



MEETING MINUTES

Township of Clinton Mayor and Council
April 10, 2024
7:00 p.m.

1370 Route 31 North, Annandale, New Jersey 08801

Council President Strauss read the following into the record at 7:04 pm: "Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act. On April 8, 2024, a copy of this agenda was sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and made available to the public on the Township's website."

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Councilman Glaser	Present
Councilman Kochanowski	Present
Councilwoman Switlyk	Absent
Council President Strauss	Present
Mayor Mullay	Absent

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA ONLY– Comments should be limited to three (3) minutes.

There were no comments from the public.

APPROVAL OR CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES

Councilman Glaser motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Councilman Kochanowski seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mullay absent).

1. Regular Session meeting minutes from March 13, 2024.
2. Regular Session meeting minutes from March 27, 2024.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Mayor and Council and will be enacted by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless

requested by the Mayor, a Council Member, or member of the public, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

Councilman Glaser motioned to approve the consent agenda; Councilman Kochanowski seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mullaay absent).

1. Approval of bills/vouchers.

TOTALS:

Current	\$55,289.30
Trusts	\$23,807.60
Escrow	\$5,076.48
Unemployment	\$24,613.62
Grants	\$223.25
Recreation	\$256.81
Capital	\$3,195.00
Dog License	\$3,120.00
GRAND TOTAL:	\$115,582.06

2. Resolution 2024-88 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton authorizing the hire of Ruth Mulligan as a temporary part-time Violations Clerk in the Clinton Township Municipal Court.

RESOLUTION

2024 – 88

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON AUTHORIZING THE HIRE OF RUTH MULLIGAN AS A TEMPORARY PART-TIME VIOLATIONS CLERK IN THE CLINTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL COURT

WHEREAS, due to the resignation in the Clinton Township Court, there exists a need to hire a temporary part-time Violations Clerk for the Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, Court Administrator Kim Marino recommends that the Governing Body reappoint Ruth Mulligan as the temporary part-time Violations Clerk, effective March 18, 2024; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton as follows:

1. Ms. Ruth Mulligan shall be hired as a temporary part-time Violations Clerk, beginning March 18, 2024, through December 31, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$25 per hour not to exceed up to 20 hours per week.
2. There are no health benefits associated with this position.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

- Resolution 2024-89 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton authorizing the release of certain escrow deposits.

**RESOLUTION
2024 – 89**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CERTAIN ESCROW DEPOSITS**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to issue the following refunds:

Amount	Block / Lot	Applicant	Type of Permit
\$300.00	4/24	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	71.01/1	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	49/10	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	4.01/3.01	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	49/14	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	60.03/6,8	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$300.00	71.01/5	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	49/21	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	4/20.03	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	39/5.01	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$300.00	3/13	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow
\$500.00	89/19.14	Elizabethtown Gas	Escrow

- This resolution shall take effect immediately.

- Resolution 2024-90 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton acknowledging the support of DWI Enforcement Superbowl Weekend Safe Passage Event from February 11, 2024, through February 12, 2024, in the Township of Clinton.

**RESOLUTION
2024 – 90**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
ACKNOWLEDGING THE SUPPORT OF DWI ENFORCEMENT SUPERBOWL
WEEKEND SAFE PASSAGE EVENT FROM FEBRUARY 11, 2024, THROUGH
FEBRUARY 12, 2024, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON**

WHEREAS approximately one-third of all fatal traffic crashes in the United States involve impaired drivers; and

WHEREAS impaired driving crashes killed 11,654 people in the United States in 2020; and

WHEREAS impaired driving crashes cost the United States almost \$44 Billion a year; and

WHEREAS, during the past five years New Jersey's roadways experienced 33,798 crashes and 662 fatalities involving impaired drivers; and

WHEREAS an enforcement crackdown is planned to combat impaired driving; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety, has asked law enforcement agencies throughout the state to participate in the Impaired Driving Enforcement; and

WHEREAS the project will involve increased impaired driving enforcement from February 11, 2024, through February 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS an increase in impaired driving enforcement and a reduction in impaired driving will save lives on our roadways;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township supports the DWI Enforcement Superbowl Weekend Safe Passage Event through Somerset County Prosecutors office from February 11, 2024, through February 12, 2024, and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Glaser reported the Planning Board met on April 1st for normal administrative matters, with the two North Hunterdon Capital reviews being carried to a future meeting. The meeting scheduled for April 15th has been canceled but the Board of Adjustment will be holding a special meeting on that day. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for May 6th. The Highlands Council Regional Master Plan Committee will have a meeting on April 15th to discuss the adoption of the pending warehouse and land use capability zone map amendments, and discuss an affordable housing amendment to the Regional Master Plan Committee. The Sewerage Authority met on April 4th for routine matters. Next meeting is scheduled for May 9th at 8:30 am. The Public Hearing for the 2024 Township Budget is set for Wednesday April 24th at 7 pm.

