



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

Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 01, 2026
Town Hall Green Room

In Attendance: Chairman Hank Teskey, Carrie Allen, Dennis Donovan, Brian Roccapiore, Chris Passante, Chris Aniskovich and Jeremiah Dunn
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.

VISITORS

Seth Wolfe spoke briefly during the visitor portion of the meeting.

Andrea Rue requested that two Town Council members, one Democratic and one Republican, attend any Department of Transportation meetings involving the town.

Todd Hajek, Public Works Director, recommended the reappointment of Gary Bousquet as the town's Tree Warden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –JUNE 17, 2026

B. Roccapiore made a motion, seconded by J. Dunn, to approve the minutes of June 17, 2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS

J. Dunn made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan and unanimously approved the following appointments/reappointments.

Kristen Waterbury (R) Conservation Commission for a term until 6/30/2028
Sandy Allen & John Allen (R) Design Review Board for a term until 6/30/2029
Marc Palmieri (R) Economic Development Commission for a term until 6/30/2030
Joesph Alves (R) Fair Rent Commission for a term until 6/30/2030
Michelle Benivegna & Rita Foster – CRAHD for a term until 7/1/2029
Todd Pozefsky – Town Treasurer for a term until November 2027
Gary Bousquet – Tree Warden for a term until April 2028



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

An update was provided regarding the boilers at Joel Elementary School. A copy of the handout is attached to the minutes. The final proposal for the Joel Boiler Replacement is in the amount of \$633,285. The Board of Education received a State District Repair and Improvement grant of \$84,000, which was authorized for use toward the project. On June 14, 2026, the Board of Education authorized the Superintendent to request that the Town Council approve the expenditure from the established non-lapsing account. The Board requested that the remainder of the project cost, \$549,285, be funded through the non-lapsing account. The Council held a discussion regarding how the non-lapsing account would be replenished.

C. Passante made a motion, seconded by C. Aniskovich, that the Town Council authorize the Board of Education to access the nonlapsing account funds for operating expenses associated with unanticipated capital costs related to the replacement of the Joel Boilers a presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$549,285. The motion was unanimously approved.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION UPDATE – JOHN MAY, CHAIR

John May, Chairman of the Town Council, presented 2 proposals to the town. A copy of the proposals are attached to the minutes. The Town Manager will review the proposals and report back to the council.

TOWN COUNCIL VISION STATEMENT AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Town Council held a workshop on June 22, 2026, to discuss leadership, community priorities and long-term planning objectives. The council worked collaboratively to develop a new Vision Statement and Mission Statement to reflect Clinton's goals and aspirations for the future. Below are the statements that were agreed upon by the council.

Vision Statement

Clinton will be a thriving shoreline community where people of all ages and incomes can live, work, and prosper, rooted in a strong local economy, environmental stewardship, and the civic character that makes Clinton home.

Mission Statement

The Town of Clinton is committed to delivering efficient and effective municipal services that protect public health and safety, preserve our community's character and history, and provide responsible stewardship of our financial, physical, and environmental assets to its residents, businesses, and visitors.



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C. Passante made a motion, seconded by J. Dunn to adopt the Town Vision Statement and Mission Statement as a draft and put it out to the citizens of Clinton for the month of July. The motion was unanimously approved.

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

C. Allen made a motion, seconded by J. Dunn to approve the Public Works line-item transfer request to decrease WSAM carpeting by \$14,489.39 and P&R HVAC by \$3,801.08 and increase Eliot House Repair by \$18,290.47. 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 service contracts by \$6,250 and service contracts by \$750 and increase training by \$1,000, prisoner costs \$250, marine support \$5,000 and animal control professional service \$750. The motion was unanimously approved.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Rabies Clinic

The Town Clerk's Office hosted a rabies clinic at Town Hall on June 27th, and the event was very successful. I would like to thank the Town Clerk's Office, Clinton Veterinary Hospital for sponsoring the clinic, and our Animal Control Officer for their assistance.

Route 81 Paving Project

Paving work on Route 81 is nearing completion, and the roadway is now a much more pleasant drive. Thank you to everyone for their patience throughout this project.

America 250 Events

A number of events will begin this month in celebration of America 250. Updates and reminders will be posted regularly on social media, the Town's Facebook page, and the electronic sign in front of Town Hall. The summer concert series begins next week on Thursday, July 9th.

Red, White, and Blue Day

Town Hall is hosting a Red, White, and Blue Day today in recognition of the America 250 celebration. Proceeds from the dress-down day will support the efforts of the Fireworks Committee.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hank Teskey reported on the following items:

- Waterside Lane project updates were discussed.



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- The Council reviewed next steps for developing a vision and mission statement, including establishing policy initiatives. A workshop in July, on a Monday, will be scheduled. Mary will circulate potential meeting dates.
- The Harbor Commission plan review will be scheduled for a future Town Council meeting.
- The Town Manager performance review process was discussed. An executive session will be scheduled at the next meeting.
- Councilor Passante requested that Chairman Teskey connect with Amy Jennings regarding the timeline and next steps.

TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Gary Bousquet, Tree Warden, provided an Eversource update on the overall tree removal process occurring throughout town. He noted that Eversource is working closely with the Tree Warden and the Public Works Director. He also provided an update on the trees on Liberty Green.

TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

No update was made at this time.

ADJOURN

C. Passante made a motion, seconded by D. Donovan and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino
Executive Assistant

Economic Development Committee

July, 01 2026

Proposals to the Town Council

EDC Members:

Chair: John May

Vice Chair: Dylan Walter

Members: Antonella Vertucci, Rob Acampora, Bob Murdock, Mark Palmieri, Stephanie Dicostanzo, Nancy Lucas, Nicki Dakis, James Segaloff

Proposal 1: CPIP (Commercial Property Inventory Platform)

A program created by Clinton Resident Patrick Shay which would streamline the data collection process for commercial inventory in the town of Clinton.

We of the EDC believe it will be both helpful for prospective investors in our town and our town by streamlining the dissemination of data. This program will shorten the time of data collection , our ability to provide that data to interested parties and enhance the client experience.

Proposal 2: Clinton Connect : an SMS service to be run by the EDC Coordinator

We of the EDC believe the town's adopting of an SMS service will provide out residents a resource in which to stay current in town events. Voting, special town votes, surveys (ie. POCD) , entertainment and sporting events. Residents who chose to participate can opt into select categories and can opt out any time. The vision is to increase community awareness and participation.

Getting the word out to residents can take many forms: adding an opt in to SMS feature to the Town's website, a hashtag which would connect to the SMS registration that local businesses can use on their own websites or social media posts.

The vision. Each week, stakeholders in the program send the EDC Coordinator events taking place. The EDC Coordinator then sends out the SMS. "Reminder: Voting is tomorrow. Polls open from 6am to 8pm" or "Live Music this weekend at X at 8pm".

**BOE REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO THE NONLAPSING ACCOUNT
JULY 1, 2026**

Joel School Boiler Replacement

The Joel Boilers are 26 year old cast iron sectional boilers and we have two boilers to provide redundancy and backup to support the heating system. One of the boilers has been leaking and upon an attempt to repair the leaking section, another leak was discovered. Further inspection identified multiple cracks in the boiler that will prevent the ability to repair the boiler. This finding influenced a closer inspection of the second boiler and similar cracks were found in that boiler. Although it is not yet leaking, the visual inspection led to concerns of a boiler failure in the Fall of 2026 when the boilers will be activated again for the heating season.

Our HVAC vendor was requested to provide a recommendation for next steps to ensure no failure of the heating system will occur. They evaluated the boilers and stated that an attempted repair or utilizing the existing operational boiler would put the school at risk of boiler failure and an inability to heat the building. They stated that the suggested course of action was to move towards the replacement of both boilers.

Through the Town's Membership in the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) we engaged with Gordian Services to develop a scope of work and cost estimate for the project. Working with Gordian's Job Order Contracting for construction projects, we are able to meet all state and district procurement policies and move projects forward in a timely way, using competitively-awarded contracts and construction management. The District has worked with Gordian for several capital projects in the past and have had excellent experiences with cost-effective services and timely project management.

Gordian visited the site and developed a final proposal for the Joel Boiler Replacement in the amount of \$633,285. In 2026, the Board of Education received a State District Repair and Improvement Project Grant (DRIP) equal to \$84,000 and it will be authorized by the BOE to be used for the Joel Boiler Project. The remainder of the project funding (\$549,285) would be requested from the BOE Non-Lapsing Account. Approval is requested now, to allow for equipment acquisition lead time and project demo, installation, and start up prior to the beginning of heating season. Currently, the Non-lapsing Account has an available balance of \$870,963. If the funding is approved for the Joel Boiler Project, the remaining balance in the Non-lapsing account would be \$321,678.

Board of Education Review and Approval

On June 15, 2026, the Board of Education authorized the Superintendent to request that the Town Council approve the expenditure from the established nonlapsing account for unanticipated, emergency capital needs.

PROPOSED MOTION: *That the Town Council authorize the Board of Education to access the nonlapsing account funds for operating expenses associated with unanticipated capital costs related to the replacement of the Joel Boilers as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$549,285.*