



**TOWN OF CLINTON**  
**54 East Main Street**  
**Clinton, CT 06413**  
**860-669-9333**

**Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 03, 2026**  
**Town Hall Green Room**

In Attendance: Chairman Hank Teskey, Dennis Donovan, Brian Roccapriore (left at 9:30 am),  
Chris Passante, Chris Aniskovich and Jeremiah Dunn (left the meeting at 9:04  
AM)  
Absent: Carrie Allen  
Also participated: Michelle Benivegna, Town Manager

H. Teskey called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. Dennis Donovan led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

**MORGAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Liam Totten and Abigayle Stack were selected by The Morgan School to receive the Town Council Scholarship Award. The council presented each recipient with a check for \$250.00.

**VISITORS**

Seth Wolfe addressed the council regarding a petition to remove the Town Manager.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES –MAY 20, 2026**

B. Roccapriore made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan, to approve the minutes of May 20, 2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

**APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS**

C. Passante made a motion, seconded by J. Dunn and unanimously approved the following reappointments.

Wesley Kavanagh (U) Shellfish Commission for a term 6/30/28  
Antonella Vertucci (U) Economic Development Commission for a term until 6/30/30  
Katherine McCollom, Thomas Vicino & Phil Sengle (D) Board of Ethics term 6/30/31  
Peter Mezzetti (D) Cable TV Advisory for a term until 6/30/28  
Mary Jo Phelps (D) Conservation Commission for a term until 6/30/28  
Jaime Saturno (D) Design Review Board alternate seat for a term until 6/30/29  
Nancy Adams (D) Economic Development Commission for a term until 6/30/30  
Ian Coyne (D) Human Services Advisory Board for a term until 6/30/29  
David David (U) Human Services Advisory Board for a term until 6/30/29  
Mike Corcoran (D) Shellfish Commission for a term until 6/30/28



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Matthew Kennedy (D) Water Pollution Control Commission for a term until 6/30/29

David Adams, Douglas Elliot & Todd Higgins (U) Harbor Management Commission for a term until 6/30/30

Paula Tunney (U) Design Review Board for a term until 6/30/29

Sustainability Committee - Brett Martin & Matthew Grandfield – term until 6/30/28

Beautification Committee - Shari Collins, Bruce Lighty, Marc Palmieri, Angela Paradis, Dave Smith, Sherry Smith –for a term until 6/30/28

### **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Dustin Huguenin, the new Parks & Recreation Director, provided an update to the Council alongside members of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

There was an extended discussion regarding the speaker system at the Indian River Recreation Complex. The Commission recommended inviting the sound company to a future Council meeting to address ongoing concerns. C. Passante suggested relocating the speakers to the fan side of the field to improve audibility for spectators. The current speakers are positioned on the coaches' and players' side, where sound quality is reported to be adequate.

Among other topics, the Commission recommended naming the Indian River Recreation Complex building in honor of retired director Robert "Bo" Potter. C. Aniskovich made a motion, seconded by B. Roccapiore, to approve naming the facility in Potter's honor. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Roccapiore requested that Director Huguenin provide an update on the skate park at the next Council meeting. C. Passante also raised questions regarding the status of the basketball court following its conversion into a pickleball court.

### **HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION**

Town Clerk Lisa Balter provided a summary of the Historical Preservation Grant and outlined the intended use of the proposed funding. B. Roccapiore made a motion, seconded by J. Dunn, to authorize and direct the Town Manager to sign the Historical Preservation Grant Application in the amount of \$4,000. The motion was unanimously approved.



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## **PLANNING & ZONING PROJECTS UPDATE**

Planner Abby Piersall provided updates on a wide range of ongoing projects and departmental activities, including:

- Planning & Zoning and Inland Wetlands Commission applications, including:
  - Aldi application
  - Pierson project (parcel split)
  - Landfill project
  - 335 East Main Street application for six self-storage buildings
  - New stormwater regulations
  - Housing regulations to ensure compliance with new state requirements
  - Upcoming Planning & Zoning public hearing scheduled for June 22
  - Several proposed housing complex projects
- Business Development
  - Highlights of new and existing business activity in town
- Transportation & Recreation
  - Trolley service is up and running
  - Online kayak trails map discussion
- Grants & Administration
  - Updates on grant administration
  - Attendance at a CDBG seminar for future opportunities
- Harbor & Waterfront
  - Harbor Management Plan
  - Harbor Marina Landscaping Plan
  - Town Beach erosion concerns
- Infrastructure & Capital Projects
  - Federal Bridge Project – Waterside Lane Bridge public meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening
  - Sidewalk Project update
  - CMDA District
  - Unilever property and potential expansion
  - CDS Wastewater Project
  - GIS system update
  - Permitting system update
- Planning Initiatives
  - Liberty Green Plan and community visioning efforts in coordination with Public Works, the Tree Warden, and other stakeholders
  - Sustainability Committee activities
  - Zoning Regulations RFP, expected to be released soon
  - Stormwater management (MS4) compliance



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**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: REQUEST TO ACCESS BOARD OF EDUCATION NON-LAPSING ACCOUNT**

Maryann O'Donnell presented the Board of Education's request to access the Town's non-lapsing fund for the core switches/routers capital item that is shared with the town. An explanation of the request and project is attached to the minutes.

C. Passante made a motion, seconded by C. Aniskovich, that the Town Council authorizes the Board of Education to access the nonlapsing account funds for the operating expenses associated with unanticipated capital costs related to Network switches and the S2 system as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$60,000. The motion is unanimously approved.

An update was provided regarding the boilers at Joel Elementary School. During a routine repair, a crack was discovered in one of the boilers. After further inspection, it appears the boilers may require full replacement rather than a standard repair. Pricing is currently being obtained, and this item may need to return to the Council within the next couple of weeks for additional discussion and potential action.

**HUMAN SERVICES CLINICIAN POSITION APPOINTMENT**

M. Benivegna reviewed the hiring process for the Human Services Clinician position. B. Roccapriore made a motion, seconded by C. Aniskovich, to approve the appointment of the Human Services Clinician position presented by the Town Manager. The motion was unanimously approved.

**SET MILL RATE FOR FY2026-2027**

D. Donovan made a motion, seconded by B. Roccapriore that the Town Council hereby sets the rate of taxation on the taxable property of the Town for July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, fiscal year at 22.24 mills. The motion was unanimously approved.

**LINE ITEM TRANSFER**

B. Roccapriore made a motion, seconded by C. Passante, to approve the Public Works line-item transfer request to decrease repair and maintenance by \$3,464.46 and increase clothing allowance by \$1007.36 and snowplowing/sanding by \$2,457.10. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Donovan made a motion, seconded by B. Roccapriore, to approve the Police Department line item transfer request to decrease other items by \$400, marine support by \$1,400, animal control professional services by \$400 and increase longevity by \$2,200. The motion was unanimously approved.



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## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **Paving Route 81 Project**

An update was provided on the upcoming DOT paving project from Route 1 in Clinton to Route 80 in Killingworth, covering approximately six miles. A meeting was held with the Police Department and Department of Public Works at DOT to review project details.

- Milling is scheduled to begin on June 9 and conclude by June 25.
- Paving is scheduled to begin on June 29 and finish by August 17.

### **Eagle Scout Service Project**

The Eagle Scout Service Project at Bailey's Dog Park has been completed. A bike repair station has been installed at no cost to the Town. A photo will be circulated for the Council's review. Appreciation was expressed to the Eagle Scouts for providing this amenity. Once the project is fully finalized, additional photos and formal recognition will be shared on behalf of the Town.

### **Summer Concert Series**

The summer concerts are scheduled for July 9 through August 6 at the Pierson Gazebo.

### **Small Business Event**

The small business event has been postponed to the fall. A new date will be announced once finalized.

### **Waterside Lane Bridge Project**

An informational session on the Waterside Lane Bridge project will be held on Thursday, June 4, from 6–7 p.m. in the Green Room. The session will be recorded and made available for those unable to attend. The project is scheduled to begin in 2028 and be completed in 2030.

### **America 250 / Clinton 250th Anniversary Events**

Banners celebrating the 250th anniversary will be installed on light poles throughout Downtown.

### **Recent and Upcoming Events**

- Creative Expo at The Morgan School – Held on Thursday, May 14, sponsored by Clinton Public Schools and AM250/Clinton.
- Connecticut Open House Day – The Clinton Historical Society, in collaboration with AM250/Clinton, will participate on Saturday, June 13.
- Tapping Into the Past – Hosted by the Henry Carter Hull Library on Tuesday, July 21 at 6 p.m., featuring *Tapping into History: Tavern Life in Early Connecticut* presented by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History.
- Tories, Spies, and Traitors – Hosted by the Henry Carter Hull Library on Wednesday, August 12 at 6 p.m., presented by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History.

### **Clinton's 250th Celebration Festival Day – August 8**

Planning is underway for Clinton's 250th Celebration Festival Day on Saturday, August 8. Events will take place across multiple walkable locations throughout Downtown Main Street, from Café Nola/Henry on Main & Post Office Square to the Congregational Church Fair. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. at the Stanton House and continue throughout the day and evening.



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### **Boat Parade – August 29**

A boat parade will be held on Saturday, August 29 at 1 p.m. Participants are encouraged to decorate their boats in an America 250 theme. Following the parade, the Placemakers will host Dock Days at the Town Dock with activities for all ages.

### **Oyster Festival – September 19**

The Clinton Historical Society, in collaboration with AM250/Clinton, will host an Oyster Festival on September 19 from 12–4 p.m.

### **American Revolution Lecture Series**

AM250/Clinton sponsored a four-part lecture series on the American Revolution by historian David LeVasseur. The fourth and final lecture, 1777, will be held on Wednesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. at the Killingworth Fire Station. This series is a collaborative effort among AM250/Clinton, AM250/Killingworth, the Clinton and Killingworth Historical Societies, the Henry Carter Hull Library, and the Killingworth Public Library.

### **George Flynn Concert Series**

The George Flynn Concert Series, in collaboration with Clinton Public Schools and AM250/Clinton, is planning a concert titled “An American Songbook” to be held in November.

## **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

H. Teskey reported on the following items:

- Reviewed the Town Manager evaluation process
- Requested future clarification from the Finance Director regarding the Sidewalk Project
- Requested an update on town-related activities from local non-profit organizations
- Inquired about the status of American Legion grant funds
- Asked for an update on the hiring process for the Economic Development Coordinator
- Requested that C. Aniskovich provide a legislative update at the next meeting
- Requested a BRIC Grant update from the Town Manager
- Asked whether the Town had reached out to Beach Donut after the business was displaced, the Town Planner confirmed that contact had been made with the business owner

## **TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

D. Donovan asked why Old Saybrook received a \$2 million grant to upgrade its library and whether Clinton had applied for similar funding. It was noted that a bond commission request has been submitted by the Town Council Chair for the Clinton library upgrade project.

## **TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

No update was made at this time.



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**ADJOURN**

C. Passante made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:41 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino  
Executive Assistant