

## MAY 12, 2014

The regular Council meeting was held at 5:00 PM at the M.S. Bailey Municipal Center with Mayor Bob McLean presiding with Councilmembers Cook, Dowdle, Byrd, McGee, Jenkins, and Scarborough. The news media present were Larry Franklin from the Clinton Chronicle, Daniel Lauer from the Laurens Advertiser, and Randy Stephens from WLBG. The local news media was notified by mail and email on Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

- INVOCATION** The invocation was given by Reverend Deryk Morgan from the Clinton Church of God.
- PLEDGE  
ALLEGIENCE** Mayor McLean asked Council and the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- MINUTES** Mayor McLean asked Council to approve the minutes from April 7. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the April 7, 2014 minutes and seconded by Councilmember McGee. The vote was unanimous.
- CITIZENS ADDRESS  
COUNCIL** Mayor McLean recognized Mr. John Woodside, owner of True Value. Mr. Woodside stated that True Value has been going through a renovation and it is almost completed. Mr. Woodside invited Council to the grand opening on Friday, June 6, 2014 at 10:00 AM. Mr. Woodside stated that there would be special events and food throughout the day. Mr. Woodside stated that the store has undergone a dramatic and positive change. Mayor McLean thanked Mr. Woodside for the invitation and stated that True Value has been a positive asset to Clinton for the last twenty-eight years.
- JOHN WOODSIDE  
TRUE VALUE**
- PROCLAMATIONS:  
ALC AWARENESS  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
MENTAL HEALTH  
MILITARY APPRECIATION  
PEACE OFFICERS DAY  
DRINKING WATER WEEK  
TEACHER APPRECIATION  
PUBLIC WORKS WEEK** Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Stovall, City Manager. Mr. Stovall stated that the first item on the agenda is Proclamations proclaiming May as ALS Awareness Month, May as Historic Preservation Month, May as Mental Health Awareness Month, May as National Military Appreciation Month, May 15, 2014 as Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 11-17 as Drinking Water Week, May 12-16 as Teacher Appreciation Week, and May 18-24 as National Public Works Week. Councilmember Dowdle made a motion to approve the Proclamations and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.
- RESOLUTION  
BELL STREET  
SCIENCE TEAM** Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a Resolution in honor of the 2014 SC Science Olympiad Champions Bell Street Middle School Science Olympiad Team. Mayor McLean recognized the Science Olympiad Team and presented them with a plaque. Councilmember

McGee made a motion to approve the Resolution and seconded by Councilmember Cook. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION  
CLINTON HIGH  
SCIENCE TEAM**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a Resolution in honor of the 2014 SC Science Olympiad Champions Clinton High School Science Olympiad Team. Mayor McLean recognized the Science Olympiad Team and presented them with a plaque. Councilmember Dowdle made a motion to approve the Resolution and seconded by Councilmember McGee. The vote was unanimous. Mayor McLean congratulated both Science Teams for their accomplishments and stated that this is twelve State Championships for Bell Street Middle School and six championships for Clinton High School. Mayor McLean stated that the teams are going to Florida to compete for the National championship. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to contribute \$3,000 toward the Florida trip and seconded by Councilmember McGee. The vote was unanimous. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to see Council give \$5,000. Councilmember Jenkins stated that other teams and agencies asked for funds and Council only budgets \$10,000 for these events. Councilmember Jenkins stated that \$3,000 was sufficient.

**FIRST READING  
ORDINANCE  
BLUE LAWS**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a first reading of an Ordinance to temporarily suspend the application of Sunday Sales prohibitions within the corporate limits of the City of Clinton. Mr. Stovall stated that Council is allowed to suspend the Blue Laws every six months. Mr. Stovall stated that suspending the Blue Laws allows businesses to be open and to operate prior to 1:00 PM on Sunday. Mr. Stovall stated that by suspending the Blue Laws would allow local businesses to compete regionally. Councilmember Dowdle stated that Council could suspend the Blue Laws every six months and Mr. Stovall agreed. Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdle to approve the first reading to suspend the Blue Laws and seconded by Councilmember Byrd. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR  
PMPA BOARD**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a Resolution to appoint Dale Satterfield, Public Works Director, as the alternate member of the PMPA Board of Directors to represent the City of Clinton. Mr. Stovall stated that the PMPA Board of Directors is made up of two representatives from each member City. Mr. Stovall stated the City would like to appoint Mr. Satterfield as the alternate because the current alternate, Mr. Reddeck, would be retiring at the end of June. Councilmember McGee asked if Council had already approved an Ordinance naming the Public Works Director as the alternate. Mr. Stovall stated that PMPA's By-Laws require a Resolution with the name of the individual. Motion was made by Councilmember McGee to appoint Mr.

Dale Satterfield as the alternate to the PMPA Board of Directors and seconded by Councilmember Dowdle. The vote was unanimous.

