

Chapter 11: Public Facilities and Services

Goal: To plan for, finance, and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate any anticipated growth and economic development in Clinton.

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to inventory and examine all the public services currently offered by the town as well as other public services, and to identify issues that need improvement.

Town Government: The Town of Clinton has a Town Meeting-Selectmen-Manager form of government. This is the second most common form of local government in Maine. As municipalities grow in size and as State and Federal regulations increase in number and complexity, many municipalities have hired a Town Manager. Under this form of government, the Town Manager oversees daily operations of the municipality. The Board of Selectmen continues to serve as the town's executive body; the only difference is that they now can focus more on issues of policy. There are five selectmen who make executive decisions and one town manager who manages the daily operations of the town. The annual town meeting is held on a Tuesday in June during which time citizens vote by written ballot for the various articles that have been placed on the warrant. For more information on town meeting procedures, refer to the current Town Charter on the Town of Clinton's website: <https://www.clinton-me.us> .

Town Elected Positions: Selectmen, Moderator for annual Town Meeting, Three Directors for Maine School Administrative District (MSAD) 49, and Three Trustees for Brown Memorial Library.

Town Appointed Positions: The Board of Selectmen shall appoint the following officers: Town Manager, General Assistance Director, Road Commissioner, Tax Collector, and Treasurer and may appoint an Assessor's Agent.

The Town Manager, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Selectmen, shall appoint: the Fire Chief (nominated by the fire fighters), Police Chief, Highway Department Head, Solid Waste Transfer and Recycling Center Director, and Code Enforcement Officer(s).

The Town Manager shall appoint the following officers: Animal Control Officer, Building Inspector, Plumbing Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Civil Emergency Preparedness Director, E-911 Municipal Coordinator, Health Officer, Registrar of Voters, and Town Clerk. Town Manager may appoint an Emergency Medical Services Director, Personnel Director, and all fire officers nominated by the firefighters.

The Town Clerk shall appoint a Deputy Town Clerk(s) and Ballot Clerk(s).

The Library Board of Trustees shall appoint the Librarian and all Library Personnel.

Public Facilities and Services

Appointed Boards and Committees: The Board of Selectmen shall appoint members to all Boards and Committees:

1. Planning Board: Five Regular Members with two Alternates
2. Board of Appeals: Five Regular Members with two Alternates
3. Budget Committee: Ten Members
4. Cemetery Committee: Five Members
5. Economic Development Committee: Seven Members
6. Personnel Advisory Board: Three Members
7. Parks and Recreation Board: Five Members
8. Water District Board of Trustees: Will be pursuant with the Water District Charter
9. Ad-hoc Committees as needed

Administration Department: The Administration Department is responsible for vehicle registration, collection of property and excise taxes, property lien notices and collections, and voter registration, as well as all other administrative duties. Contractual services include Assessing, Auditing, and Information Technology (IT) Management.

Employees of the department are Town Manager, Town Clerk, and two Deputy Town Clerks.

Hours of operation are 8:00 AM – 3:45 PM Monday thru Friday. The second and fourth Tuesday of each month the office remains open until 6:00 PM. The Town Office is located at 27 Baker Street.

The town constructed a new town office building in 1993. The building is occupied by the police department and town staff to include Town Manager, Town Clerk, two Deputy Town Clerks, Tax Assessor, and Code Enforcement Officer. The building has two meeting rooms including a large room with kitchen facilities.

Fire and Rescue Department: The Fire and Rescue Department is responsible for public safety. Clinton Fire and Rescue provides fire suppression, prevention, and emergency medical care to the citizens of Clinton. In 2018 the department responded to approximately 700 calls for service. Approximately 550 of the calls were emergency medicals, 50 fire calls, 40 vehicle accidents, and 60 others. Clinton's Department has mutual aid agreements with Burnham, Pittsfield, Canaan, Benton, Fairfield, Albion, Waterville, and Winslow.

Fulltime employees for the department are one Fire Chief and three Fire Fighters. Two Assistant Chiefs receive stipends. There are 17 Emergency Medical Technicians and 12 Reserve Fire Fighters.

This department's hours of operation are 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 365 days per year. The Fire Department is located at 19 Church Street.

Public Facilities and Services

The Fire and Rescue Department building consists of two ambulance bays and two additional bays to accommodate fire trucks. It contains central offices with a training room, kitchen, and sleeping areas for fire/rescue crews. The facility is a metal building and has a shallow pitched roof. The footprint of the building is sufficient until fire apparatus is updated with larger equipment. Because of the lot size, parking is currently limited. Expansion of the building is also limited due to this lot size.

Police Department: The Clinton Police Department is responsible for public safety with a mission to protect and serve. They provide mutual support to other towns in the area. Neighboring agencies will also assist the Clinton Police Department as requested. In 2018, the department handled 9716 incidents.

Employees include one part-time Police Chief, three full-time officers, and four reserve officers. The Police Office is located in the Town Office building at 27 Baker Street. The full-time police officers work shifts. All other times are covered by reserve officers or are on call.

Recreation Department: Information on this Department is found in Section 2, Chapter 9, Recreation and Open Space. The Parks and Recreation Board normally holds their meetings at the Town Office.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement assists the citizens of Clinton regarding building, plumbing, and ordinance questions and concerns in a professional and prompt manner. The current Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) is also the Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI), Local Health Officer (LHO), Municipal 911 Address Officer (911AO-911), and Building Inspector (BI). The CEO acts as liaison with: Planning Board, Appeals Board, and Comprehensive Planning Committee. CEO also works with the Town Manager. Additional duties for the CEO are overseer of construction and overseer of maintenance for town facilities. Currently, the CEO liaisons with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Maine Emergency Management Agency.

The office employs one part-time Code Enforcement Officer for 32 hours per week.

Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 3:45 PM. The CEO Office is located at 27 Baker Street in the Clinton Town Office.

Brown Memorial Library: The library has over 1,400 volumes and supports the town with lending out books, DVDs, and eBooks. The library is also available for public computer use, wireless access, photocopying, faxing, laminating, and computer assistance. Special programs are conducted throughout the year to include a children's Summer Reading Program.

The library employs two part-time employees, a Library Director and an Assistant Director. A Board of Trustees consists of a Chairman and two additional trustees. The Town of Clinton's Annual Budget and endowments fund the Library.

Public Facilities and Services

The Friends of the Brown Library organization raises money to help fund programs, craft supplies, books, and other things that a small town library on a tight budget may require.

Summer hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Tuesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Winter hours: Monday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 - 8:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Location is 53 Railroad Street.

The Brown Memorial Library Building is an architecturally distinguished 1899-1900 Richardsonian Romanesque. The building was designed by architect John Calvin Stevens and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. More information can be found in Section 2, Chapter 1 of this document.

Clinton Transfer Station: The Station provides for disposal of residential and commercial solid waste generated within the Town of Clinton. It also provides solid waste disposal for the Town of Benton. Recently a reuse shop was established which recycles items to the community. Clinton updated permits in 2020 to allow for burning of brush and disposal of demo debris. Tires are sent out for grinding. Residents may turn-in paint for repurposing to Paint Care, a non-profit organization which sends it to third-world countries. The Town of Clinton has drafted a new Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance and will be Article 44 on the Town Meeting Ballot for July 14, 2020. Solid Waste Management is adequate for current and future needs.

The transfer station employs one part-time director, two full-time employees, and other occasional part-time employees. Volunteers man the reuse shop.

Hours of operation: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Location is 41 Old Leonard Wood Road.

The Transfer Station facility comprises two large metal buildings, of which the smaller of the two is approximately 1200 square feet and is currently being used for the Reuse Shop. The larger of the two buildings is approximately 2400 square feet and houses equipment. There are four large roll-on/roll-off containers. There is a truck scale area for weighing materials. Also located at the Transfer Station is the town's sand/salt shed with its own access road.

Emergency Management: The Director is responsible for Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation of natural and man-made disasters. The town employs one Emergency Management Director who works for a stipend. The Emergency Management Director can be contacted by leaving a message at the Town Office.

Public Facilities and Services

Cemetery: A cemetery sexton oversees plans and participates in the daily operation and maintenance of Clinton's cemeteries. He/she is responsible for interments and care and upkeep of the Veterans' Memorial. Mowing of the town's cemeteries is contracted. There are two part-time employees to include a Sexton and Assistant Sexton and also volunteers. Clinton cemeteries will be open to vehicle traffic after May 15 until November 1, but walk-in traffic is allowed at any time. Cemetery information can be found in Section 2, Chapter 1 of this plan.

Highway Maintenance: The maintenance of roads is completed by contract. The contractor's duties include emergency responses; limited winter maintenance; drainage of streets, roads, sidewalks and storm water catch basins; gravel road maintenance; limited asphalt maintenance; vegetation control; sidewalk maintenance; sand removal in the Spring; pavement line marking on crosswalks; signage maintenance; debris removal; and general administration, such as inspection of highways, oversight of contract work, traffic control, and trash removal from town facilities.

Paving of town roads goes out annually for bid and issuance of a contract.

Winter Roads: Winter snow removal, sanding, and salting of all public roads within town is contracted on a three-year contract. The Town of Clinton provides funding for liquid calcium and road salt.

Clinton Water District: The primary duty of the water and sewer district is to maintain systems to efficiently provide public water and process public sewage. The Water District currently has 410 water customers and 360 waste water customers. There is capacity for 200 additional water customers and an additional 300 waste water customers. The capacity of the district, both water and sewer, for future development in the next ten years is more than adequate. For the physical coverage of both the water system and the sewer system, consult the Town Office or the Water District.

The water system consists of one well/pump house, a water tower of 600,000 gallons, which is normally filled to 85%. It has an established well head protection zone. It provides public water mostly to the village area.

The sewer system consists of five pumping stations and mirrors the water system's coverage in the village area. The two lagoons are operated in a series and cover approximately 26 acres and are approximately five feet deep.

There are three full-time employees to include Plant Manager, Senior Systems Operator, and Office Manager. Governance comes from a three person Board of Trustees consisting of Chairman, Treasurer, and Clerk. This Board is not part of Town Government.

Hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Clinton Water District is located at 111 Old Leonard Wood Road.

Public Facilities and Services

Schools: Clinton belongs to MSAD #49 along with Albion, Fairfield, and Benton. The only school in the town is the Clinton Elementary School located at 75 Morrison Avenue and enrolls K-6. Students in grades 7 and 8 attend the Lawrence Junior High School in Fairfield. High School students, grades 9 through 12, attend Lawrence High School, also in Fairfield.

Table 11-1 below indicates no new school construction or expansion is required as the student population is stable. It is expected there will be a gradual decline in enrollment.

Table 11-1
MSAD#49 Enrollment Projections by Age
Source: New England School Development Council

School District: MSAD #49 Fairfield, ME

1/30/2019

| Enrollment Projections By Grade* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-------|
| Birth Year | Births | School Year | PK | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | UNGR | K-12 | PK-12 |
| 2013 | 127 | 2018-19 | 74 | 126 | 147 | 160 | 128 | 174 | 145 | 166 | 160 | 179 | 159 | 156 | 158 | 175 | 0 | 2033 | 2107 |
| 2014 | 155 | 2019-20 | 75 | 150 | 127 | 149 | 161 | 131 | 178 | 149 | 168 | 158 | 173 | 156 | 154 | 154 | 0 | 2008 | 2083 |
| 2015 | 168 | 2020-21 | 76 | 163 | 151 | 129 | 150 | 165 | 134 | 182 | 151 | 166 | 153 | 170 | 154 | 150 | 0 | 2018 | 2094 |
| 2016 | 137 | 2021-22 | 77 | 133 | 164 | 153 | 130 | 153 | 168 | 137 | 184 | 149 | 161 | 150 | 168 | 150 | 0 | 2000 | 2077 |
| 2017 | 130 | 2022-23 | 78 | 126 | 134 | 166 | 154 | 133 | 156 | 172 | 139 | 182 | 144 | 158 | 148 | 164 | 0 | 1976 | 2054 |
| 2018 | 132 | (prov.) 2023-24 | 79 | 128 | 127 | 136 | 167 | 158 | 136 | 160 | 174 | 137 | 176 | 142 | 156 | 144 | 0 | 1941 | 2020 |
| 2019 | 144 | (est.) 2024-25 | 80 | 140 | 129 | 129 | 137 | 171 | 161 | 139 | 162 | 172 | 133 | 173 | 140 | 152 | 0 | 1938 | 2018 |
| 2020 | 142 | (est.) 2025-26 | 81 | 138 | 141 | 131 | 130 | 140 | 175 | 165 | 141 | 160 | 167 | 131 | 171 | 137 | 0 | 1927 | 2008 |
| 2021 | 137 | (est.) 2026-27 | 82 | 133 | 139 | 143 | 132 | 133 | 143 | 179 | 167 | 139 | 155 | 164 | 129 | 167 | 0 | 1923 | 2005 |
| 2022 | 137 | (est.) 2027-28 | 83 | 133 | 134 | 141 | 144 | 135 | 136 | 147 | 181 | 165 | 135 | 152 | 162 | 126 | 0 | 1891 | 1974 |
| 2023 | 139 | (est.) 2028-29 | 84 | 135 | 134 | 136 | 142 | 147 | 138 | 139 | 149 | 179 | 160 | 133 | 150 | 158 | 0 | 1900 | 1984 |

Note: Ungraded students (UNGR) often are high school students whose anticipated years of graduation are unknown, or students with special needs - UNGR not included in Grade Combinations for 7-12, 9-12, etc.

Based on an estimate of births
 Based on children already born
 Based on students already enrolled

Health Care: Northern Light Primary Care, 1309 Main Street, offers primary care and same-day access for non-threatening issues such as sore throats, sprains, infections, and minor wound or burn care. Direct access to Northern Light Sebecook Valley Hospital in Pittsfield and the many specialists throughout the statewide Northern Light Health system is available. Adequate public health and social service programs are readily available in the neighboring communities and especially prevalent in Waterville. Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP) offers affordable and convenient forms of public transportation to medical and social service appointments.

Telecommunications and Public Electric Power: Three-phase power for commercial development is currently adequate. It is available on Pleasant Street, Railroad Avenue to the intersection of Mutton Lane, Main Street north from Baker Street for approximately ½ mile, Baker Street, and Old Leonard Wood Road. High speed internet, telecommunications, and energy infrastructure are adequate in Clinton.

Tree Program: In the past, the Town of Clinton has participated in the Project Canopy Program. There is no anticipated need for further use of this program.

Public Facilities and Services

Conclusions:

- Rural private residential septic tank waste is pumped by a local for hire vacuum trucks with a portion of the fee covering disposal at an approved site.
- Municipal services are adequate to meet the population and demographic changes in the future.
- Clinton has partnered with neighboring communities to reduce costs and/or improve services. Examples are operation of the Transfer Station, dispatch, and schools. See Section 2, Chapter 15, Regional Approach to Land Use Planning for more information.
- The Community's Emergency Response by the Police and Fire Departments is adequate currently and adequate for the future.
- Public Facilities such as the Town Office, Police Office, and Firehouse are currently adequate and require no new construction in growth areas. Section 2, Chapter 12, Government and Fiscal Capacity, Table 12-5, addresses town buildings new construction.

Issues:

Clinton's existing storm water management facilities are adequately maintained, however, the future village reinvention will require improvements.

Clinton's Economic Development Committee must be revitalized.

Policies: Minimum policies required to address state goals:

- (1) To efficiently meet identified public facility and service needs.
- (2) To provide public facilities and services in a manner that promotes and supports growth and development in identified growth areas.

Strategies: Minimum strategies to meet state goals:

- (1) Identify any capital improvements needed to maintain or upgrade public services to accommodate the community's anticipated growth and changing demographics.
- (2) Locate new public facilities comprising at least 75% of new municipal growth-related capital investments in designated growth areas.
- (3) Encourage local sewer and water districts to coordinate planned service extensions with the Future Land Use Plan.
- (4) If public water supply expansion is anticipated, identify and protect suitable sources?
- (5) Explore options for regional delivery of local services.

Public Facilities and Services

Chapter 11, Public Facilities and Services

Issues identified by the Comprehensive Planning Committee with Strategies:

| Issue | Strategy | Responsibility | Action Party | Coordinator | Implementation |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Issue 11-1 The future village reinvention will require improvements in storm water management | Refer to Issue 7-2 | Selectmen | Town Manager | KVCOG, Planning Board, and Ad-hoc Committee | Start 2025 |
| Issue 11-2 Clinton does not have an active Economic Development Committee | Revitalize the committee | Selectmen | Town Manager | KVCOG and Central Maine Growth Council | 2022 |
| | Consider joining the Central Maine Growth Council | | | | |