Town Council Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 8:00 AM
GoToMeeting Teleconference
Minutes

Participated via GoToMeeting: Chris Aniskovich, Carol Walter, Dennis Donovan, Mark Richards, Eric Bergman, Christine Goupil and Tim Guerra

Also participated: Karl Kilduff, Town Manager

The council held their meeting via GoToMeeting teleconference. The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at http://reflect-vsctv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/gallery/3?channel=1

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM. The council recited the pledge of allegiance.

VISITORS

No visitors wished to speak at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M. Richards made a motion, seconded by T. Guerra to approve the minutes from February 17, 2021. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no new appointments at this time.

LINE ITEM TRANSFER REQUEST – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

M. Richards made a motion, seconded by E. Bergman to decrease $2,300 from Repairs and Maintenance, $6,000 from Advertising, $1,600 from Dues & Fees and $500 from Misc. Expenditures and increase Other Professional Services by $10,400. The motion was unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Aniskovich thanked everyone for their help during the budget workshops.
- Aniskovich thanked M. Neff for setting up a town email at covidhelp@clintonct.org so residents can submit questions related to the COVID vaccine.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

K. Kilduff reviewed his Town Manager's report with the council.   A copy of the report is attached to the minutes

- A review of the Council of Governments meeting held on February 24, 2021.
- A review of the Estuary Transit Board meeting held on February 19, 2021
- The new Town Attorney met with the Board of Assessment Appeals to provide some training in advance of their March hearings.
- Kelseytown Road Bridge will be closed starting March 15th through the Fall of 2021.

TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIASON REPORTS

- E. Bergman reported on Inland Wetlands Commission.
- C. Goupil asked for clarification on correspondences that come to the Town Council email box.

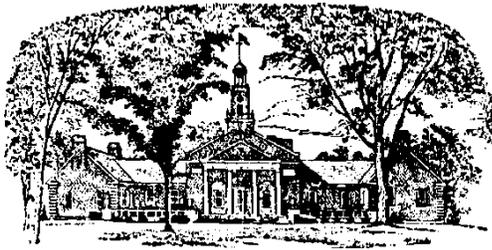**EXECUTIVE SESSION – REAL ESTATE, PURSUANT TO CGS 1-200 (6)(D)**

T. Guerra made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan to enter into executive session at 8:21 AM and invite K. Kilduff and M. Schettino. The motion was unanimously approved. The council came out of executive session at 8:34 AM. No action was taken by the council.

ADJOURN

M. Richards made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan and unanimously adjourned the meeting 8:35

AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino
Executive Assistant
Town Manager

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: March 3, 2021

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

1. **Council Business:**
   a) Radio Project: As I noted via email previously, the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) was unaware of grant funding opportunities that would have funded a radio system study as was proposed in a line item transfer.

      Moving forward with the funds that were approved as a transfer, the Town held a kick-off meeting with the consultant which included a review of technology standards, approaches to equipment, options and on-going maintenance. The consultant is collecting information from Police, Fire/EMS and Public Works which will establish the current level of service and needs of the Town. His work will continue establishing needs.

2. **CCM:**
   CCM will hold its next Legislative Committee meeting on March 4, 2021.

3. **River COG:**
   The Council of Governments met on February 24, 2021. Highlights from the meeting included:

   - Executive Orders – Attorney Steve Mednick reported on efforts to seek an Executive Order from the Governor that would provide predictability to the municipal budget process. At present, the Governor's emergency powers were extended through April 19 (which is in the midst of the municipal budget process). It is unclear if his powers will be extended again and direction needs to be given to help plan budget adoption processes. CCM and the Council of Small Towns (COST) are both advocating for an Executive Order. The topic was raised in a bi-weekly call for municipal officials with the Governor's staff but the discussion continued to focus singularly on actions that need to be taken before the current expiration of emergency powers, not afterwards.

   - Recertification – The COG's role as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Federal Highway Administration is under review. The review is part of a regular process which looks at the process used by the COG to allocate limited resources.

   - Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan – As reported previously, the next step in the adoption process was for the plan update prepared in the region to be submitted to the State. The State had no comments on the plan and moved it along to FEMA for their review and comment.

4. **Estuary Transit Board:**
    The Transit District Board met on February 19, 2021. Highlights from the meeting included:

    - <u>Audit</u> – A clean audit for the Transit District was received.

    - <u>Consolidation</u> – The Memorandum of Agreement between 9 Town Transit, Middletown Area Transit and the DOT was sent to the DOT for their review. A follow-up meeting is being scheduled with the DOT to discuss the agreement. Key to the consolidation of the two transit districts is financial support from the DOT.

    - <u>Ridership</u> – Ridership on all routes has been down due to the pandemic. As an example, the Clinton Trolley carried 841 riders in 2019. Ridership in 202 was only 167.

5. **Miscellaneous:**
    - <u>Town Attorney</u> – The Town Attorney provided refresher training to the Board of Assessment Appeals in advance of their March hearings to focus on their role and the standards for adjusting assessments as well as Executive Orders that impact their work.