

Clinton Community Newsletter

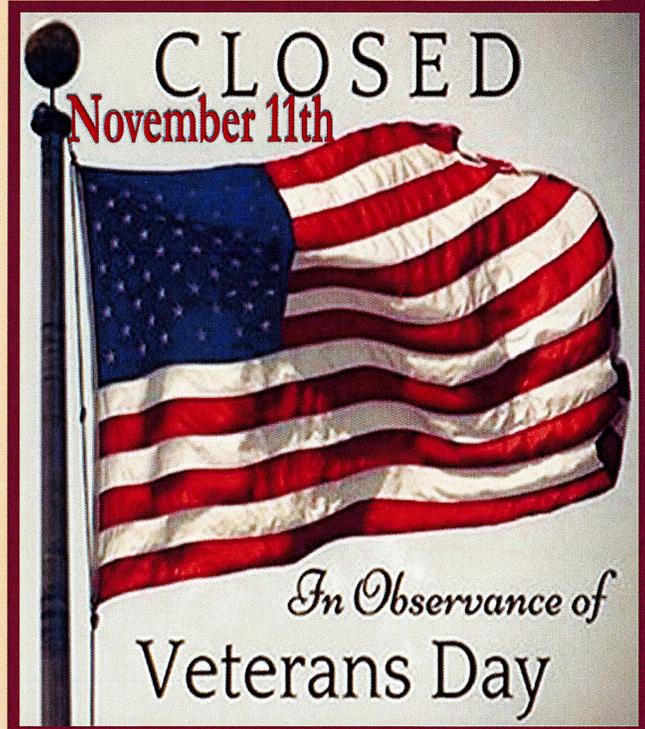
OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2020



(Old Columbus Day)

The Town Office will be closed
Monday, October 12th for
Indigenous Peoples Day.

The Town Office will
be closed November 26th
27th for Thanksgiving.



The Town Office Counter will be **CLOSED** for business
ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 3rd and will reopen at
Noon on Wednesday, November 4th



This closing is necessary to properly staff the election and to enable social
distancing for those waiting in line to vote.

Presidential Election



November 3, 2020

8:00am-8:00pm



Clinton Town Office Building

27 Baker Street

Absentee Ballots will be Available

Monday, October 5, 2020.

- Absentee Ballot Applications are available any time just call or stop by the Town Clerk's Office. The Town Clerk will verify you are a registered voter in Clinton and on October 5th she will mail you a ballot.
- After October 5th an immediate family member can request a ballot for you; or you can call the Town office (426-8511) and request a ballot be mailed to you.
- You can also request a ballot online at www.maine.gov.

The last day to request an absentee ballot

is by "close of business" on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2020



Absentee ballots must be received in the Clerk's Office - 8 pm - November 3rd

Selectmen's Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, October 13th

Tuesday, October 27th

Tuesday, November 10th

Tuesday, November 24th

6:30 p.m.

Live streamed on Facebook beginning
October 13, 2020

Clinton Drop Box

For your convenience voter's may deposit their completed ballot in the town's DROP BOX located in the left door at the main entrance to the Town Office Building. The official ballot drop box will be installed after October 15 at the main entrance.



Published: September 29, 2020

**PRIVATE
PROPERTY
NO
TRESPASSING**



Don't Stress! And don't believe the rumor mill!

Homeowners and taxpayers have every right to decide who comes on their property and the Assessing Team performing a revaluation of property values in Clinton is no exception. However, **the team does not know you are refusing them access to your property unless you tell them.**

Simply provide written instruction to the Assessor's office forbidding them access to your address and sign your name - the Assessing Team will honor your request.

Garnett Robinson, Assessor

Phone: 426-8078

**THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE
HAS MOVED!**

Residents no longer have to wait their turn at the town office counter to make an appointment or to meet with Code Enforcement Officer Frank Gioffre. New signage will soon mark the CEO Office as a separate entrance where the old meeting room was located.

Call: 509-6719

Clinton Recycling Exchange Shop

Recycling reusable items at the Exchange Shop has significantly reduced the waste stream tonnage since we re-opened in June! Shelves have been flooded with new items - don't miss the chance to find a FREE "treasure" on one of Barbara's shelves!

Open Wed thru Sat



Happy Halloween

**Check Out
the improvements at the
Cindy Blodgett Park!**

Thanks to a generous grant from the **Tabitha & Stephen King Foundation**

The Parks & Recreation Committee was able to provide new picnic tables and charcoal grills to accommodate family picnicking at the park. The committee also installed new matting in the children's play areas that promotes child Health and safety.

RANK CHOICE VOTING

Don't be Intimidated

You should not avoid voting because you find Rank Choice Voting confusing.

Simply vote for the candidate of your choice and STOP.

You are not obligated to vote a 2nd or 3rd choice.



**Dog License Starts
October 15th**

Keep your best friend safe!

\$6.00



Understanding and Supporting Clinton Police Department



To avoid more unjust and inaccurate criticism of the **Clinton Police Department** and the spread of harmful misinformation in the community I am reaffirming the following legitimate reasons Clinton police officers leave the borders of Clinton in the execution of their duties. **UNDERSTANDING** policing is critical to an informed discussion of the matter.

Written Mutual Aid Agreements with Area Departments approved by the Board of Selectmen – CPD provides back-up for Winslow, Waterville, Fairfield, Oakland, Kennebec County Sheriff's Department and Maine State Police.

Kennebec County Jail – Transporting a prisoner

South Portland Juvenile Facility – State law requires officers transport a juvenile detainee to South Portland

Kennebec District Attorney's Office – Filing incident reports with the DA for prosecution

Kennebec County Courthouse – Testifying in a trial

Winslow/Fairfield Police Departments – Processing a prisoner according to state law must be done in a neighboring facility because Clinton does not provide the equipment or facility to perform policing procedures and duties within the guidelines of state law.

Interviewing witnesses – Witnesses often live in towns other than Clinton, but the officer must retrieve a statement for his incident report before the district attorney will consider the matter. Officers must go where the case takes them.

Retrieving the Cruiser from maintenance or repair from a facility outside of Clinton. If it is a Ford warrantee matter the cruiser goes to Hights in Skowhegan most everything else is done at Powers Auto.

MSAD # 49 Other than Clinton many elementary students go to Benton elementary, and all of Clinton's Jr. High and High School students attend Lawrence in Fairfield and community policing and building relationships with troubled youth may take us to one of these schools from time to time.

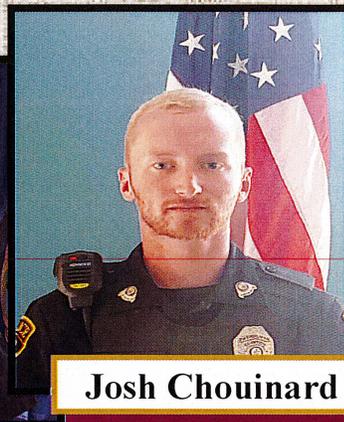
Mandatory Police Training – Training is spread out over the state in departments like Biddeford, Augusta, Bangor, Lewiston, Auburn, etc. We also train at the Criminal Justice Academy in Vasselboro.

K-9 Training – Officer Leathers and Wrex – Officer Leathers travels all over the state for training and testing events to keep himself and Wrex certified in drug detection. In turn, he assists other agencies with whom Clinton has mutual aid agreements by providing K-9 Services.

Cruisers going home with officers provides faster response times and more efficient policing. This is actually another area that draws criticism because, again, an untrained public wants to micro-manage the police department. As the Chief of Police I allow cruisers to be taken to an officer's home when that officer is on a schedule to work several days in a row because he can immediately respond to a call without going to 27 Baker Street to retrieve the cruiser and then respond to the call. This is a management decision made by arranging schedules and assets to provide efficient service and quick response times. The untrained public that wants to complain about this matter over and over and over may continue to do so but their complaints will fall on deaf ears because this is good policy, using sound judgement and is a professional standard practice in other agencies. It is also a practice that best serves the needs of the Town of Clinton.



Erik Maheu



Josh Chouinard

Police Chief Stan "Rusty" Bell
426-9192

News About Town Business

- ◆ **Disposal of Town Equipment** - The Selectmen recently approved the sale by a “best offer” bid of the 1999 New Holland Backhoe used at the Transfer Station. The retirement of “Beulah” as it was affectionately called, necessitated the purchase, as approved by the voters, of a 2003 John Deere 310SG Backhoe. Selectmen also approved the sale of the 2015 Ford Police Interceptor to a Staten Island, New York company that refurbishes police vehicles for re-sale.
- ◆ **LED Streetlight Conversion** - The \$50,000 project approved by the voters for the long-term cost saving item has begun and should be completed by October 30th by Wiswell Electric. We anticipate a 50% savings to Streetlight Expense in the Town Services Budget.
- ◆ **Selectmen’s Meetings “Live” on Facebook** - We are anticipating that October 13th will be the beginning of Selectmen’s Meetings being streamed live on Facebook. No more confusion of who said what or the public not being aware of policy changes. Selectmen are looking forward to the “new” level of transparency in Clinton’s local government. Clinton’s public communication skills are improving!
- ◆ **27 Baker Street Renovation** - The changes made necessary by the Covid 19 pandemic are 85% complete. The most visible change is the conversion of the Banquet Room to a Multi-purpose room where Selectmen’s meetings will be held.



Clearing the Right-of-Way

During the months of October and November the Highway Supervisor will be clearing the town’s rights-of-way of brush and trees on the following roads. The slash and debris will be chipped but anything that can be used for firewood will be cut into 4 foot lengths and piled beside the road.

FREE FOR THE TAKING BY CLINTON RESIDENTS!

PEAVY ROAD - BELLSQUEEZE ROAD - MUTTON LANE



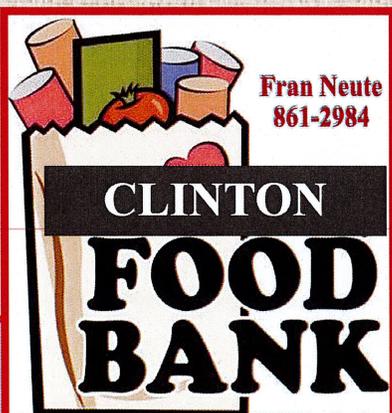
Looking for information on Clinton town services?

WWW.CLINTON-ME.US

Recently there has been confusion about how the Clinton Food Bank, located on Church Street operates. Residents have called the town office asking for information about hours, how and when the food is distributed and residency requirements for using the food bank. So, let’s be clear.

The Town of Clinton does NOT have jurisdiction or authority over the Clinton Food Bank. It is not a town project but rather a privately owned and operated charitable enterprise by the Neute Family.

The town assists the Food Bank only to prove residency to insure the 50+ families and households that currently use the Food Bank are from Clinton. Residents can obtain a residency form at the Town Office.



Property Tax Due Date
1st Installment
Thursday, October 1st



This Vision Statement has been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Once adopted by the voters in June 2021 it will serve as a community goal list for current and future town administrations. Please contact Terry Knowles, Comprehensive Plan Committee Chairman if you have questions or concerns. (238-0635)

Town of Clinton Comprehensive Plan

VISION STATEMENT

Based on community input, through the comprehensive planning process, surveys, input from town officials, public meetings, and interviews, the committee developed the following vision. This vision will guide Clinton into the 2030's.

This vision is based on Clintons current strengths coupled with a desired future end state. Suggested improvements in the current day are addressed as issues in Section 2-Analyses and some are reiterated below.

Preserve

Clinton's character as a rural/farming community, where people like to live, must be maintained. This agrarian economy needs to be sustained. There is a sense of rural brotherhood with diverse incomes and education levels that leads to mutual respect. Citizens enjoy the country living where slow growth, open spaces, wildlife, and outdoor recreation are appreciated. In the Yankee tradition, Clinton remains self-sufficient in town government and the people.

Strengthen

There is a need to build on the respect and care for all throughout the community through teamwork and volunteerism. Citizens need to be instilled with a better understanding of what the town offers through public forums and publicity. Preservation of natural resources must be a priority and the population needs instruction as such. Commercial expansion should not be at the expense of the rural character of the town. This can be accomplished by the continuation of smaller commercial development. Currently there is a commercial/industrial zone, however, town government and the Clinton Water District should plan for expansion to include water and sewer. Recreational opportunities are available, however, there is an expressed need for walking and bike trails with an emphasis on safety such as the development of bike and walking lanes on the existing road system. Motorized trails need to be enhanced. Improvements in public roadway maintenance including ditches and shoulders are necessary, while working in concert with State of Maine and Federal contacts. Additional regional opportunities such as multi-town purchasing, power generation, and regional events, perhaps at the fairgrounds, need to be explored.

Initiate

The village district needs to be redefined to include small shops, a farmers market, commercial/residential housing and the possible future use of the Clinton Elementary School building, if necessary. A regional bus service for shopping, medical appointments, cultural events, and recreational activities needs to be established.