioner Zahariadis stated he put together some information on the number of permits issued in this fiscal year. He reviewed the information with the board along with informing the board of many complaints received regarding garages or auto repair shops in town. He explained the complaints are regarding too many cars being parked on or near the repair shop blocking traffic; it is difficult for him to enforce. If the ZBA grants approval for the repair shop it is up to the Planning Board to approve the number of cars. He has researched surrounding communities and found a lot have

licenses others have by-laws to provide guideline. He explained it is challenging to enforce or review complaints regarding auto repair shops. He explained he has implemented the requirement for an occupancy permit but would require another mechanism from the board for enforcement. The board asked for Building Commissioner Zahariadis to work together with Town Administrator on formulating a draft policy to present to the board at the next meeting scheduled for September 28, 2011. Discussion continued with an update on the Green Street project.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Hart

Chairman Dickhaut invited Fire Chief Hart to come forward before the board. She explained the board used to hold Department Head Meetings to have an opportunity to speak with the Department Head and allow them to speak with the board. She reviewed the board would like to see a monthly report from each department head, she asked Administrator Ward to inform Building Commissioner Zahariadis, the report would include monthly expenses and an update of the department on employees, any out on extended leave and update on the administrative work in the department. Chief Hart reviewed an important issue in the department is overtime, there were 2 retirements in early July, Captain Dennis Parker and Fire Fighter Peter O'Connell. He has begun the hiring process; he has a list of 5 candidates. He explained Fire Fighter John Kobus will be retiring in November and Paul O'Connell is out on extended leave for shoulder surgery. Chairman Dickhaut asked for a timeframe on how long the hiring process will take. Fire Chief Hart explained 3 months. She asked if the process could be expedited to save on overtime. Fire Chief Hart explained 2 candidates could be in the academy by January. Chairman Dickhaut explained 3 months is unacceptable, at the very least the hiring process should be completed in 6 weeks. Chief Hart reviewed the Civil Service hiring process, explaining there is no way to expedite it, there are certain time lines to be met. Selectman LeBlanc asked if you know of an upcoming retirement can you request a list. Chief Hart explained no, you cannot send for a Civic Service list without a retirement date. Discussion continued reviewing the hiring process and the steps involved including the Chief performing background checks and researching the candidates individually. The board explained there is an urgency to fill the vacant positions as soon as possible. Selectman Connolly stated he is familiar with the Chief enforcing fire regulations but unaware the Chief represents the town in court without notifying the Solicitor or the board. Chief Hart explained he has 3 active cases he is working on; he enforces the state fire code. Selectman Connolly asked if the Chief has represented the town for years in court, with the town being unaware, the Solicitor and the board are not informed. He stated personally he doesn't think the Chief should represent the town. Chief Hart explained the cases can be sent to the State Fire Marshalls office to keep politics from being inserted into the process. Selectman Connolly stated he questions why the town is in court without the Solicitor. Selectman

Sargent stated he agrees with Selectman Connolly, everyone should work together and be aware. Chef Hart explained he has notified the Town Administrator and Town Solicitor of the cases. Chairman Dickhaut explained the board is not implying politics, fire issues involving court cases are important for the board to follow. The Town Administrator and Solicitor should be put on notice; a review cases should also be included in the monthly reports. Selectman Connolly stated nobody should be representing the town without advice from the Solicitor. Chief Hart asked if this included Selectmen. Chairman Dickhaut explained the board understands the cases are enforcement of State Fire Code and the Chief is a representative of the state but the Solicitor is a representative of the town on all legal issues, therefore he should be made aware of all court cases and consulted with. Discussion continued with the board clarifying the suggestion is not to obtain the Solicitors permission but to get advice. Chief Hart informed the board the apparatus ladder truck is out of service, the repair company is having trouble finding parts for it and the ladder is unable to be repaired. He would like to work with the fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts on the RFP of ladder trucks; they are waiting to award the bid. He would be able to purchase off a list, it would not have to be anything fancy just include a 100 foot ladder. He reviewed the department pickup truck is 12 years old and needs work, it also has a lot of rust on the bed, it is time to retire it and transfer the truck to DPW. Chief Hart recommended the department get a vehicle, he has spoken to chief Laverdure and maybe a detective car will be available to them. Chairman Dickhaut asked that the Chief keep Town Administrator Ward aware if he gets a vehicle from the Police Department. Chief Hart reviewed other departmental updates including trouble with the radios and WRAT review, a crew from the Department of Corrections helped the department out with clearing the river prior to the hurricane, which opened up the water way to prevent flooding, and the Fire Department will be participating in Olde Home Days with a Fire Sprinkler demonstration, this is sponsored by the HAS, NFPA and Lowes, a smoke trailer will also be at the event. Selectman Dziokonski and the board thanked Chief Hart for clearing the river and the update.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Late Night Closings

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the following establishments following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of September 2011: Clem's Liberty Tavern, Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Old Timer, Ringside Café, The Simple Man Saloon & Spruce Street Tavern. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the requests as presented with the Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

One Day Liquor License Permits

Town Administrator Ward reviewed Clinton Turn Verein is requesting one-day liquor licenses for Olde Home Day and to use their outdoor pavilion on the following dates:

09/09/11	Olde Home Day	5:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
09/10/11	Olde Home Day	10:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
09/11/11	Baby Shower	1:00P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
09/17/11	Golf Banquet	4:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
09/24/11	Octoberfest	12:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve all of the dates presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

One Day Liquor License Permit

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the Friends of the Clinton Senior Center is requesting a one-day wine & malt liquor license to host a “Business Appreciation Evening” event at the Clinton Senior Center on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 from 6:00 P.M. – 9:00P.M. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous.

Public Works Monthly Report –

Town Administrator Ward reviewed Superintendent of Public Works Christopher McGown has submitted a monthly report relative to the operation of the Clinton Department of Public Works for the period June 2011 for the Selectmen’s review. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to accept the report as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Katie’s Lunch Box

Town Administrator informed the board the owners of Katie’s Lunch Box sent a letter notifying the board of a change of location for the operation of their mobile food truck from 637 High Street to the premises located at 214 Sterling Street in Clinton.

Building Permit Waiver Request

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the Polus Center is requesting consideration to abate the \$2,000+ building permit fee for renovation of their new gift shop & espresso bar business to be located at 50 High Street in Clinton. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the request to waive the building permit fee for the Polus Center as requested. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski reviewed he is in favor of supporting the request because this is a non profit organization. Selectman Connolly agreed explaining it is a unique situation and will be great for the community. The vote was unanimous.

Clinton Fire Union Fireworks Donation –

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the Clinton Fire Union has sent a letter requesting a donation in any amount from the Civic Fund to offset their \$600.00 deficit for the fireworks event that was held in July of 2011. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve a \$600.00 donation be made to the Clinton Fire Department for the deficit from the July 2011 Fireworks display, if the funding is available in the Civic Fund. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Town Administrator Ward reviewed the balance in the Civic Fund is \$2000.00. Selectman Sargent stated this event is for the public and very successful every year the fire Department does a great job. The vote was unanimous.

Historical Commission Resignation

Town Administrator Ward reviewed Ms. Christine Quirk has submitted a letter to the board resigning from her position on the Clinton Historical Commission due to scheduling conflicts for the meetings. The board thanked Ms. Quirk for her years of Service on the board and commend her for serving. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to accept the letter of resignation as submitted. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous. Selectman Connolly asked for this vacancy to be advertised along with the vacancies on the Fuller Field Commission and any other vacancies that may exist on the town boards and commissions. The board agreed.

Alternate Sealer of Weights & Measures Position

Town Administrator Ward reviewed a request has been made to see if the Town of Clinton would consider creating an assistant or alternate position to take over the duties of the Sealer of Weights & Measurer position until more is known about the medical condition of the current individual. Chairman Dickhaut asked for this appointment to be left up to the Town Administrator. Selectman Connolly made a motion to delegate the appointment of an Alternate Sealer of Weights & Measures to Administrator Ward. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski asked what duties this position performs. Town Administrator Ward reviewed the sealer reviews all of the scales in town testing the calibration and certifying it have passed inspection using the state guidelines. The vote was unanimous.

Town Administrator Home Rule Petition

Chairman Dickhaut explained the Governor recently signed Chapter 91 from the Acts of 2011 which was legislation for a home rule petition from the Town of Clinton that allows the Board of Selectmen to designate the hiring duties of department heads, employee, boards and commissions over to the Town Administrator. She explained the board needs to vote to transfer this authority and amend the current employment agreement with the Town Administrator to incorporate these new duties. Selectman Connolly

made a motion to amend the current contract of Town Administrator Ward to include the duties to hire, remove, subject to the provisions of civil service law and of any collective bargaining as may be applicable, all department heads, officers, members of boards, committees and employees or other individuals under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Proposed Administrative By-Law Change

Town Administrator Ward informed the board Mr. Nick Anderson of 289A Chace Street has sent a letter to the board requesting that a warrant article be added to the next town meeting that would prohibit any individual from causing debris to be placed onto a public way.

Traffic Committee Report of Recommendations

Chairman Dickhaut explained the Traffic Committee conducted a meeting on Thursday September 1, 2011 and made the following recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on a number of traffic safety issues around town:

- **Four Way Stop Signs @ Church Street & Chestnut Street Intersection** – Three individuals contacted the Board of Selectmen about making this intersection a four way stop due to the speed of traffic traveling over Chestnut Street and the difficulty of entering the intersection. *Recommendation: Present stop signs remain in place, but make the signs more visible with more reflective material and that additional signage be placed along Chestnut Street warning drivers of the upcoming intersection. The DPW Supt. will investigate painting raised stop letters on the pavement that would provide a slight vibration to the vehicle to alert drivers to reduce their speed.*
- **Four Way Stop Signs @ Church Street & Walnut Street Intersection** – Carol Chytil from Haskell Avenue has sent a letter requesting that this intersection be made a four way stop. She was crossing the street from the Town Hall toward the Library when a car that was blinded by the sun made a turn from Church Street onto Walnut Street and hit all three of her children that were in the middle of the crosswalk. *Recommendation to install four way stop at the intersection of Chestnut Street and Walnut Street.*
- **Eliminate Parking Space Closest to Church Street & Walnut Street Intersection** – Ms. Carol Chytil from Haskell Avenue has sent a letter proposing that the first parking space on Church Street near the library at this intersection be eliminated in order to increase the visibility of drivers and pedestrians using the crosswalk on Walnut Street. *Recommendation to re-line the parking spaces on the north side of Church Street along the Bigelow*

Library fence to be sure that last space is far enough from the intersection to improve visibility.

- **Four Way Stop Signs/Lights @ Church Street & High Street Intersection**
Ms. Carol Chytil from Haskell Avenue has sent a letter requesting that the committee investigate a proposal for a four way stop or traffic lights at the Church Street & High Street intersection. She feels this intersection is difficult to navigate due the high volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the area. *Recommendation that no action be taken at this time regarding this intersection.*
- **Make Traffic Blinking Traffic Lights @ Church Street & Main Street Intersection**
The Police Chief has received many complaints about traffic backups at this intersection waiting for the traffic lights to go through their cycle. He proposes changing this intersection to flashing lights with a preemption that allows the Clinton Fire Department to make the lights red when emergency vehicles need to exit the station. *Recommendation that the cycles of the traffic lights at the Church Street & Main Street intersection be adjusted to eliminate backups of traffic presently being experienced on Main Street.*
- **Traffic Calming Devices for Crosswalk on Chestnut Street Near the Senior Housing Complex** – Mr. Scott Vanasse from Chestnut Street has contacted the Board of Selectmen requesting some type of barrels/cones/signage for the two crosswalks on Chestnut Street near the senior housing complex to slow down traffic. He has offered to take the equipment in each night to protect it from getting stolen. *Recommendation that DPW Supt. install signage or road painting to increase visibility of the crosswalks for traffic to slow down on the street.*
- **Investigate Making Mechanic Street One-Way** – The Police Chief is requesting that the committee consider designating Mechanic Street as one-way. A study was done in the past by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to change the flow of traffic in this area, but the corner at Chestnut Street and Union Street needed to be widened to accommodate large trailer trucks. Making the street one-way would allow room for parking to be located on at least one side of the street. *Recommendation that Mechanic Street remain a two-way street, but create additional parking along the south side of the street.*
- **Eliminate Streetlight on Mechanic Street** – The Museum of Russian Icons is requesting that the streetlight on Mechanic Street immediately behind their

building be eliminated. They indicated that the light from the streetlight interferes with their light display from the bank of windows that run along the second floor bank of the building. *Recommendation that the streetlight in question be removed if the owner is willing to install and maintain a lighting device that can be located on the exterior of the building at a lower level that still illuminates the sidewalk for pedestrian safety.*

- **Installation of Directional Signs Around Clinton For Museum of Russian Icons** – The curator for the Museum of Russian Icons has sent a letter requesting permission to erect tourist informational signs at various points around Clinton to help direct people in finding their facility. *Recommendation that only Location #1 & Location #9 in their request letter be approved for directional signs for the museum.*
- **Short Term Parking Signs for Businesses on High Street Near Prospect Street** – The Town Administrator was contacted by the owner of Papacolas Market indicating that she has received complaints from her customers about the availability of parking in front of her store. She said cars park along High Street for extended periods of time which she feels is preventing customers from coming to her store. She is requesting that signs be erected in front of her store and across the street stating the 2 hour parking limit. *Recommendation that a letter be sent to the Director of the Clinton Senior Center asking for cooperation that people using their facility park in the back of the building and access the center via the elevator. If this is not possible then remind them that there is a 2 hour parking limit on High Street that will be enforced.*
- **Eliminate Crosswalk on Route 110 Near Soccer Fields** – The Police Chief has expressed concern that a crosswalk was painted on Route 110 near the soccer fields just at the road bends. He feels that this location is a safety hazard for people crossing the street at that spot. *Recommendation that additional signage be located along Route 110 alerting drivers that pedestrians are crossing. Police Chief and DPW Supt. will study the problem to see if crosswalk can be moved off the curve.*
- **Install Crosswalk on Water Street From Depot Park to King's Pizza** – The Police Chief was contacted by the owner of the new pizza store at Depot Square about painting a crosswalk from the park to their side of the street to allow customers safe passage to their business. *Recommendation that a crosswalk be placed at the corner of the park at Depot Square over to the Horseshoe Building on the northerly side of Sterling Street. There is a curb-cut currently in place at that location.*
- **Stop Sign Request @ Chace Street Triangle Park for Traffic Merging From Berlin Street** – Mr. David Wade from Chace Street sent a letter requesting that a stop sign be placed at the point on Triangle Park where the

two entry points merge for Chace Street that gives vehicles on the Philbin Park side the right of way coming from Berlin Street near Wilson Street. He indicated that drivers are confused as to who has the right of way when two vehicles get to that point at the same time. *Recommendation that no action be taken relative to this request since the committee feels that the next item will better solve the problem.*

- **Yield Sign Request @ Chace Street & Wilson Street Intersection Near Philbin Park** – Mr. Nick Anderson from Chace Street has sent a letter requesting that a yield sign be placed at the point of Triangle Park where the two entry points merge for Chace Street that instructs motorists coming from the Philbin Park side to give the right of way to vehicles coming from Berlin Street near Oak Street. He indicated that drivers are confused as to who has the right of way when two vehicles get to that point at the same time. *Recommendation that a yield sign be installed near Triangle Park on Chace Street across from the water park for vehicles merging from Berlin Street.*
- **No Parking Signs Request in Front of Houses Near Water Park on Chace Street** – The Town Administrator was contacted by Ms. Pam Marshall from Chace Street indicating that parked cars from people using the water park several times have blocked access to her driveway which is adjacent to the park. She is requesting that no parking signs be erected in front of the houses along that part of the street. *Recommendation that no action be taken at this time regarding this issue.*
- **Slow Sign Request on Chace Street to Reduce Speed of Traffic** – The Department of Public Works was contacted by Ms. Donna Ganczarski from Chace Street requesting that slow down signs be erected on Chace Street to reduce the speed of traffic on their street. *Recommendation that the Clinton Police Department run radar speed traps on this street to reduce the speed of traffic.*
- **No Parking Signs Request at Corner of Oak Street & James Street** – Ms. Karen Bailey is requesting that vehicles not be allowed to park along the corner of Oak Street & James Street. She indicated that many cars are parked on the sidewalk at the intersection and it is difficult to get by that area, especially in the winter. *Recommendation that no action be taken at this time regarding this issue and the situation be monitored by the police.*
- **Streetlight Request for South Meadow Road Near Boat Ramp** – The Board of Selectmen referred to the Traffic Committee a request from Mr. James Powers of South Meadow Road to install a new streetlight on his street. He indicated that this area of the road is very dark and dangerous at night with activity during that time near the boat ramp that makes the neighbors uneasy. *Recommendation that no action be taken at this time regarding this issue.*

- **Crosswalk Signage Request @ Intersections of High Street & Plain Street and High Street & Brook Street** – The Town Administrator received a letter from Mr. Bob Doyle from Forest Street requesting signage that informs motorists of the state law that requires vehicles to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. He states this is needed for the crosswalks on High Street in his neighborhood where children going to the bus stop for school are ignored when trying to cross the street. *Recommendation that signage be installed for increased visibility to alert drivers to these crosswalks since they are used by school children getting on and off the school buses.*
- **Update on Traffic Light and Intersection Work @ Green Street & Chestnut Street** – The Town Administrator thought that the committee would like to receive an update on the status of construction for the intersection widening and installation of traffic lights @ Green Street & Chestnut Street. *The committee was briefed that work is being done on Green Street that will install a traffic light at the intersection with Chestnut Street which will be flashing until it is determined that traffic conditions and/or vehicle traffic volume exiting Green Street requires the light to be fully functioning.*

Selectman Connolly made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented by the Traffic Committee. Selectman LeBlanc second the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Recess

Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to take a 5 minute recess at 7:40PM. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Clinton Community Service Day 2011

Selectman Dziokonski expressed his appreciation for Larry Jakobowitz and Gabe Rivas for coordinating the Community Service Day 2011. The day was an amazing success he wanted to recognize Larry and Gabe and their parents, and the members of the Excel Club, the Park & Recreation Department. The hard work exemplifies the community spirit. Selectman Connolly seconded Selectman Dziokonski's comments, and thanked the volunteers as well. Selectman Dziokonski stated there is a visible difference in the community. Chairman Dickhaut agreed with all the compliments given and congratulated the volunteers on a tremendously successful day.

Committee Reports

Cable Television Committee

Selectman Connolly reviewed there have been two recent meeting, the committee is aware there is not a big operating budget available but are confident there will be a

studio built and purchase some new equipment that is needed. He explained the committee is looking for a vote by the board to endorse their recommendation to get bids to construct a studio, get equipment and hire consultants. Selectman Connolly made a motion to endorse the recommendation of the Cable Committee. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Senior Building Needs Committee

Selectman LeBlanc updated the board on the recent working of the committee. Recently the committee is working negotiating details of the contract. They have made a preliminary meeting with the Council on Aging next they will meet with the Planning Board to get approval and then meet with the architect.

Central Park Committee

Park & Recreation members Estabon Mendoza and Ed Verrier were before the board to discuss Central Park. Selectman Dziokonski explained the committee met a few weeks ago to review the recommendation of installing cameras which will cost between \$8,000.00 and \$15,000.00 dollars. The committee has decided to ask departments if they can contribute to the cost, and plan to go to town meeting if they cannot get the funding together this fiscal year. There is also a recommendation for a by - law change. Recently there was an incidence in the park where the police enforced the trespassing violation. Administrator ward explained this is on file with the Police Department. Chairman Dickhaut reviewed an incident one night she was in Central Park, Park& Recreation members Mendoza and Zapantis were also in the park and there was an individual who had to be taken out of the park by the Police and arrested. Discussion continued regarding another incident on that same night with a Cocoran House resident being unable to use the side walk and having to walk on the grass. There is more destruction happening in the park the parking signs have been destroyed again. Mr. Mendoza explained there is a grant program available through the DEA which the town should apply for, for funding for the installation of cameras. The cameras are needed. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed there is no easy solution to the issues. The Police department is making an effort to keep the sidewalks clear and break up the crowds. Selectman Connolly made a motion to invite Police Chief Laverdure to the next meeting to discuss having more foot patrol monitor the park as much as possible; the board would request a police presence during peak hours after school and on Friday and Saturday nights. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Flag At Duffy Park

Selectman Sargent informed the board the flag at Duffy Park is in darkness at night, he has mentioned this in the past and shared the guidelines. A flag should be illuminated if flown at night, if not it should be taken down and only flown from sunrise until sunset.

Selectman Sargent made a motion to have the Veterans Agent work with Park & Recreation Department to repair the lighting for the flag pole at Duffy Park. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. Under Discussion: The board requested the Veterans Agent report back at the next schedule meeting. Selectman Sargent amended his motion to include all the public locations of American flags in town. Selectman Connolly seconded the amendment. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Sargent shared with the board some information on a solar power light that can be attached to the flag pole.

Holiday Lighting Committee

Selectman Dziokonski updated the board on the recent meeting. The committee has welcomed new members Selectman LeBlanc, Mr. Jack Graves, Mr. Dennis Parker. At the last meeting they reviewed High Street and have asked Administrator Ward to contact National Grid as a power source. He announced Chairman Dickhaut has solicited a donation of \$500.00 from Dunkin' Donuts.

Public Comment

Mr. John Woodsmall of 17 James Street was before the board, he reviewed when he is approached by parents and other citizens regarding the failure of the override, he justifies that citizens didn't want to give more money to the schools or the town. He understands the town and schools need more money to operate. He explained ways for the town to operate more efficiently by combining the Treasurers and Collectors offices, condense the Assessors office to one, combine the Park & Recreation with the maintenance of the athletic fields department, and regionalize the dispatch. Chairman Dickhaut explained the town has had two management studies done and the results are similar to Mr. Woodsmall's suggestions and these changes would have to be presented and accepted at town meeting. Many attempts have been made to get these changes implemented and it is very difficult to get the changes approved at town meeting. The community needs to be better educated and made aware of what the needed changes are, and they need to support the changes at town meeting. She thanked Mr. Woodsmall for bringing this information forward to the board. Mr. Woodsmall suggested if the board were to host a special town meeting in the fall these issues should be put forth for approval, they are cost saving initiatives. Selectman Dziokonski agreed. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to establish a Ways & Means subcommittee to identify possible efficiencies that can be developed. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Chairman Dickhaut reviewed the board just approved Town Administrator Ward as a strong Town Administrator and you aren't even giving him a chance to get a course of direction. Selectman Dziokonski amended his motion to have the new subcommittee chaired by Administrator Ward. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the amended motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Connolly stated he is in favor, this will allow for more of an opportunity for the

information to get out to the citizens if being worked on it will increase the success of the changes being accepted if the subjects are discussed more. Chairman Dickhaut expressed she has concerns regarding an advocate or citizens group starting to tell the board and Administrator instead of supporting them. The vote was 4/1 Chairman Dickhaut opposed. Mr. Woodsmall continued the discussion commended the board to advocate any court representation for the town be reviewed by the Solicitor. He thanked the board for reviewing this policy.

Mr. Dennis Parker of South Meadow Road was before the board to discuss the gate that goes to the former landfill, there are a lot of vehicles in this area that are not town vehicles and the gate has many locks on it. He asked if this is town owned property why do many people have keys and access to the property. Administrator Ward explained there are 3 locks on the gate, the MWRA, town and former owner have locks. He will review with the DPW to see who has access. Selectman Connolly explained the board has a contract with the Clinton Fish & Game and allows access to area, the other locks are the private property owners. The board concluded they will review at the next meeting the classification of the lawsuit involving the property and the locks up there.

Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to adjourn at 9:45PM. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Corbosiero
Administrative Assistant
Clinton Board of Selectman