

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
February 19, 2020**

Chairman Connolly, Selectman Boitoneau, Selectman Devault, Selectman Dziokonski. Selectman Kerrigan was in absent. Attendees were Solicitor Gibbons and Town Administrator Ward. Chairman Connolly opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Public Comment

There was none.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from February 5, 2020 Selectmen's meeting for review and approval. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Transfer of Stock and Change of Manager Hearing – 27 High Street
Ercoli, Inc. d/b/a Clintons Bar & Grille with Albert Sousa as Proposed Manager on
Record**

Chairman Connolly reviewed no representatives are in attendance this will be tabled until the next meeting.

Common Victuallers License – 382 Water Street

Chairman Connolly opened the hearing and invited the applicant forward. Mr. MD Chowhug was before the board. Chairman Connolly asked for him to explain to the board the business. Mr. Chowhug explained he is planning to open a convenience store, he has been a prior owner of one which he sold but now he wants to open one again. Selectman Dziokonski asked if he is taking over an existing business. Mr. Chowhug explained it is the former Pam's Place. He is renting the location to open the business. Chairman Connolly opened the public hearing for public comment in favor, there was none, in opposition, there was none. He closed the public hearing. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to grant the Common Victuallers License as requested. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Clinton Fire Union – Collective Bargaining Agreement

Chairman Connolly invited Fire Captain Chamberlain before the board. Fire Captain PJ Chamberlain was before the board, he began by thanking the board for having him. He was sorry to have to be in front of the board he doesn't want to waste their time. He has

been trying to get some answers from Mr. Ward and the boards Attorney on wrapping up the contract which is due to expire on June 30. He has questions that have gone unanswered by e-mail. Solicitor Gibbons explained it is up to the Union's Attorney to respond. He explained the Attorney was e-mailed last week and as of today has not responded. He explained Attorney Anastropolus corresponds with the Union's Attorney, he can only correspond with him and as of today he hasn't received a response to recent e-mail. Captain Chamberlain explained he intended to contact him this evening and there will be an answer by tomorrow, he wished he had received a response to the e-mails he sent out to Attorney Anastropolus with the explanation he needs to work with counsel that would have went along way. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed he didn't find sincerity in the apology made by Captain Chamberlain, he doesn't believe it. He is aware there is a request to change language regarding drug use policy that had been accepted, once it had been written by the union. The board had been accepting of the language and then the union wanted to amend it after drafting it. Captain Chamberlain explained that was his question. Selectman Dziokonski explained the town and Fire Union agreed on language then the leadership in the union changes and the language wasn't good enough. Now you are trying to cast disparaging image on Town Counsel, when this is between you and the Union Attorney. Captain Chamberlain explained the union has agreed to the contract it has been 2 years, they have no concerns what so ever on the drug use policy. Discussion continued regarding a lack of communication between the union's attorney and the union, Selectman Devault asked why it could not have been communicated in a telephone conversation to Captain Chamberlain. Solicitor Gibbons explained he could not reach out to Captain Chamberlain directly he has to work through his counsel. Captain Chamberlain indicated he will reach out to the union counsel. Chairman Connolly explained there was a breakdown in communication between the union and their counsel. Captain Chamberlain explained he was also before the board to inform them of a recent incident that took place at the Annual Turkey Trot. He explained a participant had a medical emergency and two off duty nurses started life saving measures prior to the Emergency responders. He wanted to recognize Miss. Hillary Hart and Mrs. Jillian O'Malley for all of their efforts, ensuring the families had a Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas with their loved one. Chairman Connolly thanked Captain Chamberlain for bringing this to the board's attention. Captain Chamberlain thanked the board and apologized for the miscommunication.

Michael Vanasse- West Ledge Estates Streetlights

Chairman Connolly invited Mr. Vanasse forward for discussion. Mr. Michael Vanasse of 10 West Ledge Road, was before the board representing the residents of West Ledge Estates. He explained they are seeking a solution to get the street lights installed by using funding being held in escrow. He explained he has asked where the escrow account is, no one knows what happened. There are three cement bases with conduit

and bolts coming out of them. There are about 20 children residing in the neighborhood these are dangerous. He explained he has been to every board to inquire about the completion of the lighting. He is aware the town has accepted the development, but it wasn't 100% completed. Chairman Connolly reviewed it is not a requirement of the town to complete the street lights, the developer puts the street lights in. He understands the Planning Board did sign off on the project. Selectman Dziokonski explained he sympathizes with the flight, the Planning Board signed off to accept the streets, then send you to the Board of Selectmen to have lights put in. He explained he is apprehensive to install because for all future developments the contractors will not complete them with the expectation the town will. Administrator Ward explained he has been trying to research the escrow account after hearing the lights hadn't been put up. He also researched with the DPW no lights were delivered as the developer stated. He had inquired with National Grid for assistance in putting the lights in, they were planning on reviewing the area to determine if the bases looked good for use. The town agrees to the cost of the electricity for the lights if National Grid will install, if there is work required the developer should complete. Selectman Dziokonski asked if the developer is still in business. Administrator Ward explained yes. Chairman Connolly asked for Town Counsel to send a letter to the developer asking them to fulfill the obligation of the street lights. Solicitor Gibbons stated he can do that. Selectman Devault asked if the approval is contingent upon the criteria met of the lights being installed. Administrator Ward explained the Planning Board approved the plan on behalf of the town. Chairman Connolly explained there must be documents in the Planning Board records, the site plan was approved. Administrator Ward agreed the lights must have been part of the sight plans submitted. Discussion continued and the board agreed to have the Solicitor research planning board files and send notice to developer. Selectman Dziokonski explained he feels the town should pursue the developer, he explained he is ultimately in favor of the town putting the lights up and then suing the contractor. This cannot be allowed, the contractor cannot get away with it. Chairman Connolly reviewed if the board is supportive of installing the street lights if the infrastructure is adequate, the town can pursue the funding at town meeting to cover the cost. The board agreed, Solicitor Gibbons explained he will send out letter to contractor.

