

Town of Clinton
54 East Main Street
Clinton, Connecticut 06413

**Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 03, 2023
Town Hall Green Room**

In Attendance: Chairman Chris Aniskovich, Carol Walter, Dennis Donovan, Tom Hollinger, Hank Teskey, Carrie Allen and Chris Passante
Also participated: Karl Kilduff, Town Manager

C. Aniskovich called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. The council stood for the pledge of allegiance. The meeting can be viewed in its entirety online at <http://reflect-vsctv.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/gallery/3?channel=1>

VISITORS

No visitors wished to speak at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 19, 2023

C. Walter made a motion seconded by T. Hollinger to approve the minutes from April 19, 2023. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

C. Allen made a motion, seconded by C. Passante to appoint Cinzia Lettieri (D) to a full seat on Planning & Zoning for a term until November 2025. The motion was unanimously approved.

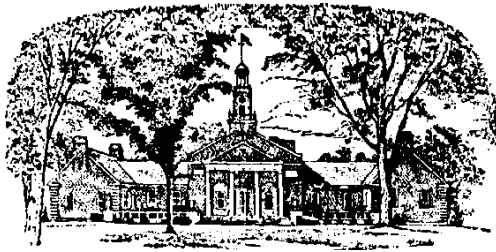
C. Allen made a motion, seconded by T. Hollinger to appoint Zachary Plourde (D) to an alternate seat on Planning & Zoning for a term until November 2023. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Donovan made a motion, seconded by T. Hollinger to appoint Walter “Beau” Clark (R) to an alternate seat on Planning & Zoning for a term until November 2025. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Donovan made a motion, seconded by C. Passante to appoint Tom Welch to the Coastal Resilience Task Force. The motion was unanimously approved.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MARINA RATES

The Harbor Commission has recommended increasing the Town Marina fees for the 2024 season. The last increase was in October 2014. C. Walter made a motion, seconded by T. Hollinger to increase the Town Marina rates as recommended by the Harbor Commission for the 2024 season. The motion was unanimously approved.



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2024 Rates for Clinton Town Marina

SLIPS	2023	2024	
Resident*	\$85	\$95	
Non-resident	\$100	\$115	
Mud slip**	\$400	\$600	

STAKES	2023	2024	
Resident*	\$800	\$900	
Non-resident	\$1,000	\$1,100	

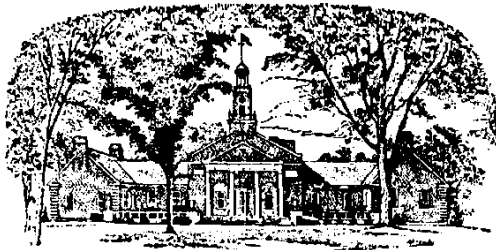
RAMP PASS	2023	2024	
Daily	\$20	\$25	
Annual Resident *	\$60	\$75	
Annual Non-resident	\$120	\$145	

FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION GOALS

At the last meeting the council met with the Economic Development Commission and they asked for direction from the council on what area the commission should first focus on. The focus for the commission should be business retention. The focus is for existing businesses to be successful and in turn it will attract new businesses to Clinton. The commission is going to reach out to existing businesses and find out what their needs are and how they can grow long term in the business community. The council agreed that the commission should first focus their efforts from the Fire Department to Grove Street. EDC should engage with business owners as well as property owners.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

C. Aniskovich said that he received an email from the Superintendent of Schools Maryann O'Donnell regarding council members wanting to tour the schools. Aniskovich will set something up and get back to everyone.



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TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

K. Kilduff reviewed his written report dated May 3, 2023.

- Sidewalk Program – The town has secured a grant for sidewalks which was planned to run from CVS to the CT Water Company building. This grant has a match of 20 percent from the town. The Town Manager is working with the Planner to divide the project into smaller parts.
- RiverCOG - The Regional Election Monitor reported that early voting may be rolled out for August 2024. The RiverCOG is putting a letter together on behalf of all the towns on the challenges and how it will impact smaller towns. K. Kilduff will sign the letter on behalf of the town.
- Small Business Grant – Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Middlesex County Revitalization Commission's Business Operating Grant Program. The program offers grants up to \$25,000 to qualified small businesses in Middlesex County. Applications will be accepted until May 19th. K. Kilduff will be on the grant screening subcommittee that will be reviewing applications for towns other than Clinton.
- Update on the Fish Ladder Project
- Clinton will be receiving 2 electronic signs through the State of CT Training & Technical Assistance Program that will record speed.
- The Housing Authority was given ARPA funds in the first round of funding to look at possible design and expansion of Glenhaven. Update was provided.
- Update on the CCM meeting regarding solid waste.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The council had nothing to discuss at this time.

TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

C. Passante reported on last night's Park & Recreation meeting which included their recommendations on Pickle ball courts.

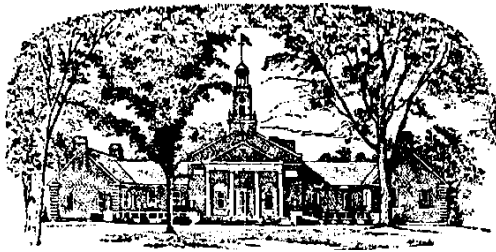
C. Allen reported on Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL, PURSUANT TO CGS 1-200(6)(A)

C. Walter made a motion, seconded by C. Allen to go into executive session at 8:57 AM and invite K. Kilduff and M. Schettino. The motion was unanimously approved. The council came out of executive session at 9:01 AM.

RATIFY APPOINTMENT OF PART TIME TAX CLERK

C. Walter made a motion, seconded by T. Hollinger to ratify the appointment of the part time Tax Clerk. The motion was unanimously approved.



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ADJOURN

C. Walter made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan and unanimously adjourned the meeting 9:02 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: May 3, 2023

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

1. Council Business:

- Filling Tax Clerk Vacancy - the part-timer working in the Tax Collector's office left to pursue a full time position with another community. The Town did advertise to fill the vacancy. I will need time at the next meeting for the Council to ratify the hire for this post.
- Sidewalk Project (Transportation Alternatives Program) – Previously, the Council discussed the viability of accepting a Transportation Alternative Grant to run sidewalks from the CVS to the Connecticut Water Company building. The grant comes with a 20% match. The Council will recall that this project was a grant that was sought back in 2019 and was originally rejected by the DOT. The influx of federal infrastructure funding brought new life to the original grant application. The amount of the Town's 20% match has ballooned since the time of the original application. When last discussed, the Council expressed some interest in the project but we were deeply concerned about the amount of local match required. The Department is still looking for the Town's interest in a project. Discussions are on-going with DOT staff regarding the scoping and cost of any partial project in the proposed area.

2. River COG:

The Council of Governments held a special meeting on April 26, 2023. Highlights of the meeting of relevance to Clinton included:

- Early Voting Report – The Regional Election Monitor reported that early voting may be rolled out for August 2024. The preferred legislation would have 10 days of early voting and require 3 employees at the voting station. The process is still being determined.
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – The CEDS was presented for approval by the COG to serve as the strategy in the region. The intent of the plan is to have it approved by the federal Economic Development Agency (EDA) and gain access to additional federal dollars. The plan was approved by the COG. The next step is for the State to approve the plan and have the Governor sign-off on it before submission to the EDA.
- Regional Housing Plan – The Regional Housing Committee, which was a recommendation from the regional plan, will have its first meetings later in May. The Council will recall that Town Planner Abby Piersall was appointed as Clinton's representative to the Regional Housing Committee.

3. Connecticut Conference of Municipalities

4. Miscellaneous:

- Union Contract Negotiations – The Town is still at a stage of trading proposals with the 5 bargaining groups that are open for negotiations. Negotiations will be on-going after the last exchange of proposals. As noted previously, ultimately, tentative agreements will have to come to the Council for approval.
- Fish Ladder – The fish ladder project has taken a number of twists and turns. The project was originally envisioned as a fish ladder over an existing dam. Then the condition of the dam suggested that a dam removal project would make more sense and still fit within the intention of the grant funding the design. Dam removal did have an impact to the Water Company's well field near Morgan High School. Their review of the project and potential impacts to the well head brings us back to examining the fish ladder. Final details need to be ironed out and further dialogue with the Water Company is necessary.
- Thriving Communities Grant – The COG received a grant under the Thriving Communities program offered by the federal DOT to help with transit oriented neighborhoods. Our region is the only awardee for this program in the State of Connecticut. The project is a joint effort of Clinton, Westbrook, Old Saybrook and Middletown aimed at building capacity to address the needs of transit-oriented neighborhoods. It will open the door to national level consultants aids the 4 COG towns in improving their communities to access additional federal funding.
- Small Business Grants - Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Middlesex County Revitalization Commission's (MCRC) Business Operating Grant Program. The program, funded through the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, offers grants of up to \$25,000 to qualified small businesses in Middlesex County Connecticut. The 2023 application window — April 20 to May 19 — is the first for the five-year program designed to provide financial and technical assistance to business owners so that they continue operations, and maintain, and grow, employment opportunities for Middlesex County residents. The grants may be used for equipment purchases, investments in new technology, leasehold improvements, marketing investments, and to mitigate negative effects of anticipated, and unanticipated, increases in operating costs as well as business interruptions from road/infrastructure projects in Middlesex County. As Clinton's representative to MCRC, I will be on the grant screening subcommittee that will be reviewing funding applications. Information on the program was shared with the Chamber of Commerce upon announcement to spread awareness of the program in Clinton.