**FIRST READING  
ORDINANCE  
TRANSFER PROPERTY  
HOMES OF HOPE**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the first reading of an Ordinance for the transfer of property located at 804 Elizabeth Street. Mr. Stovall stated that the City acquired the property from the Forfeited Land Commission and proposes to transfer the property to the Homes of Hope. Mr. Stovall stated that Homes of Hope intend to construct a house on the property as part of Phase II of the Housing Development project on Elizabeth Street and North Broad Street. Councilmember Byrd made a motion to approve the first reading of an Ordinance transferring property located at 804 Elizabeth Street to Homes of Hope to construct a home and seconded by Councilmember Scarborough. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION  
BUSINESS LICENSE  
FORM**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a Resolution authorizing the use of the State Standardized Business License Application in addition to continuing to accepting the current Business License Application form in the City of Clinton. Mr. Stovall stated that the State offers a standard business license form the City of Clinton could use. Mr. Stovall stated that by using this form the City would improve efficiency in the business license application process and offer a business friendly environment. Mr. Stovall stated that the City would either accept the current Business License Application or the State's form. Mr. Stovall stated that thirty-eight local governments have accepted this process and Clinton would be the first in Laurens County to adopt the State's Business License Application form. Councilmember Byrd asked if there is a difference in the two forms and Mr. Stovall stated that the format is different. Mr. Stovall stated that a customer could use whichever form is the easiest. Councilmember Scarborough made a motion to approve the Resolution adopting the State's Business License Application form and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**BIDS  
FINANCING  
BACKHOE/LOADER**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of bids for the purchase of a backhoe/loader for the use by the Department of Public Works and approval of the financing for the purchase of the backhoe/loader. Mr. Stovall stated that the City needs to replace a twenty-one year old existing backhoe/loader. Mr. Stovall stated that the City solicited bids and received a low bid of \$80,574.21 from Dougherty. Mr. Stovall stated that the City solicited bids for the financing of the equipment and received one bid from BB&T with an interest rate of 1.170% for three years. Councilmember Dowdle asked what would the City do with the current backhoe/loader. Mr. Stovall stated the City would try to sell the equipment for scrap because it could not be used. Mayor McLean asked if the funds could be used to offset future debt and

Mr. Stovall stated yes, the funds would be deposited into the Depreciation Fund. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the financing was for three years and Mr. Stovall stated yes. Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdle to approve the purchase of a backhoe/loader from Dougherty for a cost not to exceed \$80,574.21 and finance the equipment with BB&T for a three year term with an interest rate of 1.170% and seconded by Councilmember Scarborough. The vote was unanimous.

**YMCA  
APPOINTMENT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the appointment of a representative from the City of Clinton to serve on the YMCA Board of Directors. Mr. Stovall stated that Council needs to appoint someone to the YMCA Board of Directors because Councilmember Byrd is unable to fulfil her term. Mr. Stovall stated that the current YMCA Board member serves a three year staggered term but there is no definition for the term of the appointee. Mr. Stovall stated that the Board usually meets on the second Thursday of the month in the evening. Motion was made by Councilmember McGee to appoint the City Manager to a one year term to the YMCA Board of Directors and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION  
LOCAL OPTION  
SALES TAX**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Resolution providing for the adjustment of the Local Option Sales Tax Property Tax Credit Program. Mr. Stovall stated that during 2013 it was reported that the Department of Public Safety would require in excess of \$3 million in capital investment to maintain operations at its current level and meet the requirements set forth before them to provide quality public safety services. Mr. Stovall stated that the current General Fund Revenue structure does not provide the needed funding to meet this challenge. Mr. Stovall stated that Council authorized a funding structure adjustment in 2013 by using the Local Option Sales Tax to help meet the Public Safety's capital needs. Mr. Stovall stated that the change in the Local Option Sales Tax Program must be authorized each year. Mr. Stovall stated that the City would use the Local Option Sales Tax funds because the LOST adjustment does not raise the tax millage and it does not change the amount of the taxes charged to a property owner. Mr. Stovall stated that the current LOST tax credit provided to tax payers would be adjusted to the State allowed amount of 71% and the remaining 29% would be retained in the City's General Fund and could be used only for the purchase of capital equipment, training, and lease payments for capital equipment. Mr. Stovall stated that the LOST tax credit could not be used for personnel salaries or operational costs. Mr. Stovall stated that the City would set aside \$180,000 of LOST funds. Mr. Stovall stated that these funds would be used to replace two police vehicles, install 5

