

April 14, 2026

Schultzville, NY

The Clinton Town Board held the Regular Town Board meeting on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Mike Whitton, Deputy Supervisor Eliot Werner, Councilman Charlie Dykas and Councilwomen Katherine Mustello and Marion Auspitz as well as Town Clerk Carol-Jean Mackin. There were approximately 20 people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

MM Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the March 10, 2026 Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the April 8, 2026 Special Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION: (Agenda Items only)**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilwoman Werner to open the floor to public discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

Todd Martin Highway Superintendent – wants Milan Hollow Road to have speed limit lowered, asks to have the road included in tonight’s resolution.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to close public discussion and return to the regular order of business. All aye. Motion carried.

### **SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS**

- Microphone issues tonight. We are working on them.  
Given By Eliot Wener
- The New York State burn ban is in effect until May 14. For more information on what is prohibited to be burned, please visit the DEC website or call (518) 402-8452.
- On April 25 and 26, at 9 am, the recreation department is seeking volunteers to help construct new playground equipment at Friend’s Park. The park is located at 2350 Salt Point Turnpike in Clinton Corners. Please bring your own tools. For details and to RSVP, please call (914) 489-0962.
- The Office of Veteran’s Affairs will be at the Village of Red Hook, Village Hall on May 11, 2026 from 12:30-3:30PM, to provide veterans benefits counseling to local veterans, service members, and their families as part of OPERATION: Mobile Outreach. Veterans are encouraged to stop by if they:
  - Have questions about VA benefits or eligibility
  - Need assistance filing claims or accessing services

- Are seeking information on community resources for veterans
- Would like to discuss any benefits-related concerns in person

If you have any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to reach out to my office.

- The Conservation Advisory Council would be pleased if you would join us on Saturday, May 2, when the Clinton Nature Trail will be renamed the Norene Collier Nature Trail in honor of Norene Collier, a lover of the natural world and an environmental visionary.
- Many of you knew Norene Collier personally or know about her contribution to the Town of Clinton. As the chair of the CAC for many years, she was instrumental in gathering scientific information about the town's natural resources and in supporting plans and legislation to protect water, biodiversity and open space. When Clinton was given funds from the Iroquois Pipeline that runs through the town, she suggested they be used to create a nature trail for all residents to enjoy.
- In recognition of all that Norene did for the town, the nature trail is being named in her honor, and you are invited to attend the ceremony.

MAY 2, 2026

From 9-10AM, there will be Bird Walk on the trail with Barbara Mansell, the chair of the Conservation Advisory Council.

At 10:15, a brief ceremony and sign unveiling will be held at the entrance to the trail, adjacent to the Town Hall and Library, followed by refreshments at the Library.

From 11 AM-12PM, CAC member Nick Sacerdote will lead a walk to search for ephemeral spring flowers and to share information about the trail.

If you plan to walk on the trail, please wear sturdy shoes and use common-sense precautions to protect yourself from ticks and sun exposure.

- Members of the CAC will continue to lead regular Saturday morning walks on the Norene Collier Nature Trail in the spring and summer and beyond.
- SHRAC will be holding its annual Roadside Cleanup this weekend. It will occur from 9am to 3pm this Saturday, April 18. Please go to the Town Hall for your road assignments and bags. When you're done, bring the bags back to Town Hall for disposal. If you would like to nominate a road for cleanup, please contact Rick McGlaufflin at (845) 266-3003. SHRAC roadside cleanup Saturday April 18.

### **Deputy Supervisors Comments**

- Encouraged roadside cleanup on Saturday April 18. Councilwoman Mustello commented that she is working with the highway department for an e waste disposal. Mike Whitton commented that he is working on electronic disposal. In addition, he is talking to Welsh Sanitation to arrange for a large item pick up thought the year.
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**TOWN BOARD REPORTS:** Posted on the web, townofclinton.com.

PLANNING BOARD, ZBA, CAC, CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE, RECREATION, BUILDING INSPECTOR, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, HIGHWAY, SCENIC AND HISTORIC ROADS, LIBRARY, ALTICE, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, CEMETERIES, OTHER (QUARTERLY: WIC, SAFETY)

**Councilwoman Mustello –**

CAC – meeting the 16<sup>th</sup> this month.

Planning Board – Read from report, posted online.

ZBA – No report, no meeting.

Comprehensive Plan – report during the meeting.

**Councilman Dykas-**

Recreation - read from the report, posted on line.

Hometown Heroes- we have three new applications. Several banners got blown down due to storms and they have been replaced. Vets will be in welcome booth at Community Day.

Cell phone service – still bad service.

**Councilwoman Auspitz –**

Library - read from the report, posted on line.

Highway – read from the report, posted on line.

Maintenance – no update.

**Deputy Supervisor Werner –**

Zoning Officer – read from report posted on line.

Building Inspector – read from the report posted on line.

CSC – talked about the grants they are working on for the highway garage. Judy Malstrom said there is a repair café on April 25 from 12 to 3 pm.

SHRAC – Roadside cleanup on Saturday.

Cemetery – None

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Discuss Comprehensive Plan – Mustello**

Meeting twice a month. Completed the survey, it will be sent to the whole town. Members will be out with post cards and QR codes and paper surveys. We want your information. There is a page on the website for the comprehensive plan for people to keep informed.

**2. Discuss Proposed local law to regulate retail Cannabis establishments in the TOC – Werner**

Discussed the history of this law, we have a draft of the law available: it is on the web and has been circulated to the town's boards. Mustello said the law is detailed where they will be allowed. In hamlet, she pointed out the establishments need parking and acreage. Asks how many parcels meet those requirements, Eliot Werner suspects there are not many but will research that.

**3. Approve Introducing Local law for the Hospitality Overlay District – Werner**

By consensus the Town Board chose to go forward with overlay districts to allow those hospitality venues in existence or in discussion to be conforming uses with no other venues allowed elsewhere in Town.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilperson Dykas to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board **approve Resolution No. 14 of 2026 introducing LL # of 2026, a local law Establishing Hospitality Overlay District** and that a Public Hearing be held on May 12, 2026 at the Town of Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd, Rhinebeck (Town of Clinton), New York at 6:25 p.m. In discussion, Councilwoman Mustello said that there should be no more conference centers other than these four until the comprehensive plan is done and after then, we can add overlay districts to allow more hospitality venues if the comprehensive plan shows people want them and if the Town Board agrees to allow them. There is no renewal permit process, Councilman Werner said the Planning Board members and building staff thought it would be onerous to renew these permits. If there are complaints, the venue permit can be revisited. Supervisor Whitton said if another organization wants to open a venue they need Town Board approval to include an additional overlay district. All aye. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Appoint Crawford & Assoc PB Town Engineer – Mustello**

MM Councilwoman Mustello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilperson Werner to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approve the appointment of Crawford & Associates as Engineering consultants to the Planning Board, replacing Rennia Engineering, whose principal Pete Setaro is retiring, effective April 14, 2026 at the published rates. All aye. Motion carried.

**2. Approve Resolution accepting Justice Court audit – Auspitz**

MM Councilwoman Auspitz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilwoman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 15 of 2026 whereby the examination and audit of the Town of Clinton Court records for 2025 have been found to be maintained in an organized and proper manner; a copy of this**

**resolution, along with the Appendix 9 Annual Check Lists, be forward to the Director of Internal Audit, NYS Office of Court Administration for annual filing.** All aye. Motion carried.

**3. Approve Water Filter system for Justice Court – Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilperson Mustello to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$4100 from the Repair and Maintenance Fund for the purpose of the installation of a water filtration system for the Justice Court in accordance with Section 6-d of GML. No impact on the budget because it is coming from the maintenance fund. All aye. Motion carried.

**4. Approve Town Supervisor’s letter to Dutchess County to lower speed on Bulls Head Road in the Town of Clinton – Whitton**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilperson Werner to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the Town Supervisor sending a letter to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Public works to formally request a review and reduction of the posted speed limit on county Road 19 to 40 MPH from Taconic State Parkway to Rt. 9G. and Milan Hollow Road in the Town of Clinton. All aye. Motion carried.

**5. Approve Greenway Grant Resolution – Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 16 of 2026 authorizing the submission of an application for the Hudson River Valley Greenway McHenry Planning Grant for the Town of Clinton Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, this resolution authorizes Town Supervisor Whitton to act on behalf of the Town of Clinton to sign the application, contract, and all related documents.** All aye. Motion carried.

**6. Approve Social Media Policy – Whitton**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilperson Mustello to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the Social Media Policy, dated April 14, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

**7. Approve Highway Superintendent to Highway School – Auspitz**

MM Councilperson Auspitz, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves Highway Superintendent Martin’s attendance at Highway School June 1 to June 3, 2026 at Ithaca College at a cost not to exceed \$700. All aye. Motion carried.

**8. Approve Zoning Action on Pumpkin Lane**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 17 of 2026 a Resolution Authorizing the Zoning Administrator to Commence Legal Action on**

**173 Pumpkin Lane.** Supervisor Whitton encourages people to call 911 if there is an issue that causes danger or a legal enforcement issue. All aye. Motion carried.

**OTHER ITEMS**

none

**APPOINTMENTS:**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Auspitz to approve the appointment of May Gadonniex to the Cemetery Committee with a term of office of April 14, 2026 to December 31, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the appointment of Roberta Grant a Seasonal Groundskeeper effective April 20, 2026 at a rate of pay of \$19.28 per hour for 40 hours per week for 26 weeks. All aye. Motion carried.

**1. Approval of Warrants**

MM Councilwoman Mustello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the:

**April General Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 148 through 213 totaling \$ 58,675.05**

**and the**

**April Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 86 through 120 totaling \$ 178,622.75**

**and the**

**April Capital Fund Warrant, numbered 2 totaling \$831.25**

All aye. Motion carried.

**2. Motion to Move Funds – Whitton/Werner**

none.

**3. Supervisor’s Report - Whitton**

The March 2026 Supervisor’s Report will be approved when the Annual Financial Report is complete.

**OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

none

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to open the floor to public discussion. All aye. Motion carried.

John Arthur – Submitted a narrative and pictures for the record concerning a March 4 snowplow incident between a Town of Clinton snowplow and his car on Browns Pond Road, said the Highway worker driver filed a false report and the highway driver was driving recklessly. Highway Superintendent Martin said he would send the drug test results of the Town highway employee to Mr. Arthur and has not sent them. He described the day, the conditions of the road and explained he was heading north on Browns Pond Rd., snow on each side, drivers were restricted to one lane with snowbanks. The accident took place at the narrow part of road approx. 17 ft. wide. He stopped on the road, seeing the snow plow ahead, the plow kept moving forward with the wing scraping the side of Mr. Arthur's car causing \$1800 estimated damage which was denied by the Town's insurance. Said the driver was aggressive and lied saying that Mr. Arthur's wife, who was driving, was driving recklessly and speeding when they were actually parked waiting to see how to proceed. It was reckless for the driver to go by them when there was no room. He had disregard for us, got out of the truck after the incident and was screaming at them aggressively. Mr. Arthur wants the town to take care of the cost and to be concerned about the aggressive driver. Said the insurance agent was also rude to him. Mike Whitton spoke to the insurance company about that claim and spoke to them about the rude agent. Supervisor Whitton thanked John for showing up to the meeting; every driver needs a drug test after an accident and he did test negative. Commented that he has a compelling story; we will discuss it and get back to him.

Al Robasco – Submitted pictures for the record; the neighbor on Schultzville Road has created a nuisance on his lot with lots of junk piling up. Mr. Robasco made a complaint about the neighbor's eyesore. The neighbor put up a cabin right in Mr. Robasco's view. After complaining to the ZA, the ZA told Mr. Robasco the neighbor won't get a building permit until he cleans it up. To Mr. Robasco's surprise the neighbor was issued a building permit. The ZA said issuing the building permit is how we will fix it, he said the town's policy is to work with the homeowner to work it out. Mr. Robasco is concerned the man is a hoarder and we should have shut him down and gotten a bond as insurance for him to follow through. Eliot is the liaison to building and zoning and they will get together to find a resolution.

Adam Dyksal - re hospitality district, the map shows Omega Institute in the district; Omega abuts his property. Why is Omega part of this district? Comments that Omega and Camp Rising Sun are not hospitality businesses. Eliot explained if Omega sells, it has to be run as is, it can't change. Eliot discussed how Omega could qualify for the overlay district. Mr. Dyksal urges the Board to omit Omega from the overlay district. Said those two, Omega and Cap Rising Sun, were added to make it look like the Town is not spot zoning the two proposed venues. Asks the Board: Don't make it easy for a potential bankrupt Omega be purchased and have a resort put in its place. That should not be allowed.

Lynne Miceli – re senior exemption – commented that she asked the assessor how assessments are determined and received no answer. Mike Whetton will ask her to do that. Talked about exemptions, saying the number of exemptions are about the same. If they are updated, maybe that would help seniors. People getting senior exemptions have been halved.

Mike Sepula – asked how many applications for conference centers came in before July 2025; Eliot said there were 3. They are all subject to the seqr. Asked if there is a question in the

comprehensive plan survey so people can comment on the conference centers in town. Katherine explained the goal of the survey. He is very concerned about six senses project.

Lynne Miceli - how does the overly district help townspeople? Eliot said the overlay district limits any further hospitality venues in the future.

Lisa Metcalfe – celebrating hometown heroes at Community Day. Discussed planning meetings and new activities.

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to close public discussion and return to the regular order of business. All aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 7:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol-Jean Mackin".

Carol-Jean Mackin,  
Town Clerk