Councilman Kochanowski shared that Community Day is on April 27th starting at 2 pm.

Council President Strauss shared that the Board of Education's final budget is scheduled for April 29th at 7 pm. The Historical Commission is completing a grant application for the Vought House and has been planning Community Day items. Reports from the Police, Fire, and EMS regarding updates from the Departments and earthquake have been shared.

William Close thanked everyone who was involved with the earthquake assessments and helping residents this past Friday. No major damage was reported, and Township personnel will continue to check the Township buildings and trails for the next few days following the earthquake and settling.

The Council thanked Mr. Close for his assistance on the earthquake matters.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

1. ORDINANCE #1195-2024 – An Ordinance of the Township of Clinton Regulating the Storage of Salt and Other Solid De-icing Materials on Private Properties, Consolidating Existing Section Required for MS4 Municipal Storm Water Permit and Amending Chapter 220 of the “Code of the Township of Clinton” Entitled “Sewers and Sewage Disposal”.

Councilman Glaser motioned to introduce the ordinance; Councilman Kochanowski seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mulla absent).

2. ORDINANCE #1196-2024 – An Ordinance of the Township of Clinton Regulating Tree Removal and Replacement and Adopting a New Chapter of the “Code of the Township of Clinton” Entitled “Tree Removal and Replacement”.

Councilman Kochanowski motioned to introduce Ordinance 1196-2024; Councilman Glaser seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mulla absent).

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution 2024-91 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton authorizing the Township to apply for a New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Local Recreation Improvement Grant in the amount of approximately \$100,000.00 to develop playground space at Bundt Park.

Council President Strauss motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-91; Councilman Kochanowski seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mulla absent).

RESOLUTION

2024 – 91

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO APPLY FOR A NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$100,000.00 TO DEVELOP PLAYGROUND SPACE AT BUNDT PARK

WHEREAS, the Township of Clinton desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to carry out a project to develop a playground space at Bundt Park;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Township of Clinton does hereby authorize the application for such a grant and recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Clinton also, upon the receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Clinton and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

William Close

Acting Township Administrator

Thomas Silva

Director of Recreation

- 2. Resolution 2024-92 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton authorizing the submission of a letter of support for S-2946 / A-4505, for New Jersey’s Medicaid reimbursement rate for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Basic Life Support transportation.

Council President Strauss motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-92; Councilman Kochanowski seconded.

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote (Councilwoman Switlyk and Mayor Mulla absent).

**RESOLUTION
2024 – 92
RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR S-2946 / A-
4505, FOR NEW JERSEY’S MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) BASIC LIFE SUPPORT
TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s Medicaid reimbursement rate for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Basic Life Support transportation is \$58.00 per trip; and
WHEREAS, the rate is reported to be the lowest rate in comparison to neighboring states and is among the lowest nationwide; and
WHEREAS, the rate of \$58.00 per trip has been in existence since 1994, and is no longer sustainable for the EMS system; and
WHEREAS, the New Jersey EMS System is facing a critical staffing crisis, rising costs due to inflation, and the emergency medicine industry becoming more complex;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton endorses bills S-2946/ A-4505 which increase the EMS Medicaid transportation rate to \$200.00 per trip, which better aligns with rates imposed by neighboring states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to prepare and submit on behalf of the Township a letter of support for Senate Bill No. 1423 and send to the State of New Jersey, and local Senators and Assemblypersons.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

NEW BUSINESS - There were no items for "New Business".

OLD BUSINESS

The below resolutions were tabled.

1. Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton appointing an additional Municipal Prosecutor for the Township of Clinton during calendar year 2024. – *Tabled*
2. Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton authorizing the sale and consumption on premises for Community Day. – *Tabled*
3. Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton awarding IT Services. – *Tabled*
4. Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton awarding audio system in the Courtroom. – *Tabled*

CORRESPONDENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA – Comments should be limited to three (3) minutes.

There were no comments from the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned the meeting at 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lindsay Heller
Acting Township Clerk

Adopted by Mayor and Council: May 8, 2024