



# Clinton Community Newsletter



## News From the Board of Selectmen

- 1. Code Enforcement** - At the November 10th meeting the Board of Selectmen appointed Clinton resident **Frank Gioffre as Code Enforcement Officer** effective immediately. Residents in need of building permits, plumbing or site inspections may call the town office at **426-8511** to arrange an appointment with Frank.
- 2. Highway Department** - Per voter request at Town Meeting Election the Selectmen have launched a feasibility study as to whether or not the town's highway maintenance can be accomplished by contracted services rather than by town personnel. In January 2016 the results of the study will be provided to the Budget Committee for consideration in the FY 2016/2017 budget.
- 3. Assessing Services** - Selectmen authorized Town Manager Pam Violette to begin a search for permanent Assessing Services - anticipating a new appointment in December.



## November 3rd Election Results

My first election as Town Clerk went smoothly thanks to the hard work of the election clerks. You are all awesome!! Thank you so much!

475 Clinton residents came out to vote on November 3rd. Thank you for your participation.

### Clinton results for the State of Maine Referendum:

Article 1 - Citizens Initiative on Clean Elections - Failed with 188 Yes votes and **287 No votes**

Article 2 - Bond Issue - Senior Housing Construction - Passed with **340 Yes votes** and 133 No votes

Article 3 - Bond Issue - Highways & Bridges - Passed with **325 Yes votes** and 148 No votes

### The results for Clinton's Special Town Meeting Election:

Article 2 - Allowing Day Care facility in Commercial zone passed with **376 Yes votes** and 96 No votes

Article 3 - Transfer Reserve Funds for the purpose of refurbishing Village sidewalks - Passed with **347 Yes votes** and 127 No votes

Melody Fitzpatrick, Town Clerk





# Property Tax Exemptions

Are you taking advantage of allowable property tax exemptions that may be available to you?

**HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION:** You may qualify for a \$10,000 Homestead Property Tax Exemption if you are a permanent Maine resident and have owned your primary residence for 12 months or more in the Town of Clinton. If you believe you qualify please come to the Town Office and request an application.

**VETERAN EXEMPTION:** Veterans of recognized periods of service may qualify for a tax exemption on real estate property or personal property located in the Town of Clinton. If you are a veteran please come to the Town Office and request an application.

These applications **MUST** be received in the Assessor's Office not later than **April 1, 2016** to be reflected on the 2016 tax bills.

## Town Office Holiday Schedule

- Dec 24th - Closing 1 p.m.
- Dec 25th - Closed
- Jan 1st - Closed
- Jan 18th - Closed



*Merry Christmas  
from the  
Town Office Staff !*



Winter is fast approaching and with it we need a few gentle reminders of the changes to be made in our driving routine to keep us and others safe on slippery highways.

First of all, make sure you have adequate visibility before driving. With colder temperatures we often have frost, ice and snow on our windshields. Although it is tempting to attempt to make it down the road your front, side and back windows need to be completely clear before driving. **It is actually against the law to drive with your visibility obstructed. Even worse it is very dangerous.**

Also, do you know Maine law (Title 29-A, 2067 (B)(C)) requires drivers to use **headlights** when adverse atmospheric conditions, (rain, freezing rain, fog or snow) significantly decreases visibility. The law also requires drivers to keep **windshield wipers** in constant use when pedestrians or vehicles are not discernible for 1000 feet ahead.



**Board of Selectmen Meeting**



The Clinton Board of Selectmen meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Clinton Town Office Building.

**Get involved — Please plan to attend!**

- December 8, 2015 ~ December 22, 2015
- January 12, 2016 ~ January 26, 2016
- February 9, 2016 ~ February 23, 2016

## Hello and Happy Holidays from the Clinton Code Enforcement Office

Frank Gioffre, CEO



This is a busy time for Code Enforcement in Clinton as we follow up on a backlog of code issues, organize the office to enable better information management for citizens, define the permitting and inspection processes and create a tracking system for all permits.

The most noticeable change for citizens regarding Code Enforcement, will be flexible hours and a **very mobile Code Officer**. I can be contacted through the town office (426-8511) and, depending on the nature of your business, I will arrange to meet with you at the town office or at your specific location. While the Code Enforcement Officer is a part time position, we are hoping to increase our productivity through a more efficient use of the budget.

For faster response time citizens may contact me directly through email at

[clintonceo04927@gmail.com](mailto:clintonceo04927@gmail.com)

I would like to thank Pam Violette, our town manager, and her staff for their help and assistance during this transition period. They are all true professionals with a positive interest in our town! I have also had valuable assistance from our Police Chief, Craig Johnson, when visiting some difficult properties. Our highway department has been very helpful, along with the “old guys” at the transfer station.

Finally, the citizens I have interacted with on a variety of issues have been friendly and pleasant to work with - several citizens have even helped with research on several topics - for that I thank everyone for the pleasure of spending time with you!



## CLINTON FOOD BANK

This Holiday Season please remember to bring a non-perishable food item with you when you do business at the Town Office or contribute directly to the Food Bank by contacting Peter at 680-



## CLINTON PLANNING BOARD

Michael Hachey, Chairman



The Clinton Planning Board meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Office Building. The current on-going project for the Planning Board is the review of town ordinances and the Comprehensive Plan. Currently there are two vacancies on the Board so this would be an excellent opportunity for YOU to volunteer to insure the health and well being of future economic growth in Clinton.

In partnership with CEO Frank Gioffre recent Planning Board activity resulted in the new **Tradewinds** complex that opened last month. During 2016 a **Dollar General** store, a **Tim Horton's** and a **Discount Store** are planning their grand openings!

**Good things are happening in Clinton!!**

**Next Meeting: December 16th — 7:00 p.m.**





# Last Chance to License the Dog!



Maine law requires all dogs to be licensed each year by December 31st. The month of January is considered a grace period for owners, so there will be no exceptions for the mandatory February 1st **\$25 Late Fee (for each dog)**. Please avoid waiting until the last minute to license your best friend(s) by visiting the Town Clerk's Office during the month of December.

**You MUST have a current Rabies Certificate!**



## HELP US HAVE SAFE WINTER ROADS!

Snow removal from private driveways is a frustrating situation in northern climates and we are sometimes tempted to plow back into the road whatever the town plow truck deposited at the end of our driveway. However, state law holds the property owner responsible NOT the plow truck! As frustrating as this situation may be Maine law (Title 29-A, Section 2396 (4)) states a person **may not** place snow, ice or slush on a public roadway, neither can they allow snow, ice or slush to remain on the roadway if it did not accumulate there naturally.

It's a matter of highway safety and we all must be responsible to look out for one another. Thank you for taking the time to read this and remember Clinton Police Officers do not want to write you a ticket for irresponsible snow removal - we want citizens to know the law. (Incidentally, Maine State statute sets the fine for this violation at \$150 to \$500)



**Please, help us keep you and your neighbors safe!**

## Free Smoke Detectors!

The American Red Cross and the Clinton Fire Department has teamed up to provide as many households in Clinton as possible with **FREE** smoke detectors!

**Don't Miss Out!**

**Call 426-8522**

**Free Installation, too!**



## TRANSFER STATION FEES

(Clinton & Benton residents Only)

Refrigerator	\$12.00
Air Conditioner	\$12.00
Tires (No Rims) under 20"	\$ 2.00
Tires with Rims	\$ 3.00
Vacuum Cleaners	\$ 1.00
Large Plastic Yard Toys	\$ 1.00
Demo (furniture/carpets	
Mattresses & Box Springs	\$96.00 per ton
Brush	\$ 1.00 Minimum-\$61.50 per ton
Construction Debris:	
Shingles/Sheetrock/Wood	\$96.00 per ton
Metal	\$25.00 per ton
Compost	\$15.00 per ton
TV's & Computer Monitors	Free
Electronic Items	\$ 2.50 each

**Christmas Trees Free**

All commercial haulers or regular solid waste are to be weighed and accessed a fee - \$79.50 per ton for household waste.

# CLINTON TRANSFER & RECYCLING CENTER

## ZERO - SORT

- CARDBOARD
- PAPER
- PLASTIC
- GLASS
- ALUMINUM
- TIN

For more information on Zero-Sort Recycling, please contact:

- Clinton Town Office  
207-426-8511
- Clinton Transfer Station  
Gerald Howard, Director  
207-426-8187

### Transfer Station Hours

Sunday: Closed  
Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: Closed  
Wednesday: 7 am to 5 pm  
Thursday: 7 am to 5 pm  
Friday: 7 am to 5 pm  
Saturday: 7 am to 5 pm



**ZERO-SORT  
RECYCLING**



## HOW RECYCLING GETS DONE

Zero-Sort is the single bin recycling service that puts more of your stuff back into the world and less of it into the landfill. No separation or sorting of materials needed—it all goes into the same bin—please make sure containers are rinsed and free of food waste.

### ACCEPTED MATERIALS

Labels and caps can be left on all containers

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Catalogs
- Telephone/Soft/ Hard Cover Books
- Junk Mail/ Envelopes (All Types), Staples & Paper clips OK
- Cereal & Shoe Boxes
- Aluminum Tray & Pie Plates
- Empty Aerosol Cans
- Corrugated Boxes
- Milk/Juice Cartons
- Container (1-7)
- Soda/Juice/Water Bottles (glass or plastic)
- Milk/Bleach/Shampoo/ Detergent Bottles
- Food Containers
- Glass Jars
- Metal Cans (Tin/Steel Or Aluminum)

### ACCEPTED RIGID PLASTICS

We also accept these “Rigid Plastics” as long as they have a little bit of bend in them.

- 1 & 5 gallon Buckets with handle attached
- Milk/Soda Crates
- Laundry Baskets
- Small plastic bins
- Plastic Toys
- Landscape Trays



### **NOT ACCEPTED IN ZERO-SORT RECYCLING**

The following items are not acceptable as recyclables, but they are accepted as waste and can be put into the designated waste containers located at the Transfer Station.

- Mirrors
- Light bulbs
- Dishes
- Hard/Brittle Plastic
- Computer Monitors/Key Boards
- Children’s Toys
- Plastic Bags/Films
- Styrofoam
- Ceramics
- Window Glass