

TOWN OF CLINTON CSC TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES – SEPT. 23, 2025

The September 23, 2025 meeting of the Town of Clinton Climate Smart Communities Task Force was called to order at 7:02 pm. Committee members in attendance were as follows:

Eliot Werner, Deputy Town Supervisor & CSC Task Force Representative
Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force Chair
Richard Marshall, CSC Task Force Member (via Zoom)
Jim Metcalfe, CSC Task Force Member
Ken Pickett, CSC Task Force Member
Stan Orser, CSC Task Force Member
Judy Malstrom, community member

Introduction

Joe Phelan introduced the evening's meeting agenda. He then asked members if there were any questions, additions, and/or changes to the minutes of the previous meeting of August 26, 2025. With no objections raised, the minutes of the August 26, 2025 meeting were accepted by the acclamation of the Task Force members in attendance.

Clean Energy Communities Grant Funding

Having received the Town Highway Garage Energy Audit report in the past week, the CSC Task Force members in attendance reviewed the following recommended energy efficiency measures provided by L&S Energy Services, the NYSEERDA-designated energy audit firm, for consideration, along with estimated costs, for potential implementation to reduce energy use at the Highway Garage facility through the support of the NYSEERDA Clean Energy Communities grant funding:

- replacing interior fluorescent and incandescent lamps with LED lamps (\$307);
- installing airsealing and weatherstripping at roof-wall joint and doors (5,456);
- repairing roof leaks and adding foam board insulation (\$33,682);
- replacing exterior entry/exit doors and garage doors (\$25,384);
- replacing windows with new double pane windows (\$9,400);
- replacing heating systems with Multi Split Air Source Heat Pumps (\$73,487);
- replacing heating systems with Ground Source Heat Pumps (\$151,991).

It was noted that, of the two grant awards of \$10,000 and \$50,000, \$4,600 of the initial \$10,000 grant was required by NYSEERDA to be used to support the energy audit, leaving \$5,400 plus \$50,000 from the second grant, for a total of \$55,400, to support as many of the energy saving measures identified in the Highway Garage energy audit as possible from the grant funds.

In terms of next steps, several members of the CSC Task Force agreed to:

- Meet with Town Clerk Carol Mackin to review the Town's bidding process and procedures, which are required for bidding the work that the Town decides to pursue;
- Meet with Todd Martin, Town Highway Superintendent, to review the energy audit recommendations and solicit his input as to his implementation priorities.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County Outreach

Joe Phelan, Clinton CSC Task Force Chair, and Barbara Mansell, Clinton CAC Chair, have met several times via Zoom with Scott Kleinberg, Climate and Environment Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC), and with Itafayo Tyler, also a member of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County staff. These meetings have focused on discussing, identifying, and collecting available data about Town of Clinton activities and initiatives in support of the Town's policies to address potential future crises/natural disasters, such as flooding and evacuation, as a result of climate change.

Scott and Tayo have shared more specific outcomes and processes for participation with Barbara and Joe at their scheduled meetings, at which point the process for moving forward with this initiative has been planned, including connecting with members of the Town Planning Board and other Town officials to collect data supporting the Town of Clinton's resiliency planning initiatives to date, and for possible future consideration after presentation to the Town Board.

Government Operations Climate Action Plan (GOCAP) Report

The Government Organization Climate Action Plan (GOCAP) for which Richard Marshall is providing leadership continues to collect data for this initiative, specifically in terms of what other small rural municipalities have identified. It is anticipated that it will be at least several months in process before the Task Force is prepared to make a presentation to the Town Board and ask for their support and approval,

The GOCAP, as developed by the CSC Task Force, with the assistance and support of the HVRC's Elizabeth Sun and Eleanor Peck. and upon review by and approval of the Town Board, would address the following topics regarding the Town's operations: Transportation; Municipal Facilities and Renewable Energy; Natural Resources (Water and Land Use); and Waste and Recycling.

Upon completion of a draft GOCAP document, likely not earlier than Winter/Spring 2025, the CSC Task Force would plan a presentation to the Town Board, with a request for Clinton Town Board approval, ultimately leading to implementation of the adopted plan for the Town of Clinton.

Future Town of Clinton CSC Task Force Interest/Projects Under Discussion

The CSC Task Force members discussed several related upcoming activities that have been scheduled and/or held in the Town, including a repair café, as well as further discussions of suggestions regarding composting, Town pollinator gardens, a possible shredding event, and ideas for the development of the CAC line item in the Town budget for the coming year.

The next meeting of the Town of Clinton Climate Smart Communities Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Clinton Masonic Lodge. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force Chair

