



**TOWN OF CLINTON
SELECTMEN'S MINUTES FOR
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET – FY 2020-2021
April 15, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.**

**This meeting is being held via ZOOM video conferencing with
Selectmen, department heads, budget committee members and the town manager
participating from remote locations.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER: 6:34 p m** - Chairman Towne opened the meeting.
2. **SELECTMEN PRESENT/QUORUM:** Jeffrey Towne, Chairman, took an audio roll call of Selectmen to determine quorum: Stephen Hatch, Vice Chairman – No Response; Ronnie Irving – Present; Edward Blanchard – Present; and Brian Bickford – Present. Chairman Towne declared a quorum of four members with Selectman Hatch absent.

6:42 p.m. Chairman Towne asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Municipal Budget. Selectman Irving moved to open the Public Hearing. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

Chairman Towne advised the public the 2020 Town Meeting Election scheduled for Tuesday, June 9th had been rescheduled by order of Governor Mills to Tuesday, July 14th. Further, he advised the Secretary of State ordered elections would not only be by secret ballot but also would be conducted via absentee ballots.

3. ACTION ITEMS:

a. **Annual Municipal Expense and Revenue Budget – FY 2020-2021** – Chairman Towne asked the attending public if there were questions regarding the budget draft being considered. Coleen Bean asked why the town was paying a Parks and Recreation Director when the committee had always been run by volunteers. TM Haggerty explained that the current budget had been an experiment to see if the P & R could be successful with a Director's position accountable to the Town Manager for monthly activities. In July 2018 the committee was virtually a non-performer except for taking care of ball fields and the December skating rink. She stated the experiment had been extremely successful in FY 2019-20 with the committee having several fund raisers and activities, i.e., Festival of Trees in December, Festival of Easter Baskets, in April, Concerts in the Park, Trick or Trunk for Oct, face painting, landscape painting classes.

TM Haggerty said the problem with the committee is lack of volunteers to set up and clean up after events. She noted that Willey Moody had been very faithful to help the Director, Tina Cassidy, who virtually was on her own running the event side of the committee's program. TM Haggerty noted that Tina will resign June 30th because it is too much work for one person to carry and volunteers are non-existent, inconsistent or uncooperative. Colleen asked if another person was being considered for the position in the new budget. TM Haggerty said she had a promising individual interested in trying it for FY 2020-2021.

TM Haggerty advised that she had enough doubt about the performance of this committee that she had presented 2 budgets to the Budget Committee. One with a Director and one without. The Budget Committee chose to go another year with a Director because Tina's performance had proven it can be done.

Chairman Towne added that Tina had been successful in acquiring an \$8,000 grant from the Steven King Foundation for the maintenance and restoration of the Cindy Blodgett Park in the Spring of 2020.

There were no other questions or comments regarding the FY 2020-2021 so Chairman Towne called for a vote to accept the FY 2020-2021 Municipal Expense and Revenue Budget in the amount of \$2,883,098 and \$1,731,260 respectively leaving \$1,151,838 to be raised by taxation.

b. Annual Reserve Transfer Budget & 5 Yr. CIP Budget – There were no questions regarding the Transfer Budget and the 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan Budget.

c. Town Warrant for Town Meeting Election – June 9th – Chairman Towne asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on the 2020 Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Irving moved to open the Public Hearing on the 2020 Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

Coleen Bean asked for insight from Chairman Towne about the Revaluation. Chairman Towne responded that Article 33 dealt directly with the question of moving \$200,000 from surplus to a reserve account for the purpose of paying for a Revaluation. Further, he stated that Article 40 would give the Selectmen the authority to abide by Maine law (Title 30-A, Section 5722, Para. 7) which mandates a revaluation every 10 years.

There were no more questions regarding the Town Meeting Warrant, so Chairman Towne asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing on the warrant.

Selectman Irving moved to close the public hearing on the warrant. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

d. Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance – Selectman Irving moved to open the Public Hearing on the Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

Selectmen discussed the revisions and corrections made to the ordinance draft since their last meeting but offered no further revisions. Terry Knowles observed that in his opinion there was a disconnect in language in Section 9, Item #3. There were no further comments or questions.

Selectman Irving moved to go out of Public Hearing on the Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

4. NEXT AGENDA ITEMS – Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – To be determined

5. WRITTEN COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

6. **ADJOURN – 6:55 p m.** Selectman Irving moved to adjourn. Selectman Bickford seconded the motion. Chairman Towne took an audio vote - Blanchard/Yes; Bickford/Yes; Irving/Yes; Towne/Yes. Vote: 4-0 Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Earla J. Haggerty

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Town Manager/Deputy Clerk

