



Town of Clinton Selectmen's Meeting Minutes April 14, 2026

CALL TO ORDER at 6:32 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SELECTMENT PRESENT/QUORUM: Jeffrey Towne, Chairperson, Stephen Hatch, Vice Chairperson, Ronnie Irving, Brian Bickford, Michael Hachey

1. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Revised Clinton Land Use Ordinance:

Public Question (Stephen Hebert): *Will that replace the existing ordinance?*

TM: it is a complete re-write; the Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer worked with a planner from KVCOG, because of outdated wording, referenced laws that no longer exists, and a lot of changes around housing.

2. Site Plan Review Ordinance: TM: The process of the existing 2021 Comprehensive Plan does not help guide all the growth the town has seen. Both ordinances take all that growth that continues to happen and allows for it to be approved.

*Next Public Hearing on Town Meeting Warrant, Site Plan Ordinance, and Land Use Ordinance on May 26, 2026.

3. June 2026 Town Meeting Warrant:

Public Concern (Paul): Article 13

The Winslow Food Cupboard is receiving \$2,000 and the Clinton Food Bank is receiving no money, why is that? Chairman Towne: the Clinton Food Bank did not receive any money last year. TM adds that the Clinton Town Office has received several public concerns about unreliability of hours and the quality of the food.

Selectmen Irving: during COVID, the Winslow Community Cupboard provided more services; therefore, back then the Selectboard and committees thought [the Town] would get more out of Winslow's than Clinton's.

Paul was unaware of the aforementioned concerns; explains the Clinton Food Bank is currently serving 25-30 families every two weeks. He asks how to request?

TM: a request by letter, up until December 31st, to give to the Budget Committee.

Chairman Towne raises the question of how that money is managed; TM says the lack of transparency on how the money is spent has been a worry in the past, because most nonprofit organizations will send a yearly report on how the money was spent/used.

Selectmen Hatch withdraws motion of approving Clinton Food Bank \$2,000 and restated the motion to approve \$1,000 to each nonprofit.

Seconded by Selectmen Hachey

Motion carries 5-0

Public Comment (Judy Irving): Corrections of formatting issues to Warrant.

Public Comment/Concern (Terrance Knowles): Article 34 and 35

Article 34 - Comment #1– *Should encourage the voters to accept the Clinton School for the following reasons: (1) right of way to the fields, and (2) gym, kitchen, and classroom space.*

Article 34 – Wording changed to: *“Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept a deed to transfer ownership of the real property known as the Clinton Elementary School, located on Morrison Avenue, Clinton Maine, (tax map 021-019), to be granted by Maine School Administrative District 49 to the Town of Clinton, without payment of money or assumption of indebtedness by the Town of Clinton, and, to further authorize the Selectboard to manage this property, which authorization expressly includes the Town's lease or sale of the property to other public or private entities with the Town's reservation, by title or easement, of its public access to the MARA Sports Complex.”*

Article 35 - Comment #1– *requests we add the words: “economic development, or for sale of” after “Community Center,” because the article says “purposes” and only list one purpose, and he knows it is assumed that there are other uses and would like to see those other uses listed.*

Article 35 – Wording changed to: *“operation and maintenance of the former Clinton Elementary School facility during the fiscal year 2026-2027, for municipal uses and purposes, such as the Clinton Community Center, economic development or sale, in the event the Town accepts the transfer of ownership for this property from MSAD 49?”*

Selectmen Hachey motions to make changes to Article 34 and 35

Seconded Selectmen Hatch

Motion carries 5-0

Concern #1: *of Article 35 passing, there be a plan developed which protects some sort of community center; and does not unnecessarily burden the taxpayers. (*With handout for Selectboard to review alternatives).*

Concern #3: *\$155,300 – The School Repurposing Committee discussed projected incomes of \$68,000; I do not believe that will be close to what will be taken in, that it will be a lot less.*

Public Concern (Judy Irving):

Concern #1: *What happens if Article 34 passes, but Article 35 does not?*

Chairman Towne: the Town would be managing the property until the sale. TM adds that the Selectboard uses the Overlay fund for unexpected expense.

Concern #2: *The Budget Committee did not see the \$155,300 during the budget process.* TM explains that it's not part of the regular budget. Chairman Towne adds that it is an appropriation article; the article will approve the Town to draw from surplus to pay for operating expenses.

Public Concern (Stephen Hebert): Article 8

What is the discrepancy between the Budget Committee's recommendation (\$610,438) and the Selectboard's recommendation (\$708,028)? Chairman Towne explains that the Selectboard's recommendation is with the four full-time patrol officers. TM provides a breakdown of the Police Department positions: (1) Chief of Police – not patrol, 25 hr/week, (2) Lieutenant – investigator/supervisor role, will cover patrol as needed, is included in the full-time (3) Administrative Corporal – not patrol, (4) 2 full-time officers, (5) one part-time officer, (6) 2 reserve officers.

