

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
February 20, 2019**

Chairman Dziokonski, Selectman Iacobucci Selectman Sargent, Selectman Connolly, and Selectman Kerrigan were in attendance. Attendee was Town Administrator Ward. Chairman Dziokonski opened the meeting at 7:00PM. He asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Rosemary Hazel, she was a former employee of the town Collectors office and worked many elections.

Public Comment

Mr. Jeffrey Swann 132 Franklin Street was before the board at the prior meeting to review a prepared statement regarding the Cable Committee. Mr. Swann explained he wanted to follow up on that issue, he is concerned regarding the lack of cable committee meetings and also the funding the town receives to be used for the department. He wanted more information on where the funding is spent, and how it is spent. He stressed a cable studio is needed and will be important to the town. A lot of these concerns can be resolved with a cable committee meeting. Selectman Iacobucci explained there is a committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30PM. Chairman Dziokonski stated he is looking forward to the day the local access channel offers more programming. He has friends in other communities who enjoy all of the local programming offered. Selectman Kerrigan explained no one is turned away there are many resources to be used in the cable department and a lot of volunteer opportunities available. The committee will be reviewing the renewal of the contract and a lot of the information has changed, they plan to maximize all they can for the community. Administrator Ward agreed, any member of the community interested in equipment use or producing a program please contact the office. He explained perhaps more education to the community on what is available is needed. Chairman Dziokonski explained Mr. Swann is welcome to attend the public Cable Committee meeting scheduled for next week.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from February 6, 2019 Selectmen's meeting for review and approval. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Kerrigan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Gael Force First Robotics Team Presentation - Charles McGinn

Chairman Dziokonski invited members of the Gael Force First Robotics Team forward. Four students were before the board, Mr. Charles McGinn handed out information to the board. He began the presentation with an explanation of what the FIRST program is and

the upcoming competition schedule. He explained Clinton High School is Team 126, and has been a team since the creation of the FIRST Robotics program over 28 years ago. Ms. Molly McGinn explained the design and build of the robot to be used in the upcoming competition. She expressed how much she has learned from participating in FIRST, she is a senior and has participated since she was a freshman. She enjoys collaborating with the engineers from NYPRO and has learned a lot. Mr. Cosmo Martino reviewed he has been working on the programming for the robot, he provides a set of instructions for the mechanical parts to work on the robot. He takes the physical aspects and writes computer code using JAVA Script to operate the robot. He teams up and works with a software engineer and has learned a lot. Ms. Kiera Coyne explained she is a freshman and this is her first year participating in the program. She reviewed all of the work is being completed at the school now and this has really given all of the students an opportunity to work on the project. She explained she is happy to be a part of the team. Ms. Anna Ward explained she is a freshman and is participating for the first time. The program provides many educational opportunities for students. She explained she has participated in the building of the robot over the last 6 weeks and she has been taught skills beyond what she has been taught in the classroom. The program is very helpful to students interested in STEM careers, what is learned will carry on to their careers and college experiences. Mr. McGinn thanked the board and the town for all of the continued support to the program over the last 28 years. All are thankful for the continued support of the community and the sponsors to the program especially NYPRO. All the board members praised the students for a great job down and participating in the program. Chairman Dziokonski explained the students do a wonderful job representing the community. Selectman Connolly made a motion to make a donation to the FIRST program in the same amount as years prior. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. McGinn thanked the board and shared the team can be followed at First Broadcasting at Bluealliance.org, they are team 126.

Green Communities Presentation – Kelly Brown

Chairman Dziokonski invited the representative from Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources forward for discussion. Ms. Kelly Brown was before the board, she is the Central Mass Coordinator. She presented a slide show of information on the flagship program, Green Communities. She reviewed the five criteria to participate, the first is zoning, the community must adopt as right planning, the second is expedited permitting, third have an energy reduction plan, fourth purchase electric vehicles and adopt a fuel efficiency policy and fifth minimize cost in new construction adopting the stretch code. She explained to meet the qualifications the town may chose to work with Mr. John Hume and Ms. Karen Chapman of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Hume explained there is a community technical assistance grant available. This grant is used to assist communities with projects the application is due by March 4. The application

to the state would be due in October. Mr. Hume reviewed requirements to participate are the board write a letter of interest and discuss at a public meeting. This meetings discussion will satisfy the discussion. Selectman Kerrigan noted this was part of the 2017 Goals he put together for completion, he is supportive of patriating. Administrator Ward explained at this point the board can review the program requirements and the steps to meet them, once the board approves town meeting approval is also required. Selectman Connolly made a motion to authorize the chairman to sign a letter to approve participation in the MRPC technical assistance program to assess the community for eligibility for Green Communities. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Chairman Dziokonski explained he is looking forward to moving forward with the process, this will benefit the town.

Zoning By- Law Proposal for Retail Marijuana Establishments

Chairman Dziokonski explained the board has invited the Chairman of the Planning Board and Director of Economic Development before the board to discuss amending the zoning by-law for marijuana establishments. Mr. Paul Curran Chairman of the Planning Board and Clerk of the Planning Board Mr. Steve Lipka along with Community & Economic Development Director Mr. Phil Duffy were before the board for discussion of a proposal to extend the number of marijuana retailer licenses available in town. Selectman Connolly reviewed he initiated the conversation to modify the existing zoning by-law, he is supportive of the two companies the licenses have been granted two and would like to explore a change to allow for more retailers. At this time the town has work on host agreements with Tyca Green and KRD Growers, Inc. Tyca Green has received approval and KRD Growers is scheduled for final discussion later on in meeting. The town limited the number of licenses to 20% of the alcohol retailer licenses, making it 2. Administrator Ward explained the state mandates a community can have the same number as package store licenses making Clinton eligible for 9. Selectman Connolly explained two licenses serve nobody's interest, competition will dictate the quality if the product and provide the best opportunity for the public. Mr. Lipka explained there may be traffic issues associated with an establishment. Selectman Connolly explained if additional licenses issued it will spread out the traffic to all of the establishments. Mr. Curran explained he would support issuing three or four licenses. Selectman Connolly explained he is an advocate of free enterprise, open competition. He explained the current by-law is limiting for no reason. Mr. Lipka asked if whatever decision is made on the number has to receive town meeting approval. Selectman Connolly agreed. Mr. Duffy reviewed this was an arbitrary discussion, the anticipation was for adverse impacts these licenses may bring to town. If there is a market, he would expand with consideration. Discussion continued and board members agreed nine is a large number, they are unsure. It was discussed to take a slow approach over so many years to expansion. Selectman Kerrigan asked for a map to be prepared to show where the business would be. Selectman Connolly agreed that

would be helpful to review. Mr. Duffy explained the industry is increasing regulatory standards which involve responsive changes in the industry, he understands changes may come with approval of on-site consumption. The board thanked all for attending and opening a dialogue.

Property Easement Proposal for 285 West Boylston Street

Chairman Dziokonski invited the representatives of 285 West Boylston Street forward for discussion on the property easement proposal. Mr. Peter Moran and Mr. Paul Brodmerkle were before the board. Mr. Brodmerkle explained the property has been in their family for 94 years, their grandfather bought it in 1926, the land has been underutilized. The property is a direct abutter to the Clinton landfill area, there are 28 acres total 15 in Clinton and 13 in Sterling. The area is zoned industrial and they are trying to make use of it as a solar farm. The area would contain solar panels that would be checked on weekly so this project would not generate a lot of traffic. The project would require an easement to get the power out to South Meadow Road. This easement would be over the town owned property. He explained use of the property would generate tax revenue for the town and provide a use of the land. Selectman Sargent asked if the solar panels will be seen from West Boylston Street. Mr. Brodmerkle explained the area is below the street grade, so they would not be visible. Selectman Connolly reviewed there would be a value to the lines installed, would the town be able to use them. Mr. Brodmerkle explained yes, the town could use provided the right away is approved. Selectman Sargent asked if they have spoken with the DPW Superintendent. Mr. Moran explained he has spoken to Mr. McGown and he is in favor of it, he views it has a help to the solar he would put in at landfill. Selectman Connolly asked for a timeline on the project, explaining the capping of the landfill is ongoing. Mr. Brodmerkle explained it would be a quick construction and possible the West Boylston Street access could be used. Selectman Kerrigan stated he would like more information and the assurance from National Grid that the town will be eligible to install solar panels if the project also installs panels. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve, subject to review by the Town Solicitor and DPW Superintendent and any concerns regarding the town solar project are answered, with endorsement to grant an easement to the property article request be put on the town meeting warrant. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Administrative Business

Late Night Closings

Chairman Dziokonski reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of March 2019: Clinton Turn Verein, Crystal Café, Liberty Tavern, Ringside Café, Old Timers, Spruce Street Tavern and The Simple Man Saloon. Selectman Iacobucci made a motion to approve the requests as presented. Selectman Kerrigan seconded the motion. Under Discussion: The board agreed any

additional requests be sent for Police Chiefs review and approval. The vote was unanimous

Town Hall Use Events

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

CHS Senior Hop 2019 Annual Event Saturday, March 23, 2019

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

Old & New Business

Request to Meet with Clinton Housing Authority

Chairman Dziokonski reviewed an invitation was extended to the housing authority inviting them to a joint meeting this evening to discuss the recent activities and security concerns of some residents. Administrator Ward explained the Director of the Housing Authority indicated they would like the invitation to be extended by the full board of Selectmen. Selectman Connolly reviewed the Chairman has the full authority to invite anyone to the meeting. Selectman Kerrigan shared his thoughts, he lives within 2 blocks of the housing development where the murder occurred, he wanted to provide an opportunity for the Housing Authority to address concerns of the residents and answer questions, to reassure public safety. He finds the response to be insulting and withdraws the request to meet. Selectman Connolly agrees explaining this was an opportunity to be before the community and assure the safety in the public housing in town. It was a missed opportunity. Selectman Iacobucci reviewed this issue is bigger than any board, and concerns should be addressed. It is a community issue that should have dialogue and citizen concerns addressed. The main goal is to assure public safety.

KRD Growers, Inc. Host Community Agreement

Chairman Dziokonski explained the Solicitor Gibbons has been working with the attorney representing KRD Growers, Inc. on a draft agreement. An agreement has been drafted approving the Town Administrator to sign on behalf of the town. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the draft host agreement submitted by KRD Growers, Inc. Selectman Kerrigan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve a letter of non-opposition be drafted approving KRD Growers, Inc. with the authorized signature of the Chairman. Selectman Iacobucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

MMA 8th Grade Statewide Essay Contest

Administrator Ward explained the Massachusetts Municipal Association sent information soliciting communities to participate in their Annual 8th Grade Essay Contest. He explained if the board endorses the request, he will reach out to the school to participate. Selectman Sargent made a motion to endorse the MMA 8th Grade Statewide Essay Contest. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote is unanimous.

DCR Grant for Flood Protection in Clinton

Administrator Ward explained he will have more detailed information for the next meeting, but wanted the board to have notice the Massachusetts legislature approve \$50,000 for flood protection to clear debris from the Nashua River. He explained Superintendent McGown is putting together a scope of work to be reviewed by the board.

EOEA Grant Environmental Remediation in Clinton

Administrator Ward explained he will have more detailed information for the next meeting, but wanted the board to have notice the Massachusetts legislature approve \$35,000 for environmental remediation to the town owned land on the corner of High & Water Streets. He explained Mr. Duffy is putting together a scope of work to be reviewed by the board.

MMA Conference

Chairman Dziokonski shared a review of the workshop recently attended at the MMA Conference regarding Infrastructure Projects. He reviewed tips to working on projects communication, project champion, dollars identify funding source, careful wish list, information prepare unexpected, consult the contractors, realize who are trusted members of the team the consultants work on a percentage of the total project cost. The more oversight to a project the better.

Goals & Objectives

There was none.

Committee Reports

Downtown Committee

Chairman Dziokonski explained the next meeting is February 27th at 4:30PM in the Chamber.

Communication & Marketing Committee

Selectman Kerrigan explained there is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 26th at 7:00PM.

Cable Commission

Selectman Iacobucci announced a reminder of the next meeting for Wednesday, February, 27th at 6:30PM.

Executive Session Article 3 Public Works Union Negotiations 8 :35PM – 8:45PM

Selectman Sargent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50PM. Selectman Kerrigan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned,

Joyce A. Corbosiero

Executive Assistant to the Clinton Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator