



## Town of Clinton Selectmen's Meeting Minutes April 9, 2024

1. **Call to Order:** 6:32 pm Chairman Towne called the meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Towne opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America
3. **Selectmen Present/Quorum:** Chairman Jeffrey Towne, Vice Chairman Stephen Hatch, Brian Bickford, Ronnie Irving, and Michael Hachey.
4. **Action Items:**  
Approve minutes from March 26, 2024  
Motion to approve by Selectman Hachey  
Seconded by Selectman Irving  
Carried 5-0

### **Next Item- Public Hearing**

Motion to enter Public Hearing by Selectman Irving  
Seconded by Selectman Bickford  
Carried 5-0  
Entered Public Hearing at 6:34pm

2024 Town Meeting Warrant

4 Ordinances:

Street Opening

Solar Ordinance

Moratorium- Transmission Lines

Amendment to the Land Use Ordinance, Affordable Housing Authority.

2024-2025 Budget

Operating Budget \$3,635,211.00

Capital Reserves \$467,000.00

Total- \$4,102,211.00

It is \$82,341.00 less than last year.

### **Reserves:**

\$25,000 Fire Department Equipment Reserve, vehicles.

\$6,000 Fire Department Equipment Reserve, other equipment.

\$8,000 Fire Department Turnout Gear Reserve.

\$3,000 Parks and Recreation Reserve for maintenance on athletic fields.  
\$25,000 Town Facility Maintenance Reserve.  
\$25,000 Transfer Station Equipment Reserve, future backhoe purchase.  
\$25,000 Nuisance Property Reserve.  
\$25,000 Economic Growth and Development, sidewalks, and crosswalks.  
\$300,000 Road Paving Reserve.

Article 31, explanation needs to be changed. It lists the roads that are being paved this year, not next.

Article 32, 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan, \$25,000 for equipment, replacement of the oldest truck, engine 3.

The employees are getting a 3% raise.

The town will provide 100% for employee health insurance and \$900.00 towards a family plan.

Irving asked if enough was budgeted if each employee decides to take the family plan.

TM Swain said no, only four employees want it as of right now.

Geraldine Dixon asked if we need a new backhoe, article 28.

Selectman Irving said it's a reserve, we add money to it every year to save in case we need one.

Joy Jandreau asked for a list of life expectancies of all these pieces of equipment.

Chairman Towne said they don't have a list of their life expectancies.

Irving said it'll be over \$200,000.00 for a new backhoe.

Garrett Lower asked what the verdict was on the Code Enforcement salary.

Article 10, \$65,591.00, no benefits, 32 hours.

TM Swain said that everyone that works for the town is for more hours and benefits for the Code Enforcement Officer. We don't need to call contractors, Garrett does it all. Based on what we have been doing, we have been saving time and money.

Travis Leary also spoke in favor of Garrett. He said they work with the code officer at the fire department for 911 addressing. He said it can get very busy.

TM said we currently have someone that wants to do it. If we were to pay what they are asking for, this would be their primary job.

Vice Chairman Hatch said that Garrett came in and got certified quickly, he helps around town at other facilities, and its important that we step up.

Selectman Hachey asked Judy Irving how much this would affect the budget? She said \$26,842.

Selectman Bickford said we would still be under last year's budget by around \$50,000.

Garrett speaks about the projects he's done since he's been here, and the money he has saved the town. He says he wants to stay, but not if he stays part-time. He said it's a very demanding job.

TM Swain said the budget committee did a great job trying to keep the budget down.

Article 34 the Tax Levy Limit, this has been voted down by the town the past few years. It has affected our savings account.

We've lost at least \$165,000 in revenue sharing.

Due to overuse of surplus, we've lost our Rev 2 from the State.

Article 43 allows the Board to plan appropriately to withdraw from the savings account so that we can maintain an adequate reserve.

Article 35, the interest rate. TM Swain said he used the State's max.

Motion to exit Public Hearing by Selectman Hachey

Seconded by Selectman Hatch

Carried 5-0

Exited at 7:29pm

**Next Item-**

Motion to change Article 10, Code Enforcement/Facilities Maintenance to include 40 hours and benefits by Selectman Hatch

Seconded by Selectman Hachey

Carried 5-0

Changed to \$92,433.00

Page 6, the total should now be \$3,662,054.00.

Motion to accept revised Town Meeting Warrant by Selectman Hatch

Seconded by Selectman Bickford

Carried 5-0

Article 10 should now show what the Selectboard recommends vs. what the budget committee recommends.

**Next Item-** Liquor Storage License

Rita's Catering, 1244 & 1250 Main Street

They will just be storing the liquor there, not selling it.

Motion to approve by Selectman Irving

Seconded by Selectman Hachey

Carried 5-0

**5. Discussion Items:** None

**6. Unfinished Business:** None

**7. Town Manager's Report:**

Clinton Water District, they signed the contract for work on the tower.  
Annual reports are due April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
We are now live with Androscoggin Bank  
The building is being power washed Friday.  
There is a culvert failing on the Horseback Road, there is a dip in the road.  
Selectman Irving said the truck traffic has impacted this a lot.

**8. Supplements and Abatements:** None

**9. Next Meeting-** April 23, 2024

**10. Treasurer's Warrant:**

Treasurer's Warrant #28 \$320,550.84.

Motion to accept by Selectman Bickford  
Seconded by Selectman Hachey  
Carried 5-0

**11. Questions & Comments:**

Geraldine Dixon said the railroad tracks are terrible.  
Selectman Irving said they are supposed to be fixed this summer.  
Terry Knowles said the board will be receiving personal invitations to the school reception, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**12. Adjourn:**

Motion to enter executive session by Selectman Hachey  
Seconded by Selectman Irving  
Carried 5-0  
Entered at 8:03pm  
Exited at 8:23pm

Adjourned at 8:23pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Jessica Harriman*

Jessica Harriman  
Town Clerk