Article 8 wording changed to – *“To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 708,028 for the Police Department Budget Selectboard Recommend: Yes *Funding covers operations of 17 hours per day local coverage with 4 Full-time Officers and Part-time/ Reserve Officers. Budget Committee Recommends \$610,438”*

5. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2026

Amended based on Chairman Towne's suggestion to Fire Contract wording.
Motion so moved by Selectmen Irving
Seconded by Selectmen Hachey
Motion carries 5-0

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes of March 31, 2026

Motion so moved by Selectmen Irving
Seconded by Selectmen Bickford
Motion carries 5-0

3. Approval of 2026 Town Meeting Warrant

Motion to approve by Selectmen Hachey
Seconded by Selectmen Irving
Motion carries 4-1, Selectmen Bickford votes nay

4. Rita's Catering Liquor License Renewal

Motion so moved by Selectmen Hachey
Seconded by Selectmen Hatch
Motion carries 5-0

5. Town Report Dedication

Terrance Knowles suggested Cemetery Sexton – Fred Lunt

6. Library Phase II Update

Rebecca Turlo, Library Trustee, and TM: retain Blane Casey as the contractor; received a quote of \$318,266.13, without the addition of a sprinkler system (\$37,623.13 – special water line from Winn Ave.). The sprinkler addition was not included in Phase 2 during the initial plans; it is now a requirement of the Fire Marshall's office for two reasons: (1) use of the basement for public use and (2) the egress in the basement and on the ground floor.

Rebecca Turlo: the combined library trust funds and contingency fund totals of \$600,000 budget. Phase 1 will be done at the end of April.

Motion to approve Library Phase II with change order so moved by Selectmen Hachey
Seconded by Selectmen Hatch

Motion carries 5-0

7. Burnham EMS Contract

\$65,000/ year with quarterly installments for services; TM says this contract (1 Year) has not been officially offered to the Town of Burnham, the \$65,000 has. The \$65,000 is considered a reimbursement, it goes back into the General Fund.

Motion to approve contract so moved by Selectmen Irving

Seconded by Selectmen Hachey

Motion carries 5-0

8. Waste Hauling Contract (3-Year)

Chairman Towne: *“This agreement shall automatically renew for successive one-year terms unless either party provides written notice of termination or intent to renegotiate at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the current term.”* These are agreeable terms with Matt Bolster.

Chairman Towne suggests: (1) putting the dollar amount for each specified year rather than saying 3%; (2) instead of the 30 day, re-word it to 120 days for budgeting purposes; (3) take out the recycling section, which has not been used in recent years; (4) change two roll out containers to three.

Consensus is to rewrite the contract each year instead of an amendment.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Selectboard Packet Delivery

TM: Town is paying for each Selectboard member’s town email (\$30/each); the previous TM set these up due to FOAA because board members are using their personal emails. TM presenting the idea for electronic packets and/or hard copies available on Thursdays for pick-up, instead of relying on the Police Department due to their call schedules.

TM says the packets will be available online for the public to view the contents.

Chairman Towne, the consensus is the current delivery system (P.D.)

2. Fire Station Update

TM and Chief met today: on track for June completion; CMP did connect, the Town will get the \$50,000 back due to not needing the phase III power; Brandon Hale secured a \$10,000 grant for the exhaust system and \$5,000 grant for washer for the gear; resulting in an estimated \$65,000 deducted from the \$3.9 million budget.

Chief Barton: a new roof will be replaced at the cost of Blane Casey; the original contractors made the ribbing too tight, which created cracks in the drywall.

Grand opening will be the second week of July 2026.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Fire Union Contract Selectboard Signatures – the agreement between the Town of Clinton and Clinton Professional Firefighters Local 5412 International Association of Firefighters, AFL CIO for 3-Year Contract: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029 approved at meeting March 24, 2026 by a vote of 3-2.

8. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT:

1. Public Hearing - FEDCO Seeds’ CDBG Grant

TM requests a Public Hearing held on April 28, 2026 as part of FEDCO's process in receiving the grant money of \$60,000.

Motion to approve Public Hearing so moved by Selectmen Hachey

Seconded by Selectmen Hatch

Motion carries 5-0

2. Fire Station – 3 New Hires (Medics); their will be a cost for training to increase coverage.

3. Un-posting Roads –during the next couple of weeks; Selectmen Irving suggest leaving Goodrich Rd. and Rogers Rd. posted.

9. SUPPLEMENTS AND ABATEMENTS: None

10. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: Tuesday, April 28, 2026

1. FEDCO Seeds CDBG Application Public Hearing

2. Bolsters' Hauling Contract

3. Yankee Communications quote for tower on Hill Rd.; and quote from Stryker for maintenance on all devices and infrastructure.

4. Annual Report – cover, dedication.

11. TREASURER'S WARRANT:

Motion to approve Treasurer's Warrant #28 in the amount \$708,164.74 by

Selectmen Bickford

Seconded by Selectmen Irving

Motion carries 5-0

12. COMMENT/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Stephen Hebert asked about River Rd. paving; TM says nothing has been mentioned about that road; Hinckley Rd. will be paved.

13. Adjourn: 8:33 pm

Motion to adjourn by Selectmen Hachey

Seconded by Selectmen Irving

Motion carries 5-0

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Koller