

**Selectmen Meeting  
Minutes  
May 1, 2013**

Selectman Connolly, Selectman Sargent, Selectman LeBlanc, Selectman Dziokonski and Chairman Dickhaut were in attendance. Attendee was Town Administrator Ward.

Chairman Dziokonski opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

**Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Discussion**

Chairman Dziokonski explained the board will begin a review of each department beginning with the Town Moderator, which will remain the same. Board of Selectmen will remain the same. Selectman Connolly made a motion to include a 1.75% increase for the non union employees. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. He reviewed the board needs to fund a new department the Facilities Department he asked where this will be included in the budget. The board discussed returning to the Finance Committee reserve funding after review of departments. There were no changes to the Accountant, Assessors, Treasurer or Collector line items. Review continued with the Solicitors department, the board agreed to add \$25,000.00 to the Litigation line item to support the funding to have the labor department restore the non union salary grid. Selectman Connolly made a motion to add \$25,000.00 to the Solicitors litigation to be used to restructure the non union salary grid. Selectman Dickhaut seconded motion. The vote was unanimous. Review continued approving the budgets as presented for the Clerk, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board and MRPC. They supported the level service budget for the Custodial Department. The board added a Facilities Department with an expense line of \$50,000.00 and a salary of \$75,000.00. Selectman Dickhaut mentioned the committee plans to follow up with the Finance Committee with a job description. Selectman Connolly made a motion to add facilities department with a salary line item of \$75,000 along with an expense line item of \$50,000. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Review continued with Police Department. Selectman Sargent made a motion to support the equipment line item requested in budget, \$56,000.00 for tasers and a new cruiser. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The board discussed the only other difference in the level service budget is Police Overtime line item funded at \$120,000.00. Selectman Connolly made a motion to support the level service budget as requested for the Police Department. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Review continued with the Fire Department, the board agreed to the level service

budget. The Building Department review, the level service budget was approved; there was discussion of the Permitting Clerk Salary. The board agreed to fund it at a full time salary of \$31,155.00 plus the 1.75% increase. Selectman Connolly made a motion to fund the permitting clerk position at the full time salary, to be used at the discretion of the Department Head, if needed to supplement the position with another employee. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Discussion continued with review of the Inspectional services departments and the Animal Control Officer. The board agreed to support the level service request for the Animal Control Officer including the \$4000.00 increase requested. The review continued with the School Department review, the board reviewed there will be an increase to the Chapter 70 funding; there is a \$200,000.00 difference in the increase in the Governors and the House Budget. Selectman Connolly explained consideration should be given to the funding used on the government side to fund the significant increase to health insurance premiums and the addition of new employees, plus the absorption of the school choice costs. Selectman Connolly made a motion to level fund the school department with a \$200,000.00 addition to Chapter 70 aid. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. Under discussion: Selectman Dickhaut explained this is a net increase of \$500,000.00 due to the school choice expense and the Health Insurance expenses. The vote was unanimous. Review continued with the Department of Public Works the board agreed to a level service budget. Selectman Sargent made a motion to fund the DPW at the level service budget. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Discussion continued agreeing to a level service budget for the Board of Health Department and Council on Aging. The board discussed changing the miscellaneous expense back \$16,000.00 to \$9,000.00. Selectman Connolly made a motion to fund FY2013 Council on Aging at a level funded with a 1.75% increase to the salaries. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. Under discussion: Selectman LeBlanc reminded the board that the Council along with the Personnel Board approved a re-evaluation for the Directors positions and changed the salary to reflect the new position. The board agreed at this time the salary will reflect the same percentage increase as the other non union town employees and the salary grid is scheduled to be re evaluated. The vote was unanimous. Discussion continued with the Veteran Service Department. The board reviewed the amount needed for benefits, it was agreed to budget an increase to them. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve \$400,000.00 in Veterans benefits for FY13. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. Under discussion: Selectman Connolly reviewed typically whatever is budgeted is spent. The vote was unanimous. Review of the library budget lead to discussion regarding the conversion to gas for heat. The board asked Administrator Ward to get an estimate from the Library Director regarding the cost of conversion. Selectman Connolly approved supporting a level service budget for the library department. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Review continued

with the Parks & Recreation Department, the board discussed funding being supported for all of the parks including Duffy Park. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve level service funding for the Parks & Recreation Department. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Review continued with the Fuller Field Commission, pensions & annuities and miscellaneous line items. The board agreed to support a level service amount for the group health insurance. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to support a level service Health Insurance budget. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Jim Tomolo asked the board to reconsider the appropriation to the school budget of \$200,000.00. Mr. Tomolo explained the school is a very important department in the budget. Chairman Dzikonski reviewed the board can reconsider the budget line item or allow the subcommittee to work on it. Selectman Sargent made a motion to reconsider the amount budgeted to the school. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Upon review the board discussed the other funding factors which increase to support the school, the health insurance increase to support the new hires. Mr. Robert Ebstein reviewed with the board the increase is lower then what had been budgeted for the 2007/2008 budget. Discussion continued regarding the school budget. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve an extra \$300,000.00 be funded to the school budget. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under discussion: Chairman Dzikonski explained this amount would be about \$500,000.00 less then requested. Selectman Connolly explained he will be voting against it, he would like more explanation of the school choice funds. Mr. Ebstein explained the school choice funding and surplus was spent to support teachers' positions. Selectman Connolly made a motion to table the \$300,000.00 increase until a firmer budget has been completed. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was 3/2 in opposition Selectman LeBlanc and Selectman Sargent. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to close the budget discussion and return to agenda. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Motion for Recess**

Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to take a 5 minute recess. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Review of Minutes**

The board received minutes from April 17, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting for review and approval. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **2013 Taxi Renewals – 423 Water Street**

The board received a completed application for renewal from Jacqueline Baldassarre d/b/a The Taxi/Livery Ride Transportation located at 423 Water Street. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the renewal as submitted. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Common Victuallers License Hearing- Union Street & High Street**

Administrator Ward asked for this hearing to be tabled at this time.

### **2013 Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant Review**

Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to continue out of agenda order and review the Draft Warrant at the end of the agenda. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Administrative Business**

#### Late Night Closings

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of May 2013: Clem's Liberty Tavern, Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Old Timer, Ringside Café, Spruce Street Tavern & The Simple Man Saloon. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the requests as presented with any additional requests approved sent for Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### Public Works Monthly Report

Chairman Dziokonski reviewed Superintendent of Public Works submitted a monthly reports relative to the operations of his department for the months of February 2013 & March 2013 for the Selectmen's review and approval. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to accept the report as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. . The vote was unanimous.

#### Water & Sewer Abatements

Chairman Dziokonski reviewed Superintendent of Public Works McGown submitted a list of water/sewer abatements in the amount of \$3275.90 from the last billing cycle for action by the board. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the abatements in the amount of \$3275.90 as submitted. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### Clinton High School Graduation Ceremony Request

The board received a letter requesting use of the auditorium for the Class of 2013 Graduation Exercises on Saturday, June 1, 2013 at 11:00 AM in the event of inclement weather. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the use of the auditorium for Clinton High School graduation as requested. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dickhaut reviewed the request includes the use of the hall for practice as well. Selectman Connolly explained he will be abstaining from the vote because his son is part of the graduating class. The vote was 4/0/1 abstention by Selectman Connolly.

### Old & New Business

#### *Purple Heart Community*

Town Administrator Ward reviewed he drafted the proclamation for Clinton to be the first community in the state be designated as a Purple Heart Town for the boards review and approval. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the proclamation as presented. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *Utility Easement for Landfill Property*

Chairman Dzikonski explained Superintendent McGown received an easement agreement from National Grid to provide power to the landfill site for the recapping project. Administrator Ward reviewed the pole be set to provide power on South Meadow Road to the trailer. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the easement agreement as presented by National Grid. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *Purchase & Sale of the Agreement for the Railroad Land off South Meadow Road*

Chairman Dzikonski explained the railways have finalized a purchase & sales agreement for the approval of the board. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the Purchase & Sale Agreement for the Railroad land of South Meadow Road as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *Proposed Legislation Relative to Chapter 70 Funding*

Administrator Ward asked for the board to table this discussion in order for him to do more research. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to table this discussion. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *Committee Reports*

There were none.

## **Public Comment**

There was none.

## **2013 Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant Review**

Chairman Dziokonski opened discussion of review of the draft warrant articles, explaining the board will review each article. Selectman Dickhaut began the review stating articles 1 to 9 are standard. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve articles 1 to 9 as presented. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 10 is requested by the Board of Health to allow the department to have a revolving account to deposit all of the fees generated by the department to be used toward the departmental expenses. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve Article 10 as presented. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was 4/0/1 abstention by Selectman Dickhaut. Article 11 is for the town to hire a consultant to do a review of the personnel salary grid and job descriptions. Selectman Sargent reminded the board they budgeted for this review in the Solicitors budget. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to delete this article. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 12 is a water meter replacement program. Superintendent McGown explained it would cost 1 million in funding to institute this program. He reviewed a few years ago the town received a grant, which studied the water conservation and town wide leaks. The percentage should be about 10% or less, this study showed 25 to 30% of unaccountable water passing through the meter at the plant. The majority of the meters in town are older from 1987, this program will a lot for testing of the old meters and replacing them. It will be a revenue neutral venture, borrowing from the water enterprise fund. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the article as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 13 is regarding the railroad land purchase for \$40,000.00 regarding the landfill project. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the article as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under discussion: Chairman Dziokonski stated he feels the railroad is taking advantage of the tax payers. The vote was unanimous. Article 14 is approving the funding for the land purchase for \$137,000.00 to be used during the landfill project. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to support this motion. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. Under discussion: Selectman Connolly asked for clarification the funding will come from the landfill project. Administrator Ward explained the funding will be borrowed and paid back through the Landfill Enterprise Fund. Chairman Dziokonski reviewed he feels the purchase amount is too high, there for he doesn't support this article. The vote was 4/1 Chairman Dziokonski was opposed. Article 15 is approving \$19,820.00 funding to purchase a tractor for the Parks & Recreation Department. Selectman Sargent made a motion to support the motion. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. Under discussion Selectman Connolly explained he is in support of the purchase, but would

like to see the Facility Director make the purchases in the future. The vote was unanimous. Article 16 is approving \$2,320.00 in funding for the Park & Recreation to purchase new equipment. Selectmen Dickhaut made a motion to approve the article as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Articles 17& 18 are approving funding for repairs and repainting to Foster Fountain in Central Park. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the articles as presented suggesting they be combined. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 19 is approving funding for a school technology upgrade purchasing new technology equipment for the school. This article was also sent as a citizen's petition. Town Administrator Ward explained Article 19, 20; 21 and 22 are duplicated with citizen petitions. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to delete articles 19 through 22 because they are duplications of citizen petition articles. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 23 is approval for the town to accept M G L Chapter 40 Sec 3 which allows the school to keep funding from rentals in a separate account. Selectman Connolly made a motion to support this article as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous. Article 24 is supported by the Planning Board and would be approval of a temporary moratorium on Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers until December 31, 2014. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve this article as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Article 25 is approval to amend the Zoning by Laws of the town to change the zoning district boundaries on the zoning map for the parcel land at 355 West Boylston Street, with the intent to create an industrial zone. Selectman Sargent made a motion to accept this article. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under discussion: Selectman Connolly asked who owns the property. Selectman Dickhaut requested the board table the discussion on this article until more information is available to the board. The board agreed. Articles 26 & 27 are regarding procedural changes to the planning board application process. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the articles as presented. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous. Articles 28, 29, 30 and 31 are citizen petitions. Article 28 is approval of \$70,000.00 worth of improvements to the Veteran's Athletic Complex. Article 29 is approval of \$610,000.00 to fund improvements to the Middle School building. Article 30 is approval of \$100,000.00 to purchase critical technology upgrades for the Clinton Public Schools. Article 31 is to approve \$79,000.00 to improve sidewalks at the Clinton High School. Selectman Connolly made a motion to reorder the articles by priority as to how the school department presented them. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Connolly reviewed how much funding will be put in the trust fund for post employment benefits. Administrator Ward explained funding should be added to articles 7 & 8. Superintendent McGown reviewed with the board there is a shortfall in funding for permitting funding for the landfill project and the project will not be accepting soil until

July 1. Mr. McGown proposed a Special Town Meeting to approve a warrant article to borrow \$100,000.00 to cover expenses of permitting for the landfill project. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the request to have a Special Town Meeting prior to Annual Town Meeting, to approve an article to borrow \$100,000.00 in funding for the landfill project permitting and expenses. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Selectman Dickhaut made a motion at 8:30PM to adjourn. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Corbosiero  
Administrative Assistant to the  
Clinton Board of Selectmen