

TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 9, 2016

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CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: Mayor Higgins gave the statement of adequate notice. The annual meeting notice is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk for public inspection.

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Switlyk	Present
Councilman McTiernan	Present
Councilman D'Alleinne	Absent
Council President Mullay	Present
Mayor Higgins	Present
Kristina Hadinger, Esq.	Present
Marvin Joss, Administrator	Present
Carla Conner, Township Clerk	Present

PROCLAMATION:

Youth Art Month 2016 – Mayor Higgins read the Proclamation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Session	January 6, 2016
Executive Session	January 6, 2016

Mayor Higgins introduced the matter.

MOTION was made by Council President Mullay to approve the above referenced minutes. Seconded by Mayor Higgins. There being no further discussion a voice vote was called. Motion carried.

CONSENT:

Mayor Higgins introduced the matter and read the items on the consent agenda.

MOTION was made by Mayor Higgins to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman McTiernan. There being no further discussion the roll was called. Motion carried.

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Roll Call:

Councilwoman Switlyk	Yes
Councilman McTiernan	Yes
Councilman President Mullay	Yes
Mayor Higgins	Yes

Consent #1

Resolution #33-16 – Overpayment of taxes, Block 18 Lot 3

WHEREAS, on properties located within the Township of Clinton, an overpayment of real estate taxes has been made; and

WHEREAS, applications have been made to the Tax Collector for refunds of said overpayments, totaling \$110.00; and

WHEREAS, the attached listing is a detail of the requested refunds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to refund such taxes to the parties in the amounts specified on the listing below.

VENDOR	BLOCK	LOT	LOCATION	Quarter	AMOUNT
Mooney, William and Kim	18	3 Q0326	110 Stanton Mountain Rd	2016/1	110.00
110 Stanton Mountain Rd					
Lebanon, NJ 08833					
TOTAL REFUND					\$110.00

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Sherblom, President of the 1759 Vought House non-profit organization stated the organization would like to see an image of the 1759 Vought House on the new Township seal. Mr. Sherblom gave a brief presentation about the history of the 1759 Vought House. Councilman McTiernan asked about the renovations being done on the 1759 Vought House. Mr. Sherblom gave an update to the Council.

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OLD BUSINESS: Update on Spyglass Court detention basin

Administrator Joss stated he spoke to the DPW and the Township Engineer regarding the detention basin on Mr. O'Meara's property. DPW stated can get equipment in there to clean the detention basin. Administrator Joss is concerned about what the Township would do with the material in the detention basin since it's possible the material would be classified as hazardous. Administrator Joss stated there will be disposal cost or the Township can look to see if the material can be used somewhere else such as paving projects or a sub-base project. Administrator Joss will talk to the Township Engineer to see how the Township can best proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Proposed Ordinances Amendments from Clarke Caton Hinz

Mayor Higgins and Kevin Cimei, Chairman of the Planning Board provided a brief summary of the proposed, multi-purpose land use ordinance amendments recommended by the Planning Board.

The Council agreed to introduce the proposed ordinance amendments in the near future.

REPORTS:

Councilman McTiernan:

Councilman McTiernan reported the Recreation Committee will have their Easter egg hunt and wagon parade on March 19 at the Clinton Township Middle School.

Councilman Switlyk:

Councilwoman Switlyk reported that the school meeting to discuss closing of one of the schools will be March 15. Councilwoman Switlyk reported the preliminary budget vote will be held March 21.

Mayor Higgins

Mayor Higgins reported the architectural committee for the Beaver Brook Homestead met and the plans are close to being finalized. Mayor Higgins reported the Hunterdon Review wrote an article about the heroin epidemic in Hunterdon County featuring Sgt. DeRosa and the efforts he put into the program. Mayor Higgins reported he talked to Councilwoman Switlyk and Planning Board chairperson Kevin Cimei and they would like to see Planning Board project approvals on the Township website. Councilwoman Switlyk suggested having a Township Facebook page but not to have any comment section.

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Council President Mullay:

Council President Mullay reported that the Historic Commission met and the main topic was the Beaver Brook Mansion. The Historic Commission will be drafting a memo endorsing the removal of two portions in the rear of the building. Council President Mullay reported the Historic Commission is hoping to have approval by April 20 from the State Historic Preservation Office on the old municipal building which will enable the Township to preserve the original 1886 portion of the building which is the gable roof portion in the front of the building. The Historic Commission is working with a consultant to get easement language drafted by April 20.

Administrator Joss:

Administrator Joss reported he found an electrical inspector candidate after a long search. Administrator Joss reported he has found a mechanic for DPW. Both new hires are on the agenda tonight. Administrator Joss reported he has one more candidate to hire for DPW and that appointment will be on the next Council agenda. Administrator Joss stated the online tax payments system is being beta tested. The payments system will be operational for the second quarter.

Lt. Higgins:

Lt. Higgins reported Councilman McTiernan questioned how he can relate the call volume to the monthly comparison report. Lt. Higgins stated the monthly comparison report for February was 150 pages. Lt. Higgins stated he sends the Council a summary instead of the whole report. Lt. Higgins reported he would like administrative duties added to the report. Lt. Higgins reported the Police Department will be working with the Recreation Department for Community Day on April 30. Lt. Higgins handed out a list of training the officers have taken. Lt. Higgins stated he would like the Council's approval on initiating a promotional process within the Police Department. He stated there are four sergeant positions the Police Department needs to fill and that these promotions will not impact the budget. Lt. Higgins stated he would also like to hire an entry level officer. The Council agreed to begin the promotional process.

RESOLUTIONS:

Action Item #1

Resolution #34-16 – Appointing Robert MacMaster as Electrical Inspector

Mayor Higgins introduced the matter.

MOTION was offered by Council President Mullay to approve the resolution. Seconded by Councilwoman Switlyk. There being no further discussion the roll was called. Motion carried.

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Roll Call:

Councilwoman Switlyk	Yes
Councilman McTiernan	Yes
Councilman President Mullay	Yes
Mayor Higgins	Yes

WHEREAS, due to a vacancy in the position, there exists a need for a part time electrical inspector, and;

WHEREAS, the Administrator has advertised for the position, and discussed various candidates with the Construction Official, and has determined that the ideal candidate would have multiple Inspector licenses, and;

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Administrator and the Construction Official that applicant Robert MacMaster has the experience, training and licenses required to perform the job of electrical, building and plumbing inspector.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Robert MacMaster be appointed inspector at a salary of \$35 per hour for 6 to 10 hours per week as directed by the Construction Official.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that Mr. MacMaster is authorized to start his employment on or after March 10, 2016.

Action Item #2

Resolution #35-16 – Approving the hiring of Keith Nonnemacher as Head Mechanic for DPW

Mayor Higgins introduced the matter.

MOTION was offered by Mayor Higgins to approve the resolution. Seconded by Councilman McTiernan. There being no further discussion the roll was called. Motion carried.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Switlyk	Yes
Councilman McTiernan	Yes
Councilman President Mullay	Yes
Mayor Higgins	Yes

WHEREAS, due to a retirement, there is a vacancy and a need for a full time vehicle mechanic, and;

WHEREAS, the Township has advertised to fill the position, and the Township Administrator and Public Works Director has interviewed a number of candidates, and;

WHEREAS, based on his experience, the Administrator and Public Works Director recommend that the Township hire Keith Nonnemacher as the full time head mechanic.

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body, of the Township of Clinton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Keith Nonnemacher be appointed Head Mechanic effective on or about April 4, 2016 at an annual salary of \$50,000, with all the benefits afforded full time employees with the Township, and pursuant to the DPW now in place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment will be subject to a drug test and background check.

VOUCHERS:

Mayor Higgins introduced the matter.

MOTION was offered by Councilwoman Switlyk to approve the check control registers dated March 9, 2016 totaling \$297,419.35. Seconded by Council President Mullay. There being no further discussion the roll was called. Motion carried.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Switlyk	Yes
Councilman McTiernan	Yes
Councilman President Mullay	Yes
Mayor Higgins	Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

MOTION was offered by Councilman McTiernan to adjourn at 7:57p.m. Seconded by Council President Mullay. There being no further discussion a voice vote was called. All ayes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:


Carla Conner, Township Clerk


John Higgins, Mayor

Adopted: May 25, 2016