



Town of Clinton Selectmen's Meeting Minutes January 28, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Towne called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
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 January 14, 2025
Motion to approve by Selectman Irving
Seconded by Selectman Hachey
Carried 5-0

Next Item- Winter Plowing Contract with Nitram Excavation
July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028

Selectman Irving says he is going to abstain from voting on this, but he recommends that the numbers should be changed because they are already over the fuel amount.

Selectman Hachey said Selectman Irving shouldn't be speaking on this topic because he works for the contractor.

TM Swain met with Scott from Nitram, he said it will be \$10,000/mile, or we can put it out to bid.

The contract amount went up 3% each year.
Scott from Nitram would like to wait until it gets closer to the end of the contract to see what the price of fuel looks like at that time.

This is tabled until a later meeting.

Next Item- School Committee

TM Swain and Anthony Barton would like to create a school committee to discuss options for the old school building when the district moves to the new school in Benton.

The committee would have 9 voting members, a quorum of 5.
Their goal would be to use the building for activities and events for the community.

Terry Knowles said that the district probably won't be signing it over to the town until June of 2026. They aren't sure what the actual time frame looks like for the new school.

The old school must be accepted by the voters, so if we aren't receiving the building until June of 2026, then we can wait a little while on the planning part.

TM Swain said we can at least wait until the next meeting so he can meet with the superintendent to get more information.

5. Discussion Items:

Peaks Renewable Posted Road Permit

During non-posted season, they can travel Hill Road. We can't give them permission to travel Hill Road during posted season because it runs into Canaan, and Canaan said no.

Selectman Irving said they have been on Goodrich Road, and they are running with the 3rd axle up. He said he also sees them on Battle Ridge.

Tim Wade from Peaks said if Tim Flood is hauling manure from one farm to another on his own, that has nothing to do with Peaks.

Tim Wade said Caverly's will be joining them soon.
He introduced the new plant manager as of April 1st, Jordan. Jordan has been with them since they installed the new plant.

Tim asked which road they would like them to travel.

The Board told him Horseback Road when the posters are up.

Next Item- FY 2025-2026 Budget

Selectman Bickford said he is assuming we haven't made the second payment for the Debt Service budget.

TM Swain said it is paid monthly.

Bickford also asked about the \$50,000 he has in the budget to heat the new school building. He said that is for half a year, is it really going to cost \$100,000 a year to heat.

TM Swain said that is just a place holder number for now.

TM Swain said parks and rec requested money to have someone mow the ballfields.
Chairman Towne said that is already covered in the current mowing contract with Grass Eaters.

Selectman Bickford asked if they are putting a hold on these walking trails, because if the Town sells the old school building, the parking lot and the road outback go with it.

Capital Reserve report, Fire rescue reserve- Chairman Towne asked what the balance is. TM Swain said \$50,000.

Chairman Towne asked what the status was on the new ambulance with Autotronics. TM Swain said delivery in December.

Next Item- Accounting clean up update
No update, waiting on the 2023 audit.

6. Unfinished Business:

Foreclosure property, 604 Canaan Road. The property was foreclosed on by the Town on January 7th, the owners called the next day to pay taxes. We told them that if they pay the taxes in full, meaning all taxes due on the account, then we would write a quit claim deed back to James O'Doherty and Kelly O'Doherty.

They paid in full, TM Swain has a deed made up for the Board to sign.

Motion to approve the deed and allow Chairman Towne to sign for the Board by
Selectman Hachey
Seconded by Selectman Irving
Carried 5-0

7. Town Manager's Report:

TM Swain asked the Board if they would like to discuss the renewal of the TM contract at the next meeting.

There has been a change in policy with the Government, all Federal funds are frozen. That includes our 2 million dollar grant for the new fire station. He is trying to get answers.

TM Swain said he would like to get a bond quote from banks. He said we could get a bond anticipation note from a bank. It's a way that we can get the money that we were approved for by the voters, before we receive the actual bond. Bond banks only give out money at certain times a year. It costs a little bit of interest, but it can be paid off with the bond once we get it.

Selectman Irving said we are already close to the max on the building.

TM Swain said they have lowered some of the contingencies.

Selectman Bickford asked how much they have lowered the cost of the new fire station. TM Swain said they don't have a final number yet.

Burnham rescue calls- We are already covering the Burnham ambulance calls and have been for years. We are looking into getting paid by The Town of Burnham to be the first to respond to their rescue calls.

8. Supplements and Abatements: None

- 9. Next Meeting:** February 11, 2025
School Advisory Committee
Executive Session for the Town Manager's contract
FY 2025/2026 Budget

- 10. Treasurer's Warrant:**
Treasurer's Warrant #20 \$159,530.43
Motion to approve by Selectman Bickford
Seconded by Selectman Irving
Carried 5-0

- 11. Questions & Comments:**
Ken Paul asked why the Winter Plowing contract won't be put out to bid when the current contract ends.
Chairman Towne said because they are a trusted contractor, and there aren't many other plowing contractors in the area.

- 12. Adjourn:**
Motion to enter executive session for the Police Department Contract by Selectman Hachey
Seconded by Selectman Hatch
Carried 5-0

Entered Executive session at 7:50pm

Exited Executive session at 8:30pm

Motion to approve the 2025-2028 Police Department Contract by Selectman Hachey
Seconded by Selectman Hatch
Carried 5-0

Adjourned at 8:32pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Harriman

Jessica Harriman
Town Clerk