Fuller Field Commission-Appointments & Facility Maintenance

Chairman Connolly explained the board had received a request from the Fuller Field Commission to discuss the status of appointments to their board and concerns regarding operations and maintenance of Fuller Field property. Chairman of Fuller Field Commission Matt Kobus was before the board for discussion. Chairman Connolly reviewed the vacancies and appointments process is currently under review by the Government Affairs Committee. The Committee is reviewing the open seats and working on a proposal to present to the board. All of the positions have a term, some may be

expired they are asking all current members to serve until the process is completed. Mr. Kobus asked if the current commission is still valid to continue its service. Chairman Connolly explained yes they may serve until they need to be replaced. Mr. Kobus explained all of the commission members terms had expired in 2019. Chairman Connolly understands and at this time there are other boards that have the same circumstance. Mr. Kobus asked about the Fuller Field Commission allowing volunteers to work on the field. He asked if the commission can establish a volunteer policy. He would like to work with the Town Counsel to establish a waiver to utilize the volunteers but not take on liability. Solicitor Gibbons reviewed he would be happy to work with the Commission. Mr. Kobus explained he has completed a lot of research, he has reviewed 6 communities that have a volunteer policy. Selectman Dziokonski explained his concern would be what is being done is needed. Mr. Kobus explained \$25,000 to \$30,000 dollars' worth of work was completed by volunteers to the renovated field the scope of work will make sense and be logical. Chairman Connolly explained he is aware of the volunteer projects that have been completed and they are great but the town have to work with Town Counsel on clearing the town of the liability and coordinate with the Facility Department on work to be completed.

FY2021 Budget Hearings

Fuller Field Commission

Chairman Connolly asked Mr. Kobus to review the FY21 budget request for the Fuller Field Commission. Mr. Kobus explained he isn't prepared to present his budget tonight. He has heard from Mrs. Magliozzi and plans to present to the Finance Committee on Tuesday.

Town Clerk

Administrator Ward explained the Town Clerk notified the office she is not feeling well. She prepared the FY21 departmental budget showing the only increase is an additional Election. Selectman Dziokonski explained the budget is fairly straight forward. Chairman Connolly stated he will take this under advisement.

Council on Aging

Executive Director of the Senior Center Deborah Goodsell was before the board. Ms. Goodsell reviewed she has been to the Finance Committee and reviewed the budget is straight forward. As she explained to the Finance Committee she is happy and able to do what they want with the funding provided. She has one increase in the Program Coordinators salary, in the current budget 10 hours are covered by a grant, in the FY21 budget she has asked for the full salary to be budgeted. Selectman Devault asked about the \$117,000 in salaries including the Director and Assistant Director and Program Coordinator, with \$12,000 budgeted for programs. Ms. Goodsell reviewed some

programs are provided by volunteers or grants, others are supported by seeking outside sources. Some require a small fee to participate as well. The board thanked Ms. Goodsell for the presentation.

Police Department

Police Chief Mark Laverdure was before the board to review the departmental budget. He began by explaining there are increases in the level service, an additional patrolman and the increase to the dispatcher's salaries. He explained he included the sick time buy back expense as well. Along with the mayday radio expense requested by the Fire Department. He reviewed if he were to work on a level funded budget he would have to lay off a patrolman. The contract is expiring in June, and he has one retirement planned for the next year. He explained it is a very busy department, the job is done differently from the past. Selectman Devault asked if the additional patrolman is to fill in the retirement. Chief Laverdure explained he had planned on the need to replace the retiring officer and there is a need for an additional one. Chairman Connolly asked if you are fully staffed including covering the retirement, would that eliminate the overtime expense. Chief Laverdure explained somewhat. Selectman Devault asked for patrolman to work on the parking on High Street. The board thanked Chief Laverdure for review.

Fire Department

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the Chief had a scheduling conflict and will be at the next meeting.

Administrative Business

Town Hall Use Events

Chairman Connolly reviewed an application has been submitted for use of the Fallon Memorial Auditorium:

CPS Scholarship Fundraiser Event Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the date as requested. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

One Day Liquor License Requests

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received a request for a One Day Liquor License to be used in conjunction with the fundraising event for the Phillip J. Philbin Jr. Scholarship event, to be held in the auditorium on March 11, 2020. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Fish Fry Banner Request

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received a request from Clinton Turn Verein to hang a banner on the town owned property at the corner of High & Water Streets from February 28 to April 10, 2020, to advertise the upcoming Friday Night Fish Fry dinners to be held at Clinton Turn Verein. Selectman Devault made a motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Devault asked for the banner to be removed once the events are over, in the past one had stayed up a long time beyond the advertised event. The vote was unanimous.

Water/Sewer & Trash Abatements Request

Chairman Connolly reviewed the Superintendent of Public Work McGown submitted a list of water/sewer and trash abatements in the amount of \$47,725.70 from the last billing cycle for action by the board. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to approve the abatements as presented. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Devault asked if this was unusually high amount for abatements. Administrator Ward explained the amount is abnormally high due to a large abatement of \$30,000 for one property that was vacant with an undetected leak. Superintendent McGown explained the meter was inside the building and no one had access to it. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

30 Day Liquor License Renewals

Administrator Ward reviewed the Building Inspector is recommending full approval of the remaining 30 day 2020 temporary liquor license renewals held by the Old Timers and Simple Man Saloon. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to grant the approval for annual renewal for the Liquor License held by Old Timers and Simple Man Saloon. Selectman Boisoneau seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward explained the Building Inspector indicated he is working with the Fire Chief and the license holders to have everything completed by the end of the week, prior to the temporary approval expiring. The vote was unanimous.

Request for School Committee to Surplus Old Fire Station

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board requested the School Committee surplus the Old Fire Station and allow the board of Selectmen to oversee it. The School Committee voted to hold on to turning over the building at this time until more information is presented on the reuse for this property since it is so close to the Clinton Elementary School. Chairman Connolly explained he understands the concern but it is not the responsibility of the board to draft a reuse plan. He feels it is in the best interest to pursue the request with the School Committee and not draft a reuse plan. Selectman Devault made a motion to have

a representative of the board, he volunteered to attend the next School Committee meeting to review the intent of the subcommittee and answer questions, and he would also invite the Facility Director to attend with him as well. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Devault explained the whole point is to develop a plan of the unused properties in town. Chairman Connolly explained he is supportive of the idea and it is good for the subcommittee to create a plan of surplus properties, he recommended inviting a School Committee member to serve on the subcommittee. The vote was unanimous.

Board & Committee Appointment Process

Chairman Connolly reviewed this is being reviewed by the Government Affairs subcommittee, a meeting will be scheduled prior to the next meeting.

Capital Projects & Infrastructure Improvements Stabilization Fund Guidelines

Chairman Connolly explained an amendment to the Clinton Administrative Bylaws at the 2019 ATM to establish a process for the board to transfer surplus funds from the Landfill Capping Project to the Capital Projects & Infrastructure Improvements Stabilization Fund. The Attorney General's Office approved the Bylaw change. There is a need to establish more comprehensive guidelines and use of funds that will require the board's approval. Selectman Devault made a motion to have the Government Affairs Committee establish guidelines to be presented to the board. Selectman Boisoneau seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dziokonski explained this is most important, the funding is a fairly substantial amount and cannot be spent on Personnel that would be bad business. Chairman Connolly agreed explaining the biggest issues for the town is the infrastructure, and the street maintenance, which is never funded. Grant funding or Chapter 90 funding is used and it has been difficult to catch up on infrastructure needs. Selectman Devault asked if the guidelines to be developed will be long term. The board agreed. The vote unanimous.

Olde Home Day Donation Request

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board has received a request for a donation to support the annual event. He explained the board has made donations to the event in the past, he asked of a representative committee to come before the board to present the need going forward. Selectman Dziokonski reviewed he is aware Selectmen Kerrigan works with the committee and he may be able to add to the discussion at the next meeting.

Committee Reports

Surplus Property Committee

Selectman Boissoneau reviewed he has a comprehensive list of the miscellaneous town property, he would like the committee to review and decide what to do with it. Chairman Connolly explained the list of properties may have the addition of the Armory and possibly the St. Johns Properties he is aware the church is planning on selling them. Selectman Devault suggested the Administrator reach out to the Church. Administrator Ward stated he would be happy to speak with the Pastor to open the dialogue.

Cable Committee

Selectman Devault reviewed the committee hired a part time consultant to help draft a job description for a Director and studio. The Director position is a main goal. He explained there has been no response from Comcast on the contract.

HR Search Committee Update

Selectman Devault asked for an update on when the committee will meet. Administrator Ward reviewed he will schedule a meeting for next week, he tried to schedule prior but didn't get a response from all members on a date.

Facility Department Plan Update

Selectman Devault asked for an update from the Director of Facilities on long term use of office space, he is aware he was searching for locations for office space and Dr. Meyers explained there is space at the central office building. Administrator Ward reviewed the Facilities Director is working on a plan, some funding is needed to support small renovations to accommodate some moves.

Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned,

Joyce A. Corbosiero

Executive Assistant to the Clinton Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator