



Keith Chapman
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 GARFIELD STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR BETH DELBUONO

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2021

This meeting was presented as a Zoom Webinar/Meeting

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James Krupinski
Town Clerk

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

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

- Councilor Anest
- Councilor Braverman
- Councilor Budrejko
- Councilor Camillo
- Councilor Donahue
- Councilor Manke
- Councilor Miner
- Councilor Nagel
- Mayor DelBuono

Also present:

- Keith Chapman, Town Manager
- Janet Murphy, Finance Director
- Steve Kosofsky, Assessor
- Meghan Manke, Emergency Management Director
- Erik Hinckley, Land Use Enforcement Officer/Asst. Town Planner
- James Krupinski, Town Clerk
- Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Manke to approve the agenda as published. Seconded by Councilor Camillo.
Motion passed 6-3 (roll call vote).

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (Via Zoom Application or Phone)
(4 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

- A. Public Comments
 - None
- B. Email Correspondence
 - None

V. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mayor DelBuono stated that during the public hearing a couple members of the public posed some questions. First Mr. Ryan asked who was on the Economic Development team and about the per capita income.

- Town Manager Chapman stated that he checked with Finance Director; not sure if it includes children; believes that it is just those that are income eligible. The team includes the Town Assessor, Economic Development Director, Town Planner, and several out of Town Manager's office as well as every other staff member. The types of development range from retail development to apartments, other types of house - it's a mix. Fortunate to have this situation during COVID-10.
- Councilor Manke stated that the per capita income is tabulated using the same formula as area towns.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Health Update – COVID-19

- Town Manger Chapman has asked Meghan Manke to update regarding the vaccination program; and Charles Brown to comment on governor's reopening efforts.
- Meghan Manke stated that Newington they have had four clinics; three at Senior Center and one at high school with three more scheduled. At the senior center 600 at most need persons will have been vaccinated. Clinic this week at Senior Center is full for this week. You can call them to get on waitlist or trouble finding an appointment. You can also call the 877 number to schedule appointment. CERT will be assisting in another 20 clinics; have put in over 500 man hours.
- Charles Brown stated that the CERT teams have done an excellent job supporting. At the end of April looking at more mass vaccination clinics; possibly Berlin Fair grounds. Total number of cases in Newington is 2,383 with 101 deaths. Cases across state continue to go down. Governor came out with proposal reopening. Looking at coming out of the red; right on the cusp. Conversation needs to move forward; P&R opening for some programs.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she has received many questions about the library reopening.
- Mr. Brown stated that is something we can help to support. Concerned about UK variant in Rocky Hill; do need to watch; five times more infectious than basic strain of COVID. Continue to get vaccinated - wash hands, keep distance, wear mask.
- Mayor DelBuono asked how you know if you have a variant.
- Mr. Brown stated that some labs have the ability to type what strain a person has. Some communities are testing waste water for COVID strains.
- Councilor Manke thanked the health district for all their hard work. Hard to believe it's been over a year.
- Councilor Nagel stated tanks Mr. Brown for attending the meeting and providing an update. Attended a Library Board meeting last night and their reopening was discussed. Do know that there are protocols and protective shields in place; more than willing to do whatever they can to serve the community and open up with guidance.
- Councilor Miner asked for a breakdown/demographic of the deaths in nursing homes. Understand state has classified them.
- Mr. Brown stated that he has not seen breakdown's of the death statistics. Would have to look into that.
- Councilor Miner asked in terms of reopening. It is possible to discuss with the Town Manger a date for reopening and if cases rise, close again. Is that feasible?
- Mr. Brown stated he has no problem working with the town manager in doing that. Cautiously optimistic that as it gets warmer, we can start to do more things outside and open up communities.
- Councilor Miner stated the he is concerned with people's mental health.
- Councilor Camillo stated that it was mentioned the UK strain was five times more contagious; how likely is that to take us over as we get out of our red zone? Are more people going to get sick again come June / July?

