CLINTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 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 6:36 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.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

a. **Approval of Selectmen's Minutes – October 11, 2016**
Selectman Hatch moved to approve the minutes of October 11, 2016 meeting as presented. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

b. **Norman Hart – Annual Report for Brown Memorial Library Trust Account** – Norman Hart was in attendance to present the annual investment report to the Board of Selectmen for the Brown Memorial Library Trust Account. He advised that when he became the account representative in 2007 the opening balance was $330,000. Mr. Hart advised the current value was $363,000 but, reminded the Board that there had been $121,000 worth of withdrawals during that time.

Mr. Hart advised there was a better way to manage the account than the method currently in place but the Board of Selectmen would need to authorize the change. Chairman Towne responded that the Board should first consult with the members of the Library Committee and if the consensus was for change then the item would be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

c. **Maine Revenue's 2016 Municipal Valuation Report** – After a review of the Valuation Report which was prepared by the Assessor's agent, Garnett Robinson, Chairman Town called for a motion. Selectman Hatch moved to approve and sign the 2016 Municipal Valuation Report as presented. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

d. **Bard Construction Road Paving Contract** – Town Manager Violette advised the Selectmen that she had a signed copy of the Bard Paving contract but Bard was asking for an additional $2,400 for tacking and flaggers and, further Bard was of the opinion the 12.5 surface mix should be a 9.5 mix. It immediately became apparent the Selectmen felt those costs had been included by all other bidders therefore Bard's contract should not be changed. There was consensus on the Board that the contractor had wasted the six weeks of good paving weather since the contract had been awarded which was, now, putting the 2016 paving plan in jeopardy. Selectman Irving stated that taxpayers have been told there would be paving on roads which were in real need of paving before winter. Selectman Irving stated it was unacceptable to wait another six months while Bard quibbles over tack and flaggers. Selectman Irving stated that regarding the surface mix he was interested in the longevity of the paved surface not the looks of it and that is why the

Board requested the 12.5 in the RFP. The Board members agreed with Selectmen Irving not to accept the recommendation to change the surface mix to 9.5.

Town Manager Violette asked the Board for instruction regarding signing the contract and getting paving started immediately. There was no motion on the item but the consensus of the Board was that Bard should abide by the contract as it was awarded and start paving immediately. They did not approve any additional dollars or any other change to the original contract.

e. **Appointment to Road Advisory Committee** – Selectman Irving moved the appoint Ken Flewelling, Sr. to the Road Advisory Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2017. Selectman Hatch seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

f. **Resolution to Adopt the 2016 Kennebec County Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Selectman Irving moved to sign the resolution to adopt the 2016 Kennebec County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Selectman Hatch seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS: OVERTIME – POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT

Selectman Blanchard asked how overtime could be kept down in the Police Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Bell advised the Board that the department was in a rebuilding phase and trying to hire the next full time officer wisely – in the meantime overtime was a harsh reality. Chief Bell noted that by employing this means of management no one noticed the off-setting savings of $9,000 in health insurance premiums. Chief Bell said it was time for the Town to decide whether they would support the development of a professional police department and, if so, that would mean a significant commitment to upgrading the officer's salary scale to enable the department to retain the officers it trains instead of doing business the best it could with other town's cast-offs.

Chief Bell reiterated that in the last four years the town has spent $72,000 in training officers that other towns buy away from Clinton with larger salaries and better benefits. Further, he noted that when the other towns buy-out Clinton for the officer's training those funds do not go back to the police department budget but rather goes to the general fund thereby leaving the department strangled for training dollars. He also noted that currently Clinton PD pays approximately $2 less per hour than surrounding communities. Chief Bell advised that the department isn't the joke it has been in the past with no response or inadequate response and citizens were starting to realize the improvements in service that have occurred in the last year - this all translates to more confidence in the department and more calls. He stated that the department was on pace to respond to 7,000 calls in 2016 and, in recent weeks had dealt with very serious cases, fraud, theft, domestic abuse, and even rape. He advised that in order to continue keeping the public safe overtime would sometimes be in order.

FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT: Fire & Rescue Chief Petley advised that the department was still in the process of recovering from two devastating injuries to department members which had resulted in a long term struggle to cover shifts, often requiring overtime. Chief Petley advised that a new individual had recently been hired to fill one of the full time positions vacated by a career ending injury. Further, he advised that he had been managing the department's bottom line for 25 years so he was experienced enough to know when and when not to use overtime. Chief Petley stated that overtime was not being abused and that it was impossible to avoid overtime in the course of doing business. Chief Petley

reiterated that the use of overtime was not an indication of mismanagement but rather of good management as the department meets its mission and keeps its eye on the bottom line

6. SUPPLEMENTS AND ABATEMENTS:

Selectman Hatch moved to approve:

1. Abatement 01-2016 in the amount of $362.33 for Map 6, Lot 25-ON
2. Abatement 02-2016 in the amount of $520.03 for Map 6, Lot 25
3. Abatement 03-2016 in the amount of $402.70 for Map 6, Lot 36-A
4. Supplement in the amount of $866.94 for Map 6, Lot 25
5. Supplement in the amount of $ 80.50 for Map 6, Lot 25-ON
6. Supplement in the amount of $270.29 for Map 3, Lot 75-59

Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT – Town Manager Violette advised that she had attended a meeting earlier in the day at the Oakland Police Department regarding legalizing marijuana which, was timely given that Mike Hachey, Chairman of the Planning Board would be at the next Selectmen's meeting to discuss the need for a moratorium.

8. UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS – None

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – November 8, 2016

1. Planning Board – Mike Hachey – Moratorium on Legalizing Marijuana
2. Executive Session for Poverty Abatement
3. Fire Chief Gary Petley – Grant Application Approval

10. TREASURER'S WARRANT: Selectman Blanchard moved to approve Treasurer's Warrant #25 in the amount of $37,213.72. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0. Warrant approved.

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.

12. ADJOURN: 8:14 p.m. Selectman Hatch moved to adjourn. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Earla J. Haggerty
Deputy Town Clerk