

June 9, 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 6 people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order 6:48 at PM.

APPROVE MINUTES

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the May 12, 2026 Public Hearing Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the May 12, 2026 Town Board Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: (Agenda Items only)

None

Dan Harkenrider Rec Director: Thanks to the Rec Committee for constructing the new playground equipment at Friends Park. They put in 335 work hours, had 17 volunteers on first day in cold weather. Just bought two new basketball hoops from Banners income and Cory Community's donation, 6 new benches will be added and swings will be moved over to the playground area

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

- It has come to my attention that the company that repainted the Masonic Hall in 2022 is owned by an individual who recently engaged in an anti-Semitic act that was captured on video and subsequently distributed on social media.
I want to be clear that the Town of Clinton has zero tolerance for hatred, discrimination, or bigotry in any form. The actions reportedly taken by this individual are inconsistent with the values of our community and are deeply concerning.
The painting work at the Masonic Hall was completed in 2022, well before these events became known. Had the Town been aware of such conduct at that time, we would have selected a different contractor for the project.
The Town does not condone or support the actions that have been reported, and we remain committed to treating all members of our community with dignity, respect, and fairness.
- The Clinton Town Offices, Highway Department, Justice Court Office, and Court will be closed on Friday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth. The Clinton Community Library will also be closed on that day.
- The NY State Council has awarded the Clinton Historical Society \$139,000 to hire the architects to prepare full designs and construction documents for the Restoration/Renovation of the Creek Meeting House. We are grateful to Governor Hochul and the NY Legislature for supporting this important funding. With these documents, the Historical Society can get accurate construction estimates and a fully developed project.

- I would like to acknowledge and thank the efforts of CJ Wyant. As part of the Hometown Heroes program, he went through Pleasant Plains cemetery to identify Veterans buried there. The list was fairly extensive. Initially, the thought was to provide Hometown Heroes banners for veterans. The list was so long that the cost of banners and the amount of time it would take to get the banners became a concern. We will continue to discuss how to recognize our veterans. CJ also intends to document veterans buried in the other two cemeteries that the Town manages.
- A Veterans Wall of Honor was a feature of this year's Clinton Community Day. The wall invited visitors to write down a memory or two of a veteran they know. The cards were attached to string carriers with small clothespins. It was decided that this wall should not be available for just one day. So now it has been moved to the Town Hall. Cards are available, and the wall of Honor can be added to. This will stay here until Veterans' Day, at least. This, along with the efforts of CJ Wyant that were previously mentioned, will be part of a Veteran's Day celebration that the Town will hold. Details are still being worked out. Subsequent announcements of those plans will be made.
- The Town required authorization from NY State to institute an Occupancy Tax. That authorization has been passed by both the State Senate and State Assembly. We are now waiting on a signature from the Governor.
- There will be a bulk disposal and Electronics Recycling on June 13, from 9am to 1pm. It will take place behind the Town Hall, where the transfer station used to be. The electronics recycling is free. Bulk Disposal items will have a cost associated with them, depending on the item. To see the price list and what will be accepted at both collections, please visit the Town website. Cash will be accepted. Please try to have exact change. Household trash will not be accepted.

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 – meets tomorrow.

Planning Board – Read from report, posted online.

ZBA – No report, no meeting.

Comprehensive Plan – survey sent out, paper surveys available at Town Clerk's office and Library and can be returned there.

Councilman Dykas-

Recreation - read from the report, posted on line.

Hometown Heroes- thanked Dave Stewart for installing the banners. We need new volunteers to help with installation. Thanked Brian Dingee for helping to replace several banners.

Cell phone service – Nothing new.

Councilwoman Auspitz –

Library - read from the report, posted on line.

Highway – read from the report, posted on line.

Deputy Supervisor Werner –

Zoning Officer – read from the report posted online

Building Inspector – read from the report posted on line.

CSC – discussed the initiatives and plans for the future projects.

BAR – reviewed the results of the BAR.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Resolution on Local law for the Hospitality Overlay District – 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. 28 of 2026, a resolution withdrawing consideration of said proposed Local Law No. of 2026, entitled, “Local Law Establishing Hospitality Overlay District”**. All aye. Motion carried.

2. Approve Local Law Regulating Cannabis Retail Dispensaries – Werner

HOLD UNTIL JULY MEETING to wait for Dutchess Planning’s response which is due June 16.

In discussion, Councilwoman Mustello asked about the distance to the churches that is listed in the law. Eliot Werner said he discovered two discrepancies in the law: Section G, buffer zones that should be 200 feet to a church, not 500 feet. Secondly, no. 5 the distances between dispensaries should be 2000 feet, not 500 feet. Eliot found 80 suitable locations, two thirds in Clinton Corners hamlet, the others are scattered around. Katherine asked if we can limit the locations more to define where they can locate. Mike Whitton said the state says our zoning laws can’t be unreasonably restrictive. Katherine said wants to consider locating them in the industrial zone only.

3. Update on Comprehensive Plan – Mustello

Katherine Mustello said we received a Hudson Valley Greenway grant of \$50,000 to develop the comprehensive plan because we will use a planner. We have to match it but we can do that with our hours that the comprehensive plan committee is working.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Introducing LL to extend Conference Center Moratorium – Werner

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Auspitz that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 29 of 2026 introducing LL of 2026 entitled, “Second Extension of Conference Center, Hotel, and Motel Moratorium”, and setting a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at the Town of Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd, Rhinebeck (Town of Clinton), New York at 6:15 p.m.** All aye. Motion carried.

2. Approve Tax Cert Settlement with Slate Quarry road LLC – Werner

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. 30 of 2026 approving the settlement with Slate Quarry Road LLC, petitioner in a Tax Certiorari Proceeding brought in 2024 and 2025 pursuant to Article 7 of the New York Real Property Tax Law.** All aye. Motion carried.

3. Approve terminating contract with Excel Elevator – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves terminating the service contract with Excel Elevator effective June 1, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

4. Approve Contract with Otis Elevator – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the three year contract between Otis Elevator and the Town of Clinton for elevator service and repair and authorizes, empowers and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the contract. All aye. Motion carried.

5. Approve introducing LL updating Town Code to comply with Records Retention Schedule – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 31 of 2026 introducing LL of 2026 titled “Local Law Amending Chapter 184 of the Town Code Regarding Records Retention”, and hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at the Town of Clinton Town Hall, 1215 Centre Rd, Rhinebeck (Town of Clinton), New York at 6:25 p.m.** All aye. Motion carried.

6. Approve letter of support for Historical Society – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the Town Supervisor write a letter of support for the Historical Society’s grant application to the national Park Service’s Semiquicentennial grant program to restore the interior of the Creek Meeting house and update certain mechanical systems. All aye. Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

Councilwoman Mustello: Re: Help for the building and zoning departments – Eliot and she spoke to the Building Inspector who suggested hiring a fire inspector that is certified to do inspections who can help both he and Jeff Newman, Z.A. Mike Whitton asked if we do this immediately or just budget for next year. Katherine thinks we should not wait. Mike said we have the money but it is difficult because of salt and the lawyer fees this year. Eliot said the discussion need to be broader and should be an executive session as it will get into personnel issues. Katherine suggested let's schedule that in the near future.

APPOINTMENTS:

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the appointment of Connor Burns as Seasonal groundskeeper effective June 8, 2026 until December 31, 2026 at a rate of pay of \$19.28 per hour for 40 hours per week. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Auspitz to approve the appointment of Theodora Karathomas as Justice Court Clerk at a rate of pay of \$24.95 per hour for 25 hours per week effective May 18, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

1. Approval of Warrants

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

June General Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 270 through 313 totaling \$ 157,594.71 and the

June Capital project Warrant vouchers numbered 3-4, totaling \$27,700.50

June Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 150 through 179 totaling \$ 60,274.43
All aye. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Move Funds – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 32 of 2026 a motion to move funds at the June 9, 2026 TB meeting.** All aye. Motion carried.

3. Supervisor's Report - Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the May 2026 Supervisor's Report. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Lynne Miceli – asked the Board to reconsider the 467 exemption as it changed how it is calculated and she feels it nullifies it. Cited the numbers of exemptions in town. She commented that the exemption given to a landowner that she questioned with the assessor should no longer get the exemption. She quoted tax cap trends from the state comptroller's website.

Ann Marie Tucker Friends of Clinton, thanked citizens for attending Community Day. Brought a wall of honor to the Town with cards to add to the wall to honor a veteran.

Lisa Metcalfe Friends of Clinton thanked Ann Marie and pulled the 50 50 raffle and the camp scholarships.

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

Supervisor Whitton spoke on the senior citizen exemption, we use a sliding scale of income for seniors to get the exemption. Only 2 municipalities that give the maximum exemption to seniors, the town of Clinton is one of them. We are doing as much as we can for seniors for property tax exemptions. Its unacceptable to attack others who get exemptions to make gains for our own; it is unkind.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned 7:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Carol-Jean Mackin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carol" and last name "Mackin" clearly distinguishable.

Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk