

A joint town board meeting with the Towns of Clifton and Fine was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at the Clifton-Fine Community Center in Star Lake. A quorum of both boards was present. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by Supervisor Thompson at 6:30 PM.

Board Members	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Fine Supervisor Jeremy Thompson	X			
Fine Councilman Philip Giardino	X			
Fine Councilman Carlton Kerr	X			
Fine Councilman Sam Bryant	X			
Fine Councilwoman Gigi Hayden		X		
Clifton Deputy Supervisor John Russell	X			
Clifton Councilman William Griffin	X			
Clifton Councilwoman Mary Zuhlsdorf		X		
Clifton Councilman Brett Blackmer	X			

Other officials present: H. Dolan, T. Provost, and N. Russell.

Guests: C. Cook, D. Downey, M. Friden, L. Denesha, L. & S. Gilbert, S. Persson-Dumke, K. Greenwald, D. Landy, K. Daboll-Lavioe, T. & V. Russell.

Audience Participation – There was discussion on property cleanups and blighted houses, and what the two towns should be doing to address this issue.

Arena – Arena cash & investments as of 8/31/2025 are \$25,971.39. The rental rates for the arena were tabled until the committee can meet to discuss suggestions for 2026.

Budget – 10/2025-117 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by B. Blackmer to approve the 2026 Arena Budget as presented, and each town contribute \$14,000 for the Arena Operations.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Insurance – 10/2025-118 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by S. Bryant to authorize the Town of Clifton to take over the insurance coverage for the arena effective 1/1/2026 and reduce the total coverage to \$1 million.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

IMA – 10/2025-119 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by S. Bryant to amend the Intermunicipal Agreement for the arena.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Golf Course – Golf Course cash and investments as of 8/31/2025 are \$100,289.00 plus \$3,163.00 in the water reserve fund.

IMA – 10/2025-120 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by B. Blackmer to amend the Intermunicipal Agreement for the golf course.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Course Rates – 10/2025-121 Moved by W. Griffin, seconded by P. Giardino to accept the new golf course rates for 2026 as presented by the golf course committee.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Dates of Operation: 10/2025-122 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by W. Griffin to accept the dates of operation as follows: Grounds Crew will be 4/20/2026-10/13/2026, and the clubhouse will run from 4/27/2026 to 10/11/2026.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Raw Water Rate – 10/2025-123 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by B. Blackmer to keep the raw water rate charged to the golf course at \$1,350.00 for 2026.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Carried.

Budget – 10/2025-124 Moved by P. Giardino, seconded by C. Kerr to approve the 2026 Golf Course Budget as presented.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Employees: 10/2025-125 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by W. Griffin to approve the following employees and their rate of pay for 2026:

Grounds Superintendent – Gary Jessmer at a salary of \$19,552.00

Grounds Laborers – Doran Johnson at minimum wage, and to hire one other full-time seasonal employee

Clubhouse Attendants – Pay at minimum wage, and to hire three for the clubhouse, with one of them being a manager position who will do scheduling, ordering, and the daily and weekly sheets

Fertilizer Applicator – Paul Hanley at a rate of \$17.00/hr plus a couple's membership, cart storage, and trail fees

Paul Guiles - \$17.51/hour

Driving Range – Jon Birchenough for a single membership and cart trail fees.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Clubhouse Lease – Club Grub has plans to come back again next year. They have some suggestions about changing the kitchen. The Department of Health and the code enforcement officer need to be contacted before any changes are made. There are concerns about the cost and having to bring things up to code with any changes.

Authorize 10/2025-126 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by P. Giardino to authorize the use of golf course fund balance up to \$20,000 to purchase a Buffalo blower, an air conditioner for the clubhouse, and a sprayer for liquid fertilizer chemicals.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Water District – There was discussion on the water district and the overages charged for properties that had leaks that went unreported this year. The town clerk will check to see if we can do a correction before the tax bills are printed. There was also a discussion on how to add a customer if they are not in the district. This would involve amending the district, and it will be costly and require a lot of paperwork and legal notices.

Youth Commission – Youth Commission cash and investments as of 8/31/2025 are \$10,123.59, but this does include a temporary loan from the Town of Fine of \$15,000 until the reimbursements from both towns are received.

Budget – 10/2025-127 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by B. Blackmer to approve the 2026 contribution from both towns of half of the actual expenses up to \$8,492.00.

Discussion: The Youth Committee has not met yet to prepare a budget.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Committee- The Committee representatives for each town are William Griffin from Clifton and Sam Bryant from Fine.

Community Center – 10-2025-128 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by B. Blackmer to amend the Intermunicipal Agreement for the Community Center.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Community Center Heat – Jeremy is going to contact a contractor to try to get the heat issues at the community center fixed before winter.

Refrigerators – 10/2025-129 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by C. Kerr to authorize the replacement or repair of the two town-owned refrigerators in the kitchen of the community center.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Black Fly Program – The Town of Clifton has agreed to take over running the black fly program and bill the Town of Fine quarterly for their share of the expenses. There was discussion on changing them to salaried positions instead of hourly to cover the towns for workers' compensation when their hours vary depending on the weather.

Economic Development – Jeremy would like to see the Economic Development Organization pick back up and the two towns become more involved with economic development.

Next Joint Meeting – The next joint town board meeting will be on **April 1, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the Community Center**, unless a special meeting is called.

Adjourn – 10/2025-126 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by B. Blackmer the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope M. Dolan, Town Clerk