



**CLINTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

MEETING MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Towne called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Towne led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. SELECTMEN PRESENT/QUORUM:** Chairman Jeffrey Towne, Vice Chairman Ronnie Irving, Selectman Edward Blanchard, Selectman Stephen Hatch and Selectman Brian Bickford. Also present Town Manager Pamela Violette and Deputy Town Clerk Earla Haggerty.

**INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING - NOVEMBER 8th SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
BALLOT REGARDING THE SALE OF SPIRITS & FORTIFIED WINE**

Chairman Towne asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

6:34 P.M. – Selectman Hatch moved to open the informational public hearing. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

Chairman Towne asked for comments or questions from the public attending the meeting. Jay Gould from Tradewinds Market was present and advised the Selectmen that should the question before the voters be approved Tradewinds Market would begin the sale of spirits and fortified wine. Mr. Gould explained the spirits and fortified wine would be sold in a way similar to the sale of tobacco products – in a locked cabinet to be accessed only by cashiers. There were no other comments or questions from the public.

6:37 p.m. - Selectman Hatch motioned to close the informational public hearing. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT – FIRE CHIEF GARY PETLEY

Chief Petley was in attendance to present a report on the Clinton Fire and Rescue Department but before he could begin Chairman Towne surprised him with the presentation of a plaque in recognition of 25 years of service with the Town of Clinton. Chief Petley was very surprised and grateful for the appreciation and recognition for his long service.

Chief Petley reported how the department had been struggling with scheduling during the last year because of the serious injuries of two key employees, Mark Bellaire and Tim Fuller. Chief Petley advised that Mark Bellaire's injuries were such that he resigned the full time position and the department was currently conducting interviews to fill the position which would put them back to full strength once filled. Chief Petley explained that since February, when Mark Bellaire was injured, Rick Barton and Anthony Barton had been instrumental in filling in the gaps of coverage.

Chief Petley advised the Selectmen that Clinton Fire & Rescue had not received a grant award from the 2015 federal fire grant program which had been for the air packs that will need replacement by 2019. He advised that there was a sunset provision on the fire grant program which takes effect in 2018 unless Congress extends the program. He advised that Senator Susan Collins is aware and working on the issue.

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Regarding Ambulance replacement the Chief advised there was currently \$115,000 in reserve but future budgets would be impacted because of the mandatory retirement of the ambulance. The Chief advised that there had been 532 calls during 2015 – 417 were rescue calls, 30 for vehicle accidents and 83 for fire calls.

Selectmen Irving asked if the pay scale was current to which the Chief replied that the department had last made an adjustment several years ago to keep current with the MMA Salary Survey but he was of the opinion the salaries needed to be reviewed in the next budget process.

Selectman Irving inquired about the revenue being generated by the transporting ambulance service. The Chief advised the ambulance revenue is currently between \$95,000 and \$100,000 per year but, stated the rates also need to be reviewed during the next budget. The Chief reminded the Board the Town of Clinton was one of only three departments in Kennebec County that still transport patients – Augusta and Gardiner being the others.

Chief Petley advised that he had been elected by members of the Maine Fire Chiefs Association to serve a two year term as vice president of the association.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Approval of Selectmen's Minutes – September 27, 2016

Selectman Hatch moved to approve the minutes of September 27, 2016 meeting as presented. Selectman Blanchard seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0. Selectmen Irving and Bickford where not present on September 27, 2016 so they abstained from the vote.

b. Recognition of Spirit of America Award – The Board of Selectmen presented the Maine Spirit of America Foundation award to Clinton firefighter Anthony Barton for commendable community service. During 2016 Anthony organized a community safety plan to identify community need and then to install 100 free smoke detectors provided by the Red Cross to residents of the Town of Clinton.

c. Road Contract with Bard Paving & Construction – Town Manager Violette asked the Selectmen to table the item because a signed contract had not been returned for the meeting.

Selectman Irving asked if the roads were ready for paving. Town Manager Violette said the McNally Road would be ready by Thursday, October 13th and the other roads are ready. Chairman Towne expressed concern about starting work on the paving project as soon as possible because there isn't a lot of the paving season left.

d. Resolution 16/17-07 - Town Manager Violette requested that Resolution 16/17-07 for Charles Dorr be signed by the Selectmen. Selectman Irving moved to sign resolution 16/17/07 in recognition of Charles Dorr's contribution to the establishment of the Clinton Fire & Rescue Department. Selectman Hatch seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS: None.

6. SUPPLEMENTS AND ABATEMENTS: None.

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7. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Highway Signage - Town Manager Violette reported the signage provided by Maine Department of Transportation were ready to be picked up.

2. Property Tax Collection – Town Manager Violette advised she was pleased with the rate of collection of property taxes.

3. New Budget – Town Manager Violette advised the Board that the budget for fiscal year 2017/2018 has officially started including work on the Capital Reserve Budget.

4. Budget Committee Meeting – Town Manager Violette reported that the first meeting for the Budget Committee has tentatively been set for Monday, December 19th.

5. Local Roads Workshop – Town Manager Violette advised the MDOT's Local Roads Workshop for Snow & Ice had been posted and Selectmen were welcome to register.

6. Police Department – Town Manager Violette advised that Officer Gordon Mank will be full time on October 16th.

8. UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS – None

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – October 25, 2016

1. Bard Paving Contract

2. Police Chief Bell & Fire Chief Petley – Overtime Discussion

10. TREASURER'S WARRANT: Selectman Blanchard moved to approve Treasurer's Warrant #22 in the amount of \$301,273.50. Selectman Hatch seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0. Warrant approved. Chairman Towne noted for the record that a generous donation of \$174,297 had been made to MSAD # 49.

11. 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.

Colleen Bean was present from the Clinton High School Reunion Committee to advise that work had been completed on the memorial stone for the Clinton High School which had been set outside the town office building earlier in the week. Colleen advised that the black granite stone came from a quarry in China (not Maine) and the etching of the school building had been done in Pennsylvania. Colleen also advised that because the stone was being gifted to the town someone would have to attend the next reunion committee meeting scheduled for October 19th at 9:a.m. to accept the gift on the town's behalf.

12. ADJOURN: 7:25 p.m. Selectman Hatch moved to adjourn. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Earla J. Haggerty
Deputy Town Clerk