inch hose on all fire trucks, replace out of date PPE, replace computers and car technology, and fund training for personnel. Councilmember Dowdle asked if the capital improvements would help with the ISO rating and Mr. Stovall stated yes. Mr. Stovall stated that currently the ISO rating is a four and it needs to be three. Mr. Stovall stated that a low ISO rating is a valuable economic development tool and helps taxpayers. Mayor McLean asked what is the projected amount to be used for Public Safety and Mr. Stovall stated \$180,000. Mr. Stovall stated that the use of the LOST funds would provide equipment and personnel training which would help the Public Safety Department to get back on track. Motion was made by Councilmember Byrd to approve the Resolution authorizing the Local Option Sales Tax Credit Program and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**FIRST READING  
BUDGET  
FY 2014-15**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the first reading of an Ordinance to appropriate and raise revenue and adopt a budget for the City of Clinton for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Mr. Stovall stated that Council has before them a balanced budget of \$27,410,539. Mr. Stovall stated that the General Fund budget is \$6,258,530 and the Utility System budget is \$21,152,009. Mr. Stovall stated that the revenue adjustments in General Fund are a property tax adjustment of 2 mils for operations and 4 mils for the Reserve Fund, Local Option Sales Tax to fund Public Safety training and equipment acquisitions, and a .50 cents increase per month in the Sanitation Fee. Mr. Stovall stated that some of the highlights in the General Fund are to address deferred maintenance issues such as facility painting, sidewalk repairs, and other maintenance needs, support strategic planning initiatives in the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Safety and the Department of Community & Economic Development, and code enforcement reform that would improve the appearance of the City and improve marketability of Clinton. Mr. Stovall stated that the adjustments in the Utility System revenues are an electric base rate adjustment of \$6.55 monthly and a kWh adjustment of .0048 per kWh, an adjustment to the water base rates of 2% plus \$1.00 per month and a consumption rate adjustment of 2%, and an adjustment to the sewer base rate of \$1.50 per month and an adjustment to the treatment rate of 5%. Mr. Stovall stated that the highlights in the Utility System budget are public outreach and education, Great Managers Program, and exceptional infrastructure. Mr. Stovall stated that City personnel would receive a 2% COLA and a Salary Program change in the Public Safety Department. Mr. Stovall stated that the new positions in the proposed budget are a Special Projects Manager, a crew leader in the Water & Sewer Distribution System, and a technician in the Water & Sewer Distribution System. Mr. Stovall stated that the City would budget \$788,450 in capital funding and pay \$1,293,629 in debt service. Mr.

Stovall stated that the proposed budget is balanced and a balanced budget is achieved when the City has enough fiscal discipline to be able to equate the revenues with the expenditures over the business cycles. Mr. Stovall stated that the proposed budget efficiently and effectively supports the goals outlined by Council. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the first reading of Ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 and seconded by Councilmember Dowdle. The vote was unanimous.

**FIRST READING  
ORDINANCE  
FIRE SERVICE FEE**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is a first reading of an Ordinance to create a service fee associated with the provision of fire services for certain specific response types. Mr. Stovall stated that due to rising costs, the cost of providing fire services is becoming difficult to meet. Mr. Stovall stated that due to the rising costs of fire protection, the Fire Division's personnel has been cut by 33% and the Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshal positions were eliminated. Mr. Stovall stated that facility maintenance on the Public Safety building and on the equipment was deferred. Mr. Stovall stated that City staff is proposing the development of implementation of fees of motor vehicle accident response, vehicle fires, and HAZMAT response. Mr. Stovall stated that the City would create the service fees based on the FEMA schedule. Mr. Stovall stated that the fees would primarily impact interstate travelers. Mr. Stovall stated that the fee structure proposed covers the cost of operating and maintaining equipment and manpower associated with these types of incidents. Mr. Stovall stated that traditionally fire services have been funded through property tax revenues and Local Government funding in which both revenue sources have decreased. Mr. Stovall stated that the revenues from these fees must be placed in a separate operational account and be used only to offset the cost of providing fire services. Mr. Stovall stated that these fees could possibly generate \$20,000 per year which could be used for equipment replacement. Councilmember McGee asked if these fees are being charged in other states and Mr. Stovall stated yes. Councilmember McGee asked what would happen if the individual in the accident does not call the City to respond. Mr. Stovall stated that the City could charge the individual's insurance company just like EMS does when they respond to an incident. Mayor McLean asked if the charges would be applied to the insurance companies and Mr. Stovall stated yes. Councilmember Byrd asked how the service fee rate was determined and Mr. Stovall stated by the length of the calls and the City used the FEMA schedule to help determine the fees. Mr. Stovall stated that the fees are designed to recoup the cost of the service because the length of one service call could last from one hour to several hours depending on the severity of the incident. Councilmember Dowdle made a motion to approve the first reading of an

Ordinance to create a fire service fee and seconded by Councilmember Cook. The vote was unanimous.

**FIRST READING  
ORDINANCE  
PURCHASING  
ORDINANCE**

Mr. Stovall stated that the next item on the agenda is the first reading of an Ordinance to amend the City of Clinton's Purchasing Ordinance to provide for priority to local vendors when practical. Mr. Stovall stated that during a recent purchase the City awarded the purchase to the lowest vendor, located out of State. Mr. Stovall stated that a Laurens County business missed being the lowest vendor by \$19. Mr. Stovall stated that the proposed Ordinance amendment extends the local purchasing policy to include Laurens County based businesses when a business located in the City of Clinton is unable to provide the good or service. Mr. Stovall stated that local procurement supports jobs and businesses in the community and the City is a strong supporter of Shop Laurens County First Program. Mayor McLean commended City staff on following the Purchasing Ordinance and fixing this problem. Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to approve the first reading of an Ordinance amending the current Purchasing Ordinance and seconded by Councilmember McGee. The vote was unanimous.

**LAURENS COUNTY  
VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Mr. Stovall stated that the last item on the agenda is authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one year contract with Laurens County for the provisions of State mandated and constitutionally required Victim's Advocate services. Mr. Stovall stated that since 1999 the City has contracted with Laurens County to provide Victim's Assistance services in accordance with the State Law. Mr. Stovall stated that recent changes to the State requirements require that the governing body approve the contract on a yearly basis. Mr. Stovall stated that the funds for the Victim's Assistance program are a surcharge that the State requires the City collect on all court fines. Mr. Stovall stated that these fees could not be used for any purpose other than to provide Victim's Assistance services and the funds are transferred to the County for this purpose. Mr. Stovall stated that the City has requested an annual audit from the Victim's Assistance program. Motion was made by Councilmember Byrd to authorize the City Manager to enter into a one year agreement with Laurens County for the Victim's Assistance services and seconded by Councilmember Scarborough. The vote was unanimous.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion was made by Councilmember McGee to go into executive session and discuss one personnel matter relating to the Office of the City Manager, one contractual matter relating to acquisition of Right of Way along the West Corporate Center Drive, and one economic development matter relating to Project Sticky and return to open session on the call of

the chair and seconded by Councilmember Dowdle. The vote was unanimous.

**OPEN SESSION**

Mayor McLean declared Council back in open session. Mayor McLean stated that one personnel matter, one contractual matter, and one economic development matter were discussed with no action taken.

**CITY MANAGER'S  
CONTRACT**

Mayor McLean stated that the City Manager's contract began October 28, 2011 for a three year period with an automated two year extension if the City Manager was not notified in writing 180 days before the contract expired. Mayor McLean stated that the 180 day window closed in April, 2014 and the City Manager's contract has been extended for two more years. Councilmember Cook made a motion to extend Mr. Stovall's contract for five years with the start date of May 12, 2014 and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor McLean stated that Hospice of Laurens County would host a Meet and Greet for the CEO of the Greenville Health System on Tuesday, May 13 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at Hospice in Clinton. Mayor McLean stated that the Laurens County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours is at the Laurens County Memorial Hospital on Thursday, May 15, 2014 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Mayor McLean stated that Friday, May 23, 2014 the City would host the Employee Safety Luncheon at 12:00 PM at Thornwell. Mayor McLean stated that Monday, May 26, 2014 is Memorial Day and the City's offices would be closed. Mayor McLean stated that on Memorial Day the City of Clinton, the American Legion Auxiliary #56, and the VFW #5932 would host a program downtown at 10:00 AM. Mayor McLean stated that Town Rhythms would start Thursday, May 29 at downtown at 7:00 PM with the Swinging Medallions performing. Mayor McLean stated that the next Council meeting is Monday, June 2, 2014 at 6:00 PM. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to recognize Del Snelgrove, Health Inspector and James Barnes, Building Inspector. Mayor McLean he received a call congratulating the Inspection Department on making sure that the Meth houses are cleaned up before anyone could move into them. Mayor McLean thanked the employees for their hard work on this matter.

**COUNCILMEMBER'S  
REPORT**

Councilmember Scarborough welcomed Councilmember Dowdle back to work.

Councilmember Jenkins welcomed Councilmember Dowdle back. Councilmember Jenkins thanked City staff for the cleanup at the Martha Dendy pool. Councilmember Jenkins also thanked City staff for planting the trees at the Oak Street Park. Councilmember Jenkins asked if City staff would

put on the agenda next month Senior Options' request for funding and Mr. Stovall agreed.

Councilmember Byrd welcomed Councilmember Dowdle back.

Councilmember McGee welcomed Councilmember Dowdle back.  
Councilmember McGee thanked City staff for their work on the budget.

Councilmember Dowdle stated that he was happy to be back on Council.

Councilmember Cook welcomed Councilmember Dowdle back.  
Councilmember Cook congratulated the School District's Science Teams.

**ADJOURN**

With there being no further business before Council, motion was made by Councilmember Dowdle to adjourn and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR