

May 12, 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 17 people in the audience.

Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

APPROVE MINUTES

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the April 14, 2026 TB Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the April 28, 2026 Special Meeting minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: (Agenda Items only)

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

Alex Ferrini – PB member, town needs a full-time zoning administrator. Has concerns about the current level of enforcement. The laws mean something when they are enforced. He sees lots of zoning violations, no fines are being assessed, concern about recent laws, like the STR law not being enforced and farm operations as well. PB has a number of applications if approved, they will have intense operational rules to be followed. Concerned they will not be addressed. The residents care about land use issues. We need full time attention to enforcement.

Lynne Miceli – re: bird sanctuary consent judgment – on line it says it is permanently closed with no employee identification number and asks why are they getting the exemption. She will talk to Mike and Sarah tomorrow.

Jeff Newman – Zoning Administrator, agrees with the need for a full-time position in his ZA position. Advocates for two positions - one being a deputy. Put forward his ideas for the position going forward.

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

- The Clinton Town Offices, Highway Department, Justice Court Office, and Court will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. The Clinton Community Library will also be closed on that day.
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- The Water Filtration System in this building was installed yesterday. It has a 40-gallon tank. Within about a week, when the whole tank is cycled through, there should be a noticeable improvement to the sulfur smell of the water in this building.
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- The Community Yard Sale is taking place Saturday, May 23, 9am to 4pm, at Fran Mark Park.
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- The Recreation Department has been assembling new playground equipment, relying solely on volunteers. It's in the recreation report, but I wanted to take a moment to thank all of the volunteers that have helped. The rain has not been helpful, but steady progress is being made.
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- On June 13, the Town of Clinton will be conducting a Bulk Disposal Day from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A dumpster will be provided by Welsh Sanitation Services, and the event will be staffed by volunteers.
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- Please note that this event is strictly for bulk disposal items only. Regular household garbage will not be accepted.
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- Because this event is volunteer-run, residents are asked not to rely on volunteers to move bulk items for them. Please also remember to be courteous and respectful to all volunteers assisting that day.
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- In conjunction with the bulk disposal event, the Town has also organized an E-Waste Disposal Day. This will be separate from the bulk disposal. At this time, we have not yet received a finalized list of acceptable electronic items, but that information will be distributed as soon as it becomes available.
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- The Town Board will hold another regular meeting before June 13. Any additional information or updates regarding these events will be shared at that time.

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 – grand opening of the Nature Trail with new name Norene Collier Nature Trail.

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- printed three new banners and restoring those that came down. Looking for one additional veteran for the committee.

Cell phone service – still bad service, capital improvements slated for 2027.

Councilwoman Auspitz –

Library - read from the report, posted on line.

Highway – read from the report, posted on line.

Maintenance – the deck from the Schoolhouse and Court has been painted.

Deputy Supervisor Werner –

Zoning Officer – read from report posted on line.

Building Inspector – read from the report posted on line.

CSC – report posted on line

SHRAC – discussion on the Annual cleanup, a success. Named the volunteers.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss Comprehensive Plan – Mustello

The survey is complete and open for response. Hard copies can be found in the Library and Town Clerk's office and returned there as well. Open to all, not just residents. There will be one meeting a month the first Wednesday of the month until the fall.

2. Discussion on Local law for the Hospitality Overlay District – Werner

Waiting for Couty Planning to respond. Attorney expecting lengthy comments. We will consider the comments received. We will revisit next month as we consider how to move forward.

3. Approve resolution for Speed Control on Bulls Head Road/Milan Hollow Rd. – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves sending Forms TE-9 to County DPW requesting speed reductions on Bulls Head Road and Milan Hollow Road. All aye. Motion carried.

4. Approve Introducing LL to Regulate Retail Cannabis Dispensaries – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 20 of 2026 introducing proposed LL to Regulate Cannabis Dispensaries and set a public hearing for June 9, 2026 at 6:25 PM in the Clinton Town Hall.** All aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss AFR and long-term budgets – Whitton

The overarching point is if we continue doing business the way we do we are ok for next few years. But with a 2 percent tax cap, inflation is more than that for the past 6 years, we are losing ground every year. We cut services every year to give 3 percent raises to employees. Wants to consider exceeding the tax cap every so often to reset. Katherine said we also use the reserves, which we need to in order to stay in sync with our reserve fund policy.

2. Approve Consent judgment for Stonehouse Wood Sanctuary – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 21 of 2026 authorizing the attorney for the Town of Clinton, Cappillino, Rothschild & Egan LLP, Shane J. Egan, Esq., to enter into a settlement agreement with the attorney for petitioner, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP, Karen E. Hagstrom, Esq., the terms of which are set forth in the attached Consent Judgment and hereby authorizes Shane J. Egan, Esq., to sign said Consent Judgment on behalf of the Town of Clinton.** All aye. Motion carried.

3. Approve Retirement Reporting Resolution – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 22 of 2026 reporting the days worked for retirement purposes only for the named employees to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System.** All aye. Motion carried.

4. Approve Road name for Hibernia Road property – Werner

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 23 of 2026 accepting the road name Industry Way for the private road located off Hibernia Road in the Town of Clinton for the parcel numbered 382084 – owner Feeney.** All aye. Motion carried.

5. Proclaim May as Mental Health Awareness Month – 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. 24 of 2026 Proclaiming May as Mental health Awareness Month. All aye. Motion carried. All aye. Motion carried.

6. Approve Resolution supporting EMS Week – Whitton

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves

Resolution No. 25 of 2026 supporting EMS Week, May 17 – 23, 2026 to encourage the community to honor the essential service EMS provides. All aye. Motion carried.

7. Approve Adopting the Building Code Update – Werner

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves amending and Updating the Uniform Code (19 NYCRR Parts 1219 to 1229) and Energy Code (19 NYCRR Part 1240) repealing the 2020 edition of the Uniform Code with the rules effective on December 31, 2025.

8. Discuss/Approve AI Policy – Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town approve the AI policy for the town of Clinton. All aye. Motion carried.

9. Discuss full time Zoning Administrator position – Mustello

We have a problem with enforcement. We need to solve this. Jeff Newman does not have enough hours. We need to consider another part timer overseen by Jeff. Mike Whitton said a full timer is a civil servant, we need to choose off the Dutchess County list. Thinks it is best to have two part timers. We want the laws to be enforced. Hiring someone this year has budget implications as he is assuming we will go over budget. We are already using reserves due to the harsh winter. Two part timers will eliminate the need for benefits. Councilwoman Mustello said people want more enforcement. Eliot adds we need to explore a breakdown of where the current time goes. We would be in a better position then to decide what we need and how to divide the work etc. The ideal approach is one person doing both building and zoning to help out both in a pinch. Councilman Dykas asks how much of the new person’s pay can be offset by fines? That may help.

10. Approve IMA with Dutchess County – Whitton

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Werner that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the Intermunicipal Agreement for Shared Services between the County of Dutchess and the Town of Clinton dated May 12, 2026 and empowers, authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement. All aye. Motion Carried.

11. Approve Tax Cert Swanson v TOC

MM Councilman Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approves **Resolution No. 26 of 2026 authorizing petitioner’s attorney Warren S. Replansky, P.C., and the attorney for the Town of Clinton, Cappillino, Rothschild & Egan LLP, Shane J. Egan, Esq., to enter into a tentative settlement agreement of the Tax Certiorari Proceedings, subject to approval by the Town Board, whereby the assessed value of the subject property would be reduced in accordance with the proposed Consent Judgment, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. All aye. Motion carried.**

OTHER ITEMS

RESIGNATIONS:

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Dykas to accept the resignation of Roberta Grant as Seasonal Groundskeeper effective April 28, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to accept the resignation of McKenna D’Attore as Justice Court Clerk effective May 8, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to accept the resignation of Judy Malstrom as Assessor Clerk effective June 2, 2026. Supervisor Whitton offered thanks for her many years of service. All aye. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS:

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve **Resolution No. 27 of 2026, Summer Recreation appointments.** 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:

May General Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 214 through 269 totaling \$ 73,151.53

and the

May Highway Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 121 through 149 totaling \$ 53,764.01

All aye. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Move Funds – none

3. Supervisor’s Report - Whitton

MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the final Dec 2025 – April 2026 Supervisor’s Reports. All aye. Motion carried.

OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Lynne Miceli – re senior exemption. We increased limits and we benefitted one year then we changed the way we calculate the exemption. Asks to reconsider this benefit.

Lisa Metcalfe – Community Day is June 6. Final prep meeting May 21 at ECFD. Commemorating vets and hometown heroes and lots to do for children.

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 Councilwoman Auspitz that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carol-Jean Mackin,
Town Clerk