



Tanya Lane
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR ROY ZARTARIAN

MINUTES

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

**L101 – Lower Level
7:00 P.M.**

March 21, 2017

Mayor Zartarian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Councilor Anest
Councilor Budrejko
Councilor DelBuono
Councilor Klett – arrived at 7:10 p.m.
Councilor Manke
Councilor Marocchini
Councilor Nagel
Councilor Serra
Mayor Zartarian

Staff Attendees:

Tanya Lane, Town Manager
Ann Harter, Finance Director
Lisa Rydecki, Deputy Finance Director
Jamie Trevethan, Asst. to the Town Manager – Administration
Linda Irish-Simpson, Clerk of the Council

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilor Manke moved to approve the agenda and the motion was seconded by Councilor Marocchini. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

IV: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She asked why the balance in the Market Square Development fund was much higher than the \$30k that had been in the account. She was also concerned about the money funded for drainage at the retention pond and felt money should be there for the maintenance of it.

V. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VI. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Budget Review – Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

B. Budget Review: Debt Service

C. Budget Review: Equipment Reserve

She reviewed each of the above areas of the Proposed CIP for FY 2017-18.

Tanya Lane explained the overall plan was for the current year and for five years forward. The Town Hall needed to be addressed as well as other major projects in Town. They would be spending \$25 million on the Town Hall with a maximum spending amount of 5.8% of the total budget.

Town Funds – The plan called for collecting \$5.1 million in taxes for 2017-18 and spending \$400k on Town Aid Roads and \$378k on School Building Grants. The Town received \$40k each year for the cell tower. Funding for Wallace School in the amount of \$500k each year would start in 2018-2021.

The current bond debt was \$5.2 million. The debt on the education piece was due to be paid off by 2024 and the police station by the year 2025. She reviewed the Proposed Long Term Debt Schedule (Table 3) in depth. The long term projects mentioned were Anna Reynolds school, Fire Houses, Library and Parks and Rec.

Councilor DelBuono stated there was much work to be on various buildings in Town that would need to be bonded.

General Government CIP plans included spending \$335k in the coming year for Information Technology Reserve and \$250k for updating Fiber Optics in Town. Improvements were planned for the Senior Center HVAC and town wide sidewalks. In 2018 an addition to the Highway Garage Building was planned.

Public works – The budget included \$75k for sidewalk repair and eliminated funding for drainage improvement. No further funds were added to public Building Resurfacing, Stonewall repair or the Elton Drive Terminus. The budgeted amount for closing the landfill is \$400k for two years. A DEEP grant will be used as well on the project.

Community Development – the final payment for the Marcap Property was made in the 2016-17 budget so no further funds were included. The amount of \$55k was budgeted for Churchill Park playscape and \$175k for a piece of equipment needed for snow removal. Councilor Anest asked how much it would cost to replace the turf field and Mrs. Harter stated somewhere around \$400k. The \$75k for park and pool improvements would be used to replace equipment and repair the pool.

Education – A million dollars was budgeted for the Wallace classroom configuration in 2017-2019. The reconfiguration of school entrances would begin in 2018 and was budgeted through 2022.

The total CIP funding for the 2017-18 year was \$6.3 million and was explained on Chart 6a. Each of the following years totals were itemized in Charts 6b – 6e.

School CIP Reserve Fund – A total of \$125k was proposed to be allocated each year up to a maximum of \$1.2 million. The funds would be used for repairs and renovations. The Appendices are projected amounts and could be changed from year to year.

Schedule of Equipment Replacement Fund – The projected amount will be increased over the next several years and any remaining amount will be carried over to the following year.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She said she thought there should be a set protocol for the CIP fund in the ordinances since it appears to change all the time. She questioned if the council was going to set up a committee to oversee land acquisition.

VIII. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Nagel moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Councilor Manke. The motion was approved 9 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Irish-Simpson
Clerk of the Council