

OCTOBER 17, 2011 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, met in a special meeting at 6:00 PM on October 17, 2011 in the City Hall Auditorium. Mayor Starling presided. Councilmembers Strickland, Turlington, Stefanovich, Becton, and Mayor Pro Tem Harris were present.

Also present were City Manager Connet; Assistant City Manager – Finance Director Shawn Purvis; Public Works Director Jeff Vreugdenhil; and City Clerk Elaine F. Hunt.

Melvin Henderson, of the Sampson Weekly, was also present.

Councilmember Becton gave the invocation.

RURAL CENTER – RESOLUTION – PLANNING GRANTS PROGRAM

City Manager Connet thanked all for their attendance at such short notice. He asked Public Works Director Vreugdenhil to present the item, “Consideration of approving a Grant Resolution to apply for Rural Center funding.”

Mr. Vreugdenhil told City Council that the General Assembly appropriated funds for the Rural Center to assist local governments in meeting water and wastewater needs in North Carolina’s rural counties. He stated that all proposed planning projects must address concerns in at least one of the following areas:

1. Necessary water and sewer projects and activities in economically distressed communities to address health/environmental quality problems.
2. Necessary economic development projects and activities in economically distressed areas.
3. Projects that demonstrate alternative water and wastewater management processes for local governments. Cost-effectiveness, efficacy, and management efficiency will be considered.

Public Works Director Vreugdenhil informed City Council that the deadline to apply is October 26, 2011. He stated that the maximum grant award will not exceed \$40,000 and grant dollars require a match. He further stated that in order to secure the maximum grant award, the eligible costs for the proposed project must equal or exceed \$80,000. Mr. Vreugdenhil stated that the City intends to request grant assistance for the Utility Inventory and Assessment Project.

City Manager Connet stated that currently, our water and sewer structures are notated on paper. If awarded the grant, this would allow the City of Clinton to take GPS devices and digitize all information as it relates to water and sewer structures. He stated that paper maps will be kept to a minimum because computers will make it possible to print out new maps at any time.

Mr. Vreugdenhil stated that the locating of water valves and other equipment will be handled much quicker. If granted, this survey device will make life much better in every aspect. He stated that City Council is asked to adopt a resolution of endorsement.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Becton, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
BY
CLINTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CLINTON**

Planning Grants Program

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc. (Rural Center) has authorized the awarding of grants from appropriated funds to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of planning activities needed to address current critical public health and environmental concerns related to water and wastewater infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clinton needs assistance in financing a planning project that may qualify for Rural Center funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clinton intends to request grant assistance for the Utility Inventory and Assessment Project from the Planning Grants Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CLINTON CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLINTON:

That the City of Clinton will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project if approved for a grant.

That John F. Connet, City Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the City of Clinton with the Rural Center for a grant to assist in the above-named planning project.

That John F. Connet, City Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the Rural Center may request in connection with an application or with the project proposed; to make assurances as contained in the application; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the City of Clinton has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

Being no further discussion, upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Becton, and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Elaine F. Hunt, MMC, City Clerk

Lew Starling, Mayor