CLINTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015, 6:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN'S ROOM, TOWN OFFICE

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Towne called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Towne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SELECTMEN PRESENT/QUORUM: Chairman Jeffrey Towne, Vice Chairman Geraldine Dixon, Selectman Ed Blanchard, Selectman Ronnie Irving, and Selectman Randy Clark. Also present Town Manager Warren Hatch and Deputy Town Clerk Earla Haggerty.

ACTION ITEMS

a. **Approval of Selectmen's Minutes** - Selectman Clark moved the Board approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015, meeting. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote 5 – 0 to accept the minutes.

b. **Appointment for Election Warden – Melody Fitzpatrick** – Selectman Clark moved to appoint Melody Fitzpatrick as Moderator. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

   As the form circulated the table for signatures Selectman Irving noted that the form was made out for appointment for Election Warden not Moderator and inquired as to which was correct. Town Manager Hatch stated that he would verify the information and if necessary bring the item back on the next agenda.

c. **Request from Fire Chief Gary Petley to purchase Cardiac Monitor** – Chief Petley explained the research process that led his department to recommend the purchase of a Philips HeartStart MRx defibrillator rather than the Physio-Control Lifepak 15. He explained both units would serve the department well but the Philips offered a six year on-going maintenance program rather than the standard two year program. For that reason Chief Petley requested that the Selectmen authorize the use of the Steven King grant funds which had been set aside in a Capital Reserve Account for the purchase of the Philips HeartStart MRx.

   Selectman Randy Clark moved to authorize Chief Petley to purchase the Philips HeartStart MRx defibrillator for $24,924.98. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

d. **Brad Jackson – First Park update on operations – No Show**

e. **Contract with Pike Industries** – Town Manager Hatch explained the amount of the contract as discussed in the last meeting was off by the amount of the shoulder work - $34,375. Therefore, the correct contract amount for Pike Industries, Inc. would have to be approved at $1,154,155.40.

A lengthy discussion followed between the Town Manager and Selectmen regarding the sequence of events that would be necessary to prepare the roads for the contracted activity. Selectmen Irving remarked that it was not Pike's responsibility to do maintenance work so they could fulfil their contract. Selectman Irving further voiced concern as to whether or not the necessary culvert work could be done in time given Pike's May 10th commitment for completion. Town Manager Hatch advised that there was a lot of work to be done on various roads but the Highway budget was insufficient and would be in the red by June 30 by just doing what was necessary but he believed the roads would be ready for Pike in time for them to begin.

A member of the public asked if the Battle Ridge Road would be one lane for the paving. Town Manager Hatch said that he would put it on the town website that it would be a one lane road when he knew the dates that Pike would be paving.

Selectman Clark moved to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Pike Industries contract for paving and shoulder work on the Battle Ridge Road, Mutton Lane and Tardiff Road in the amount of $1,154,155.40. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

f. **Highway Department Contracted Services Discussion**- Chairman Towne advised the Board the discussion regarding contracting vs budgeting for the Highway Department would be on-going in order to develop a sense of what items should be included in the consideration. For example snow plow contracts would be excluded. Selectman Irving said that the State rate for highway maintenance activities should be used to establish cost.

Chairman Towne stated that he wanted projects to be supervised by the town and did not want to lose accountability and control which is easy to do with contracted services. Chairman Towne asked who would be responsible for patrolling roads and simple maintenance such a potholes, etc. Chairman Town said also to be considered was the savings gleaned from not having to pay wages and taxes but, on the other hand would also have to consider the expense of unemployment and/or worker's compensation for current employees that may be displaced by the contracted services.

Selectman Clark did not want to spend a lot of time discussing the issue until after the election because the Board did not yet know what the townspeople want.

Chairman Towne asked Town Manager Hatch to look over the budget and sort out what items could/should be contracted out vs. items that would remain under the control of the Highway department.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Highway Budget: Town Manager Hatch advised the Board the Highway Budget had serious overruns – specifically Road Salt in the deficit by $1,073, Cold patch in deficit of $1,909, Equipment maintenance in deficit of $15,481, etc. The Town Manager explained that overall with 60 days to go in the fiscal year and with brush cutting, patching and street sweeping still to be done there was only a balance of $42K. There followed a lengthy discussion of where the dollars could come from to cover the deficit. Selectman Irving was adamant that the bond money should not be used to cover maintenance and that another plan had to be developed.

Cemetery Mowing Budget: Town Manager Hatch advised the Board because the budget dollars were not correctly added to the budget during the budget process the current Cemetery Mowing Budget will not be sufficient for the fiscal year. He estimated the shortfall to be $2,304.57. Although there was discussion as to whether or not dollars could be used from the Parks & Recreation there was no solution for the issue proposed.

In-Town Sidewalks: Town Manager Hatch stated that for liability reasons he would like to use funds from the Street Scape account to fix curbing and asphalt for repairing in-town sidewalk. A discussion followed regarding whether or not dollars had been put aside in Street Scape or the Economic Development fund. Chairman Towne asked the town manager to verify that $78,000 had been put in the Economic Development fund not the Street Scape account.

Library Checks: Town Manager Hatch asked the Board to accept two checks that were donations to the library in the amount of $100 and $75 and further advised that Librarian Cheryl Dickey-Whitish asked that the donations be put in the Book Account. Selectman Irving moved to accept the amount of $175 as library donations to be placed in the Book Account. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

Buy-Out of Police Officer: Town Manager Hatch advised that an area town was inquiring of Clinton to buy-out an officer's academy training of $18,000 in two fiscal years. $12,000 in July 2015 and $6,000 in July 2016. Chairman Towne said he resented the situation where Clinton pays the bill up-front for an officer's training and another town scoops them up shortly after they get back to work. There was consensus on the Board that the whole amount should be paid in a lump sum not a split payment.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS – Chairman Towne advised there had been a miscalculation of $7,145 in Article 24 on the Town Warrant which he had corrected.

TREASURER'S WARRANT - Selectman Clark moved to approve Treasurer's Warrant #66 in the amount of $66,777.69. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 Warrant approved.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

1. Update on Pike Industries progress and a full road report.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING MATTERS NOT RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - The Board's rules of procedure have imposed a 15-minute time limit.

No questions or concerns voiced.

ADJOURN: 8:09 p.m. Selectman Clarke moved to adjourn and Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Earla J. Haggerty
Deputy Town Clerk