



Town of Clinton Selectmen's Meeting Minutes March 26, 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 12, 2024
Motion to approve by Selectman Hachey
Seconded by Selectman Irving
Carried 4-0, Selectman Hatch was absent from that meeting.

Approve Minutes from March 19, 2024
Motion to approve by Selectman Bickford
Seconded by Selectman Irving
Carried 4-0, Selectman Hachey was absent from that meeting.

Next Item- Transfer Station pads
Al Taylor \$17,500.00

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

Next Item- 2024 Spring Paving Bids

Bid #6 B&B Paving
\$316,000
\$2,501/ton

Bid #5 Littlefield Paving
\$280,235.79
\$2,501/ton

Bid #4 Roundy Paving
\$264,290.00
\$2,470/ton

Bid #3 Pike \$263,993.60
\$2,470/ton

Bid #2 Hopkins \$255,076.05
\$2,099/ton

Bid #1 Wellman \$206,675.65
\$1,911/ton

The town has \$233,000 for paving.

Motion to accept Wellman Paving bid by Selectman Bickford
Seconded by Selectman Hatch
Carried 5-0

Next Item- Fire Station Roof- They are keeping the heating system, they are going to work around it.

This is tabled until the next meeting.

Next Item- Town Office copier
No update on how we can pay it off. Still working on it.

5. Discussion Items:

4 ordinances
Road Opening
Affordable Housing
Solar revision
Transmission Moratorium

Chairman Town asked if the Planning Board approved the affordable housing ordinance. Garrett Lower said they didn't have enough people to talk about it.

The ordinances will be on the Town Meeting Warrant.

Health Insurance Plans-
TM sent the Board copies of the insurance plans that show the costs.
The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend the \$2,100 towards an employee and children plan.
Selectman Irving asked if he reached out to anyone for other pricing.
TM said no, he hasn't.

TM said if an employee decided not to take the insurance, they get around \$175 each pay period.

Motion to approve Town Meeting Warrant by Selectman Irving

Seconded by Selectman Hachey

Carried 5-0

Article 10- Code Enforcement Budget, TM Swain said that the law says that employees that work over 30 hours are eligible for benefits, but it is for businesses with at least 50 employees.

The budget committee's recommendation is part-time, no benefits, \$65,591.00.

Chairman Towne asked what the TM's recommendation is.

TM Swain said we get a good deal right now with Garrett, him being here for Code and for facilities work. He said we will save money by having him do the work instead of contracting it out.

Selectman Irving said he doesn't think there is enough work throughout the town for it to be worth it.

TM Swain said we have also brought in more revenue since July than we did the whole year last year.

Selectman Bickford asked what his hours would be.

TM said M-F, he may work less during the week if he has a weekend inspection, so they will be flexible.

Selectman Bickford asked if there would be overtime, TM said there will be no overtime.

TM said Garrett would use Fridays for facilities work, since the office is closed to the public.

He will have set hours during the week for people to stop in without an appointment.

Right now, it is Monday-Thursday 9:00am-12:00pm each day.

With 40 hours and benefits, the Code Enforcement/Facilities budget would be \$92,433.00.

This will be discussed more at the Public Hearing on April 9th.

6. Unfinished Business:

7. Town Manager's Report:

Library steps June 27th

Quotes for the new rescue will be at the April 23rd meeting.

The fire department is applying for a forestry grant.

Library patron numbers have doubled since last year.

Hondo is making great progress in training.

The City of Waterville reimbursed Clinton for Officer Leathers, \$16,000.00.

Transfer Station truck, the inspection runs out this month, it needs a lot of work to get a sticker, more than we paid for it when we bought it.

They received prices for flooring in the town office, its going to be under \$5,000.

8. Supplements and Abatements:

Evergreen Mobile Home Park- These properties were receiving the homestead exemption when they were not eligible.

2023-8 \$195.55
2023-9 \$253.68
2023-10 \$222.10
2023-11 \$274.51
2023-12 \$264.60

Motion to approve by Selectman Hachey
Seconded by Selectman Irving
Carried 5-0

9. Next Meeting- April 9, 2024

Public Hearing

Town Meeting Warrant and Ordinances
Liquor holding license for Rita's Catering

10. Treasurer's Warrant:

Treasurer's Warrant #26 \$146,156.02.

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

11. Questions & Comments:

Steve Hebert stepped up to the podium.

His first question was if Peaks Renewable applied for a permit to travel on our posted roads. The Board said they did.

He also asked about the executive session on the labor contract, he wanted to know why the public was not invited to that when they have the option to invite them. He said it is state law that the public can attend if both parties agree. He wants to know why they are not inviting the public. He said even though it's a collective bargaining agreement, that's no reason to leave the public out.

He then turned the podium to face Officer Chouinard. He said he now would like to speak about what has been going on around his house for over 30 years.

He said the last 12 years there haven't been any sportsman people down by the cove. He said the only people that have been in there shooting shotguns, are members of law enforcement. He said the last ones to be in there were law enforcement from Clinton.

He asked Officer Chouinard if he had been in there. Officer Chouinard said nope.

Steve said there was someone in there that looked a lot like him.

He said that the cove is closed to shotguns.

Officer Chouinard asked him who closed it.

Steve said he did.

Officer Chouinard said he is not allowed to close it himself, he does not own the river. Steve said next time he's there, bring his summons, and summon him to court. He said what Officer Chouinard has been trained on is the law, there's a lot more that comes with the law, ethics. He said they will settle this in the court room. He said his wife was struck in the head from a shotgun projectile by a law enforcement officer, and it wasn't investigated. He walked away from the podium after that.

Chairman Towne said he saw in the paper that the County is raising their taxes \$100,000 for Clinton, 44%.

TM Swain said he budgeted for a 10% raise.

12. Adjourn:

Motion to enter executive session by Selectman Irving

Seconded by Selectman Hachey

Entered executive session at 7:55pm.

Exited at 8:26pm

The Selectboard reviewed with the Code Enforcement Officer and property owner of 1842 Bangor Rd, the notice from the CEO that the building was not safe to be lived in. Currently the board is not pursuing the matter legally, but the order does remain in effect.

The CEO and TM will continue to work with the property owner to resolve the issues.

Entered 2nd executive session at 8:30pm

Exited at 8:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Harriman

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Town Clerk