- Mr. Brown stated that it is possible. Know that Johnson & Johnson vaccination included variants. A lot of what we see in the future is how we react. The virus is going to be out there and it is something that we will have to manage and live with and hopefully with our efforts of vaccination and preventive measures will become something we will deal with more seasonally and get it to something more like the flu, an endemic disease. That is the goal. Concerned about people travelling; need to be smart about that. Can't lose the lessons; stand to lose a lot more.
- B. Town Hall Project Update
- Town Manager Chapman stated that it is winding down. Will be paving sooner than we thought; coming to final push. Will be closed to public until we get ok to open. Continue to do minor retrofitting and repairs where necessary. We will be relocating the War Memorial to between the library and the town hall to a slab where the generator was. Contacted Michael J. Fox to consider moving it. Considering having a Memorial Day service at the new town hall (no parade).
 - Mayor DelBuono stated that she spoke with General Yvonne [sp?] to discuss the memorial day ceremony at the monument.
- C. Library Roof Update
- Town Manager Chapman stated that they brought in the contractor that is warranting the roof and found the leak and fixed it. Still need for portions of the old roof needing to be replaced.
- D. Affordable Housing Plan
- Glen Chalder of Planimetrics, Inc., Simsbury, CT meet with the Affordable Housing Study Needs Committee to develop an Affordable Housing Plan and Process Guidebook. Mr. Chalder provided a brief overview of the plan. *A copy of the presentation and Draft Plan are available on the Town's website.*
 - Councilor Budrejko stated she has two questions. Newington is definitely in need of older housing units. There are 100-200 ppl on waiting list for housing units; not limited to Newington residents and adding housing will not necessarily benefit Newington's elderly population. Correct?
 - Mr. Chalder stated that he believes it cannot be limited to local residents.
 - Councilor Budrejko stated that is not going to be a solution to Newington's elderly population.
 - Mr. Chalder stated that they are looking to branch out and look at rentals or establishing a non-profit entity and doing private development. People are trying to get creative. Elderly housing is now being occupied by the elderly and disabled. Actually have fewer units available than years ago and the disabled tend to be younger and are in place in the units longer.
 - Councilor Budrejko asked about the cost burden - individuals pending 30% of their available income. Does this include people that purchased the house of their dreams, not the house they can afford?
 - Mr. Chalder stated that yes, there are some people spending more than 30% of their income on housing. The renter population can be the most burdened as well.
 - Mayor DelBuono stated that we are at 8.9%. We have some developments coming, how close will those bring us to the number we need?
 - Mr. Chalder stated that 133 units will get Newington to the 10%. Numbers fluctuate at state level based on the number of certificates, units available. The veteran's housing units will be included in that number, as well as Dakota. Newington has done very well.
 - Councilor Donahue stated that we are close at 8.9%. I drive through Simsbury and Avon, Are we pushed harder because we are closer to Hartford. Where does the equity come in from the state?

- Mr. Chalder stating the that state is requiring every municipality to come up with one of these plans. No real criteria set by the state. Project, such as Dakota are not required to following Newington’s zoning regulations. If we can get to the 10%, projects will have to follow Newington’s regulations.
- Mayor DelBuono suggests keeping this on the agenda.
- Councilor Manke suggested keeping this on the agenda and holding a public hearing after the budget process.

E. Ordinance Amendment – Chapter 48, Public School CIP Reserve Fund Ordinance

1. Introduce Ordinance & Set Public Hearing Date

INTRODUCTION,

I hereby introduce for the Town Council’s consideration the proposed ordinance amendment to Chapter 48, Funds, Article IV, Public School Capital Improvement Projects Reserve Fund, §48-15, Creation of fund; revenues, a copy of which has been filed with the Clerk of the Council.

Introduced by: Councilor Donahue

Motion by Councilor Donahue

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby schedules a Public Hearing on March 23, 2021 at 6:50 PM to consider the proposed ordinance amendment, Chapter 48, Funds, Article IV, Public School Capital Improvement Projects Reserve Fund, §48-15, Creation of fund; revenues, a copy of which is attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

F. Discussion – Beautification Committee

- Town Manager Chapman stated that he met with the Economic Development Commission and they indicated that they would accept the duties associated with the beautification process. The EDC will work with other commissions to develop a plan.
- Councilor Manke asked if the plan was for the commission to develop ideas and present them to the council, what is the process? How does the money get spent?
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he presented to the Commission information we received from other towns and the types of language they had in their guidelines. At their next meeting they will discuss their plan and will come back to council for review and approval.
- Councilor Miner asked if there is a chance of opening this up to an “Adopt a Spot” program where local business will adopt a spot.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that is why he thought the EDC would be the best committee to head this up because they work closely with business community. Their members are assigned to certain areas within the business community. Believe at some point it will have a business component. Going to be up to the commission to work on this.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she received the master plan from Mayor Stewart in New Britain to use as a guide. I’ve forwarded that to the members of the council.
- Councilor Manke stated that the doesn’t want this to fall by the wayside. At least work on the entry points to our community.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS (Action May Be Taken by Waiving the Rules)**

A. 150th Anniversary Steering Committee Report

- Cathy Clark, member of the 150th Anniversary Committee provided an update of what has been done and what we are planning on doing. Last fall there was a daffodil giveaway, so you should

be seeing daffodils coming up around town soon. Had a commemorative calendar art/photo contest. Printed 250 calendars; sold 246 of them, it was a successful fundraiser and those who participated were enthusiastic. Karmas' Closet was instrumental in helping us get the calendars to the people who purchased them; she is also carrying other 150th Anniversary Bling. On April 24 from 12-3/4 with a rain date of April 25th, we will be holding a Newington History Day and Walk; this will be COVID friendly event. Location include The Historical Society; The Library (art around Mill Pond); Church of Christ; the Old Firehouse; Mill Pond (by the Falls); 944 Main Street (built in 1793); 646 Main Street (home of John Kirkham, built in 1850 - being played by Dave Nagel). Masks will be required. Future events will include a Stock the Shelves with the Newington Food Bank; a blood drive; a golf tournament (August 24, 2021) at Indian Hill and in September a Mayor's Ball. Trying to get business in Newington center involved.

- Mayor DelBouno thanked Cathy for this update and thanked everyone for all their hard work on this committee.
- Councilor Manke stated that he follows the committee pretty closely and thanked everyone for all their efforts. Had a lot of stuff planned, but all got sidetracked due to COVID. Appreciate the fact that you are all still working hard. For this historical walk, is there a place for people to meet or do they just go to one of the seven sites?
- Ms. Clark stated exactly. Would like for people to start at different sites. A bunch of them are close together. Regarding 646 Main Street, she heard about event and volunteered her house.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that this sounds like such a fun event. It is something exciting and different. Hopefully the community will get out there and walk the center of our town and this will be a start to get people interested and appreciate the town's history.
- Councilor Nagel thanked Cathy for putting this all together. Come out and learn about Newington and what our town was, is and will be.

B. Senior Center HVAC/Window Replacement Projects

- Town Manager Chapman stated that they are moving forward with getting this work done prior to the senior center reopening.
- Janet Murphy stated there have been funds in place since 2017 for the HVAC project. There is \$82,516 in CIP, but project is expected to cost \$200,000 leaving a shortfall of \$117,484. For the windows, the Town received a STEEP Grant for \$128,200, the grant with \$50,000 in CIP, is less than the estimate total cost of \$297,000 by \$118,800. Requesting a transfer of an interest expense line and is available to get the projects completed this spring.

C. Overview of Budget and Budget Procedures

- Janet Murphy stated that tonight is the first night for budget reviews; on Saturday, March 20th we will have second and final presentations for the town side; on March 23rd we will have Board of Education and Miscellaneous programs not previously set. You will also set a tentative budget that evening. On Tuesday, April 6th you will have the second public hearing and changes to the propose budget. On Tuesday, April 20th you will have any changes to the proposed budget, if needed and will adopt the budget and set the mill rate.
- Councilor Budrejko stated she has a questions about Major Assumptions. Under the Electricity line you are assuming there is going to be no increase. How can that be?
- Ms. Murphy stated we are not expecting increases because we are in contract with a vendor right now through 2021 and we are expecting to see some savings with the new town hall and the efficiencies.

D. Department Budget Review:

- Ms. Murphy stated that this year in the Salaries Line we did include the raises for the AFSCME employees that are contractually required and also included the same amount for admin and part time positions. The only departments that don't have their raises included are the Police because we reached that agreement after we got the books ready. Will be making that adjustment and taking it out of the contingency line.

1. General Government

- Town Council, Town Manager, Courts, Elections, Finance, Town Attorney, Town Clerk/Records Administration, Personnel, General Services, Facilities Management, Information Technology

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Change</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8103 Part time salary increase 21/22 8202 Dues and subscriptions decrease 	110	-0.26%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8101 Full time salary increase for 21/22 	120	+2.12%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courts 	130	No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8103 Part time salary increase due to presidential election 8201 Public Notification reduction 8203 Transportation increase due to presidential election 8212 Equipment Maintenance increase due to tabulators 8220 Other Contractual services increase due to poll workers (2 primaries in August) 	140	-4.17%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councilor Miner asked what primaries are in August. Janet Kelly stated that there is one for Republicans and one for Democrats. Not sure what they are. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8101 Full time salary increase to 21/22 8103 Part time salary decrease (revamping position shared with TM office) 	151	+3.37%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8101 Full time salary increase to 21/22 8103 Part time 8105 Longevity (contractual) 	152	-6.59%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Assessment Appeals 	153	No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue Collector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8101 Full time salary increase to 21/22 	154	+1.34%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auditing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8217 Consultants increase as per RFP results 	155	+1.96%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8202 Dues and Subscription decrease 8204 Conferences, Meetings, Training decrease 	157	-9.91%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Attorney 	160	No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Clerk/Records Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8101 Full time salary increase to 21/22 8103 Part time increase 8104 Seasonal increase 	170	+1.13%

- 8202 Dues and subscriptions increase
- 8203 Transportation decrease
- 8212 Equipment increase in copies for permanent record preservation project
- 8220 Other Contractual reduction

- Personnel 180 No change
- Facilities Management 191 +15.68%
 - 8101 Full time salary increase due to Facilities Maintenance Director position
 - 8103 Part time increase to historical actual spend
 - 8105 Longevity contractual increase
 - 8206 Utilities increased due to traffic light expenses from highway
 - 8207 Clothing Allowance
 - 8209 Uniform rental and cleaning increase in vendor cost
 - 8212 Equipment maintenance increase due to new door access control maintenance
 - 8213 Facilities maintenance increased for unanticipated repairs to town facilities
 - 8220 Other contractual services increased due Cox Cable; cables; tv's; contracts for roof maintenance
 - 8302 Technical Supplies increased for continued maintenance; supplies needed for new building
 - 8407 Building Equipment increased for miscellaneous tools

- Ms. Murphy stated that the budget for this has been reduced over the past several years. Major increase due to full time staffing.

- Central Services 195 -0.88%
 - 8104 Seasonal decreased due to reduction in hours
- Information Technology 197 +6.33%
 - 8101 Full time salary decrease due to elimination of GIS position
 - 8212 Equipment Maintenance increased equipment costs / fraud prevention
 - 8220 Other Contractual services increased with Civic Plus (website maintenance); sharing GIS position with South Windsor

- Councilor Miner asked if 8212 took into consideration for equipment maintenance throughout the year.
- Ms., Murphy stated that is just for maintenance; equipment licenses, fraud software, etc. Not to purchase equipment.

2. Public Safety

- Ms. Murphy stated that you will see at the bottom on the Personnel Summary Page you will see 66.5 and next year we are looking at 66. Two positions have been eliminated from the police department. Under Traffic you will see a half person, this is an equipment operator transferred from highway/seasonal employee.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if the Civilian Evidence/Property Room Clerk position was eliminated. Relatively new position.
- Ms. Murphy stated that is correct; not sure when put in place. This was Dan Reed who took Admin. Secretary Position.
 - Fire, Police, Street Lighting, Emergency Management, EMS, Hydrants

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Change</u>
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- | | | |
|---|-----|--------|
| ▪ Police | | |
| • Police Administration | 211 | +1.98% |
| • 8101 Full time salary decrease due to move in positions | | |

- 8105 Longevity increase
- 8202 Dues and Subscriptions increase in dues
- 8217 Consultants/special contractors increase in biohazard cruiser cleanup; mandate of psychological testing
- Police Patrol 212 +1.36%
 - 8101 Full time salary increase due to promotion to master police officer
 - 8102 Overtime decrease due to elimination of dog handling program
 - 8202 Dues and Subscription decrease
 - 8212 Equipment maintenance decrease
 - 8220 Other Contractual Services decrease
 - 8302 Tech Supplies increase for AED pads/battery replacements; fire extinguishers
 - 8303 Uniforms and Clothing decrease due to grant to purchase ballistic armor equipment
 - 8402 Tech Equipment increase due to new modems and antennas in patrol vehicles
- Councilor Budrejko stated that this is the first she heard that the canine program has been eliminated.
- Ms. Murphy stated that Chief Clark has chosen not to fill it at this time.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if the dog and everything were gone.
- Ms. Murphy stated yes, the dog and everything are gone. Will possibly reinstate position in the future; looking for the right officer to be a handler.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that it was quite a hit at functions in town. Surprised to see that gone.
 - Police Investigation 213 -3.73%
 - 8101 Full time salary decrease due to unfunding of positions/AFSCME increases
 - 8202 Dues and Subscriptions decrease dues
 - Police Traffic 214 +77.89%
 - 8101 Full time salary increase due to transfer from highway
 - 8102 Overtime increase due to transfer from highway
 - 8103 Part Time increase
 - 8105 Longevity
 - 8207 Clothing Allowance increase
 - 8212 Equipment maintenance increase
 - 8302 Technical Supplies increase
 - 8303 Uniforms and Clothing related to transfer of operator from highway
 - 8310 Other Materials
- Councilor Manke asked what the rationale was from moving the department over to police.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that years ago it was part of police and at some point it was moved staffing to highway; it never worked well. More benefits having it within the police department.
 - Police Communication 215 +1.01%
 - 8101 Full time salary increase due to staff increases
 - 8212 Equipment maintenance decrease due to software costs moved
 - 8302 Technical supplies decrease due to deletion of printer paper
 - 8406 Office Equipment decrease due to elimination of chair replacement
 - Police Education and Training 217 +1.66%
 - 8108 Educational Incentive decrease due to retirement
 - 8202 Dues and Subscriptions increase in membership dues
 - 8204 Conferences/meetings increase annual user charges new training programs/ Police 1 Academy
 - 8302 Tech supplies increase due to cost for Taser training/cartridges
 - 8310 Other materials decrease due to discontinued CT Motor Vehicle law books

- Councilor Donahue asked about all the changes to the police accountability; it that reflected somewhere in the budget?
- Ms. Murphy stated that it might be here; some may be in Police Administration. Don't see anything specifically mentioned that it is here. Will double check with him to make sure.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that a lot of what is required under the accountability is not incorporated immediately, it goes out a number of years. Whatever is required this year is within the budget.

• Police Support Services	218	-10.07%
• 8101 Full time salary decrease for one traffic officer/offset by AFSCME raised		
• 8210 Equipment Rental increase due to copier costs		
• 8216 Printing and Binding increase		
• Police Vehicles	220	-95.47%
• 8403 Passenger Cars decrease; moved to CIP budget		
• Animal Control	222	-0.03%
• 8101 Full time salary increase		
• 8103 Part time decrease (possible share with Wethersfield)		
▪ Fire		
• Fire Department Administration	231	+0.55%
• 8101 Full time salary increase to reflect admin raises		
• 8103 Part time salary increase to reflect admin raises		
• 8202 Dues and Subscriptions decrease		
• 8203 Transportation decrease (2 officers now have town vehicles)		
• 8204 Conferences/Meetings decrease since most done virtually		
• Fire Fighting	232	-4.83%
• 8214 Motor vehicle maintenance decrease		
• 8217 Consultants/special contractors decrease actually staying flat to original budget		
• 8302 Tech Supplies increase due to hoods, shields		
• 8303 Uniforms and Clothing increase for Class C uniforms		
• 8310 Other materials decrease flat to original budget		
• 8402 Tech Equipment decrease; up and down depending on equipment needed		
• Fire Prevention	233	+90.36%
• 8216 Printing and Binding increase in line with actual numbers		
• 8220 Other contractual services increase		
• 8310 Other Materials reduced to stay with historical numbers		
• 8402 Technical Equipment increase for projection screen		
• Fire Training	234	No change
• Fire Stations	235	-19.17%
• 8407 Building equipment increase for various items for fire houses		
• 8408 Building improvements decrease; no improvements planned this year		
• Fire Marshal	238	-5.74%
• 8101 Full time salary increase reflects admin wages		
• 8103 Part time salary decrease of wages for 1 Fire Marshal		
• 8202 Dues and Subscriptions increase for renewals		
• 8204 Conferences/Meeting/Training increase in ppl attending training		
• 8212 Equipment Maintenance decrease move to original budget		
• 8302 Tech supplies increase due to increased costs		
• 8303 Uniforms and clothing decrease reduced one deputy position		

- 8310 Other Materials increase due to increased costs for materials
- Fire Safety Officer 240 +97.95%
 - 8302 Tech supplies increase due to increased costs
 - 8402 Technical Equipment increase due to moving out of Fire Fighting (232)
- Regional Fire Training Tower 242 No Change
- Street Lighting 250 -4.76%
 - 8206 Utilities decrease to reflect actual spending
- Emergency Management 260 +172.84%
 - 8103 Part Time increase - moved stipend from Fire Marshal department
 - 8303 Uniforms and Clothing increase for uniforms and t-shirts
- Ms. Murphy stated this was the stipend for Emergency Management personnel; currently paid under Fire Marshal but moved to be reflected here where it belongs.
- Councilor Miner asked if this stipend was the entire wage of the position or are there additional wages.
- Ms. Murphy stated that is it.
- Councilor Miner asked if there was a way to establish a rate for work above and beyond base responsibilities. Know of several municipalities that do that and go through FEMA.
- Ms. Murphy stated we don't go through FEMA for this; we go through state emergency grant. Have not explored doing different rates.
- Councilor Miner asked when normal year no issues; but with pandemic greater responsibility. Reimbursable via grant opportunities.
- Town Manager Chapman stated he will analyze that.
- EMS 270 No Change
- Hydrants 280 +3.53%
 - 8219 Hydrants increase to reflect MDC change inspection rate

3. Public Works

- Engineering, Highway, Solid Waste

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Change</u>
▪ Engineering	310	-7.52%
• 8101 full time salaries decrease to person transferring to Planning & Zoning/offset by AFSCME		
• 8105 Longevity decrease due to retirement		
• 8202 Dues and subscriptions decrease		
• 8203 Transportation increase		
• 8204 Conferences, Meetings, Training increase		
• 8217 Consultants/Special Contractor increase		
▪ Highway		
• Highway Administration	321	-24.83%
• 8101 full time salaries decrease in position; moved to PD; reduction of position/offset by AFSCME		
• 8105 Longevity decrease due to retirements		
• 8202 Dues and subscriptions decrease due to elimination of position		
• 8207 Clothing allowance decrease due to elimination of position		
• 8209 Uniform Rental and Cleaning increase in rates from vendor		
• Highway Operations	322	-0.80%
• 8101 Full Time decrease due to transfer to PD/offset by AFSCME		

- 8102 Overtime increase
- 8104 Seasonal increase
- Councilor Budrejko stated that you plan for 23 storms per year under Snow and Ice Control, but under highway operations, they are responsible for storm cleanup for non-snow events. Do you plan of that or is it included in the 23 storms.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that the 23 storms is all inclusive; may want to clarify that as seasons change. Can get reimbursement from FEMA for certain storms.

- Highway Snow & Ice Control 324 -15.13%
 - 8102 Overtime decrease due to historical averages
 - 8306 Constr. & Maintenance Materials decrease due to great deal on road salt
- Highway Traffic 325 *
 - *Moved to Police (214)
- Highway Vehicles & Equipment 327 -0.16%
 - 8102 Overtime increase due to rates
 - 8103 Part Time increase due to rates
 - 8105 Equipment parts decrease
 - 8212 Equipment Maintenance decrease
 - 8302 Technical Supplies increase includes GPS tracking for vehicles
 - 8307 Equipment Parts increase due to rising costs
 - 8309 Motor Fuel & Lubricants decrease due to supplier contract
- Highway Leaf Collection 328 +11.78
 - 8102 Overtime increase due to rates
 - 8103 Seasonal increase due to rates

- Solid Waste

- Refuse Collection 351 -5.50%
 - 8220 Other contractual services decrease below current year budget

- Town Manager Chapman stated that the burn plant is going to be closing in Hartford; major cost saving to town in long term contract. Down the road, this is going to be a major cost impact on all municipalities. Need to work collaboratively to look at alternatives.
- Councilor Miner asked if he knew the closing date for MIRA.
- Town Manager Chapman stated it is either 2022 or 2023.
- Councilor Miner asked if DEEP is offering any alternatives for municipalities.
- Town Manager Chapman stated he thinks they are scrambling as well. Locked into contract with MIRA, ok financially but when plant closes plan will be to haul trash out of state; fees will skyrocket. Need to start planning for change.

- Refuse Disposal 352 -0.54%
 - 8102 Overtime increase
 - 8103 Seasonal increase
 - 8220 Other contractual services decrease

- Ms. Murphy stated that there is already a change to this line. Budgeted at \$100 per ton; received a letter that under Other contractual will be \$105 per ton, resulting in an increase of \$54,670. Will have an increase of approx. \$49,000 in this department

- Recycling 353 +2.24%
 - 8220 Other contractual increase reflects rising costs by vendors

- Town Manager Chapman stated that one of the things they are working on is having a charge for bulky waste pick-up. Most area communities charge for picking up bulky waste; we do not. Not

cheap to run program. Looking for the town to have user fee for bulky waste pick up at the curb. Transfer station is available at no cost.

- Ms. Murphy stated that the fee will be set by the vendor. The town will not be collecting that.
- Mayor DelBuono asked if that was being considered for this budget year.
- Town Manager Chapman and Ms. Murphy both stated yes.
- Ms. Murphy stated that is reflected in the -\$47,241 in Refuse Collection
- Town Manager Chapman stated that many people in town don't use this service; having a user fee would make more sense than continuing funding through the general government.
- Mayor DelBuono stated you are planning to charge residents for curbside trash collection.
- Town Manager Chapman stated not trash collection - bulky waste.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that this is something she has advocated for in the past. All on board with this.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that the whole service would be provided by the trash contractor. We would have not involvement; get out of all of that.
- Mayor DelBuono asked if they were working on a fee schedule presentation.
- Councilor Miner stated that metal bulky items are currently charged a fee. Correct?
- Town Manager Chapman stated that the intent is to make it more consistent and have transfer station as possible alternative. To have it picked up it is \$25.
- Councilor Miner stated if you have metal items, there is a charge.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that yes, if it is a metal item it is a minor fee.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that the will provide information to council.

4. Community Development & Improvements

- Town Planner, TPZ, ZBA, Building Department, Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Change</u>
▪ Town Planner (Planning and Development)	420	-7.18%
• 8101 Full time salary decrease; payoff for retirement		
• 8105 Longevity increase		
• 8202 Dues and subscriptions increase for certification of new zoning officer		
• 8301 Office Supplies increase offset		
• 8310 Other materials decrease offset		
▪ TPZ	430	+1.11%
• 8103 Part time salary increase for salary rate for recording officer		
▪ ZBA	440	+1.27%
• 8103 Part time salary increase for rate		
▪ Building Department	450	+1.71%
• 8101 Full time salary increase due to increase in rates		
▪ Conservation Commission	460	+1.30%
• 8103 Part time salary increase due to increase in rates		
▪ Economic Development Director	471	No Change
• 8202 Dues and Subscriptions		
▪ Economic Development Commission	472	+1.18%
• 8103 Part Time salary increase due to wage increase		

- Town Manager Chapman stated that he doesn't know what he would do without Janet. It's been a tough year and she makes it look easy. It has been difficult to put the budget together. Give a lot of

credit to her and her staff, my staff and all of the department heads. All these adjustments were made by the department heads, they all stepped up to the plate.

VIII. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS (Action May Be Taken)

A. Resignation – Conservation Commission Alternate

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of Ben Ancona, III as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission, in accordance with email correspondence dated March 4, 2021, and effective March 9, 2021.

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

B. Appointment – Conservation Commission Member

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

Conservation/Inland Wetlands Commission

7 Members – 4 year staggered term
 3 Alternates – 4 year staggered term
 Member Max: 5
 Alternate Max: 2

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Ben Ancona III, Member	42 East Robbins Avenue	R	3/9/2021- 11/30/2021	Resignation of P Block

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

IX. REFUNDS (Action Requested)

A. Approval of March 9, 2021 Refunds for an Overpayment of Taxes

Motion by Councilor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

That property tax refunds in the amount of \$2,621.19 are hereby approved in the individual amounts and for those named on the “Requests for Refund of an Overpayment of Taxes,” certified by the Revenue Collector, a list of which is attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

X. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. February 23, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the above referenced meeting by Councilor Manke. Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote).

XI. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

- Town Manager Chapman stated that he has nothing else to report.

XII. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilor Nagel stated that he attended a Library Board meeting they are still doing virtual programs. Working on elder newsletter with the Senior Center; they have federal tax forms

available (not state forms); planning a virtual book sale in July; the race they usually have in the spring will in October. Attended first CROG meeting; talked about Brownsfield Grant monies; study of all properties along rail line that exist; approve a study to be done of road and highways in the district, to use technology to determine traffic patterns, intersections.

- Councilor Budrejko stated that at the TPZ meeting an application for development was approved - a 9,000 SF retail development; 4 tenants, one being Noodles & Company. Also, they are having a public hearing regarding having chickens by residents.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (**Via Zoom Application or Phone**)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive stated she is glad to hear of the beautification committee; hope people follow uniform rules. The TPZ meeting scheduled for tomorrow is not just chickens; hearing is for all poultry regulations including ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea hens. All for chickens. Another thing being discussed at TPZ is changes in Newington Junction. All for charging for bulk waste, know that there are people that abuse it. Consider one free pick-up per resident per year. Good luck with budget.

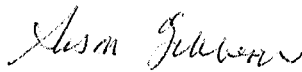
XIV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

- Mayor DelBuono thanked Mr. Chapman for the budget book and all the efforts in getting this together.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Braverman to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Manke. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk