



James Krupienski
Acting Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 GARFIELD STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR BETH DELBUONO

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

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Town Clerk

This meeting was presented as a Zoom Webinar/Hybrid Meeting.

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Councilor Anest
Deputy Mayor Budrejko
Councilor Camillo
Councilor Donahue
Councilor Manke
Councilor Nagel
Councilor Page
Councilor Radda
Mayor DelBuono

Staff Attendees:

James E. Krupienski, Acting Town Manager
Stephen Clark, Chief of Police
Janet Murphy, Finance Director (*via Zoom*)
Rob Hillman, Highway Superintendent
Jeffrey Trommer, Fire Chief
Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

Also present

Lou Jachimowicz, BOE Chief Finance & Operations Officer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Manke to add 4.A. Update from Police Chief. Second by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Update from the Police Chief

- Chief Clark provided activity level for January – April for calls for services. Staffing level is down 20%. Burglaries down from 2022; larcenies are biggest increase and driver of crime– trying to have officers do location checks, hot spot policing; car break-in's down from 2022; if you see something out of place, call the police. Increase in re-arrests (arrest warrants), criminal arrests up from last year. Increase in crime prevention location checks. DUI arrests down. Increase in drug investigations. Staffing is a challenging situation.
- Mayor DelBuono stated we talked about staffing and filling positions.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated with the increase in economic development and the increase of three to four thousand residents, what implication will that have to staffing.

- Chief Clark stated we need to have 58-60 officers on staff within the next few years. It's important for the department to grow along with the development. Think we've been understaffed.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated you talked about proactive patrols shrinking due to increasing administrative tasks. Is that due to legislative requirements?
- Chief Clark stated that there is a host of things. The Red Flags law has put a huge burden on us. One day there were six officers on overtime that were subpoenaed. Have spoken to our legislatures about this. Another thing is when they have a hearing, it's in the district of the person's residence, if we do a protective order for someone staying in a hotel on the Berlin Turnpike and they live in Bridgeport, the officer has to go to Bridgeport for a hearing. Would like to have hearing held in jurisdiction risk protective order in.
- Councilor Manke stated you reported car break ins are down. My car was broken into Friday night, and I didn't report it. Why bother reporting it?
- Chief Clark stated crime statistics are reported crime. We all know not all crimes reported; those need to be inflated. Have to be cautious by the numbers.
- Councilor Manke stated that he thinks people are thinking why bother reporting it, nothing is going to happen to them anyway.
- Chief Clark stated that during the covid period not one traffic ticket was prosecuted. If there are no consequences, people are going to do what they want to do. Asked for data on traffic tickets and never got a response.
- Councilor Anest asked if there were any in house positions that civilians could do to get officers back out on the roads.
- Chief Clark stated they tried to fill the civilian property officer position and had only five applicants, none of which had property room experience. Would like to have a retired detective that has experience. I think down the road we may have to do that. Do we stop going to medical calls and send an EMT working out of the police department. We do approx. 3,500 medical calls per year. If we are not able to increase our staff, we are going to have to have a serious talk about the services we provide. We have six openings with only five applicants. We only had two applicants for the youth academy.
- Mayor DelBuono thanked Officer Clark and the entire police department. We stand behind them and are here to hear whatever suggestions and requests you have that we can help with.

B. Camp Avenue Roadway Maintenance

- Rob Hillman stated back in 2021 we were planning to do milling and paving and residents were notified of our plans. Some residents were concerned about us only milling and paving and not widening it back to the original width of 28 feet. Concerns about emergency vehicles being to access the road, so the town manager at the time decided to put no parking signs on one side of the south side of the road. We were asked to do a study on the road.
- Paul Brand, Civil Engineer, Project Manager with GM2 Associates. We were asked to perform an analysis for the options for paving Camp Avenue. We have provided six options with varying costs. At some point the road was narrowed and repaved. The town standard is 26 feet for residential roads. Asked to look at cost implications for all six alternatives and are based on very rough numbers. The existing road has been there for approx. 40 years; life of road is 15-20 years. Widening would increase safety but those have cost implications. There will be impacts to utilities, driveways and yards. Widening on the south side would be preferable
- Councilor Page asked when the road was narrowed, was two feet taken from both sides?

- Mr. Brand stated it appears that way.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked if utility relocation, driveway repair etc. was included in the cost estimates.
- Mr. Brand stated it is. These are worst case scenario estimates.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that taking two feet is taking from the property owners...
- Mr. Hillman stated that we would be taking three feet.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that the property owner's property would be reduced by two feet.
- Mr. Hillman stated that the work would be within the right-of-way. The town owns the right-of-way.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked if we usually just do milling and paving and not reclamations.
- Mr. Hillman stated milling and paving is standard. Have not done a reclamation in many years.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked if we did this if it would set back the other roads we are planning on working on.
- Mr. Hillman stated that would set us back. Either way we are being set back.
- Councilor Manke stated that the steepness of the driveway concerns. Would that be on us to do that?
- Mr. Hillman stated that the town would typically regard the driveway, etc. to be acceptable.
- Councilor Manke stated that there are other roads in town that are less than 26 feet.
- Mr. Hillman stated there are 40 roads in town are 24 feet, one road that's 23 feet, nine that are 22 feet, eight that are 20 feet and one that is 12 feet.
- Councilor Manke stated that potentially we can be on the hook to widen all those roads.
- Mr. Hillman stated yes.
- Councilor Anest stated that there is a resident here who can shed some light on when the road was reduced to 24 and the reasons why and he lives on the south side. It's been his passion to get the street widened for a number of years.
- Councilor Radda stated just a clarification – I recollect that when this came up a while ago, of the streets that are narrower, Camp Avenue was the only one that had been specifically narrowed after it was initially built. Is that correct?
- Mr. Hillman stated he does not have that information.
- Mayor DelBuono asked what the timeline is for this.
- Mr. Hillman stated that contactor usually starts in July, so by the middle of June at least.
- Councilor Manke stated to clarify if we are doing a reclamation or one of these other proposals, we need the money in the budget to do that.
- Mr. Hillman stated we would need an engineering study too and you're potentially pushing it back a year or two by the time we get all they surveys and all the studies. If you want to widen the road to 28 feet, that would be one million dollars and our and our entire paving budget is \$1.2 million, so that will effect many other road projects.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that there will need to be an informational meeting with the neighbors to explain the alternatives and why a decision was made.
- Mr. Hillman stated that the road is in horrible condition.
- Mr. Brand stated that the longer you wait, option one will not be able to be done.
- Councilor Radda asked what the impact of 26 versus 28 feet is for emergency access.
- Mr. Hillman stated that with 26 feet you cannot open the parking to both sides; 28 feet would allow parking on both sides of the street and emergency vehicle access.
- Acting Town Manager asked what the overall impact in price will be if we wait.

- Mr. Hillman stated that asphalt has increased 20% this year. So, you should add at least 20% to the price.

C. Town Vehicle Fleet Review

- Acting Town Manager Krupienski stated that over the past few years, we've noticed an escalation in town vehicles. We tend to transfer police vehicles into the general pool for town use. That has an impact on our equipment reserve.
- Mr. Hillman provided a list of town vehicles broken down by department, type, miles and who it's assigned to. Some vehicles may have only 20,000 miles on them, as our town plows. Currently we have approx. 145 vehicles for all departments which is up 20% from 15 years ago. Mr. Hillman discussed the police vehicle fleet.
- Chief Clark stated that a lot of the police cruisers go to the board of education security officers. Mileage is a major factor in vehicle replacement due to stress. The admin vehicles are the feeder system to the town. Some of the vehicles must be at least 15 years old.
- Mr. Hillman stated that we do evaluate each vehicle to determine it's lifespan and use.
- Chief Clark stated that police cruisers are used 24/7 and will be utilized for at least 2 years and as they get older they are put into a fleet for use at construction sites. Because traffic is the way it is, contractors are hiring police officers for the vehicles with lights. There are four take home vehicles for me and command staff and those typically go to the detective division and then to general town staff.
- Mr. Hillman stated that we want to make sure emergency vehicles are in top shape and rotation of 3-5 years is needed. On occasion we do purchase used vehicles. We recently purchased a used vehicles for the town electrician and carpenter. The vehicles are used on a regular basis. We have our first electric vehicle and that is being used by Erik Hinckley. We don't have the infrastructure for electric vehicles at this time but are looking into it. We do have hybrid vehicles.
- Mayor DelBuono asked in terms of replacement, it's based on years, not number of miles.
- Mr. Hillman stated each vehicle is given a life span in CIP. Some of the vehicles are not used as frequently and are kept in the fleet because they are still viable. Money spent on maintaining a vehicle is significantly less than purchasing a new vehicle. We do have ambulance, but they are their own entity, and we do maintenance for them. For the highway department, there are 14 vehicles assigned to staff members. There are two trucks that are spares. Some of the smaller trucks are used for construction, pulling trailers, etc. The parks department are all listed as staff, not sure how the designate to employees. Most of their vehicles are pickups and small dump trucks. For the fire department, most of their vehicles are larger engines, they will review with you. The senior center does have four vehicles, two full-time employees and one part-time employee.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that you've talked that the fleet has grown in size over the years and our concern is not just for cost, but in terms of maintenance, for fuel, the overall picture. Who determines when we expand fleet. There have been changes made to who has a town vehicle. How was that determined, what is the process for that?
- Mr. Hillman stated that the prior town manager approved additional vehicles for the fire department. It is ultimately the town manager's decision as to keeping vehicles. The department's request what they need.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that even for the board of education, their security vehicles have increased over the years, changing in staff, etc. All those decisions have grown our fleet over the years.

- Mr. Hillman stated that we've added employees as well.
- Acting Town Manager Krupienski stated that regarding who has a vehicle and who doesn't go back to 2007 under John Salamone, Administrative Letter No. 38 which specifically outlines the individuals and the requirements of them having that vehicle. During a cursory review of this, it appears that proper signoff has not been completed on a number of vehicles.
- Commissioner Whalen, Chief Trommer, Chief Nesklada thanked the town council for inviting us here tonight to discuss what we have, why we have it and why we need it. Our services are at a high demand, and it is taxing on all of us and our equipment and it's beginning to show. They engines are a lot more money than a police car and it takes a longer for us to get our equipment. We don't have the option of saying hold on, we need to get a truck from Wethersfield. We need to know that our vehicles are in top shape and 110% ready to go. Mr. Whalen reviewed the fleet of vehicles. Our trucks are very standardized for the town of Newington. All of our trucks are the same except for Engine 4 which is smaller due to the size of the fire house. We do have a couple of spare engines. The average years of our frontline pumpers is 12.5 years. We just got our new ladder truck which is at station 2. Newington Rescue 1 is used for extra equipment, first aid equipment, fans, etc. Tactical Unit 2 carries a lot of rehab equipment, rope rescue equipment, ice rescue equipment. We are required to carry certain equipment due to NFPA standards. Average life years of our rescue trucks is 11.5 years. An enclosed trailer and quad type vehicle are the only items added to our fleet in the last 10 years. That was purchased for rescues on Cedar Mountain, and we can use that on the busway.
- Chief Trommer stated that we took the funding for the replacement of a Dodge to purchase the trailer and the UTV; not additional financial issues with it.
- Mr. Whelan stated that the UTV is used at the Extravaganza and any large functions in town. We get a lot of PR with it. Service 2 is used by our duty officer, no matter time of day. Each person takes it for one week at a time to take home and respond from home. Average life of our service trucks is 16 years. Our Mobile Command Unit was bought in conjunction with police and EMS. It is used at a lot of DUI checkpoints. On a cold winter night we can have that come to a working fire, people can go in, warm up. It's starting to show its age. The state has come in and put numerous radios in it so it can be used in disaster situations. Its age is 22 years; estimated replacement is 2027. When I came on a few years ago, one thing I wanted to do was to get the chief's vehicles, I succeeded, and it's worked out very well. They are older police cars. We pass the vehicles down. We had to replace one of the vehicles because the transmission blew on it. Average age of chief's vehicles is 12.3 years.
- Chief Trommer stated that we do not get the admin police vehicles, we get the patrol cars with 100,000 miles plus on them.
- Mr. Whelan stated that the cars are beat up when we get them. Looking to purchase two new Chevy Tahoe's for command staff with ARPA funds, if possible. NFPA guidelines are replacement fire apparatus every 15 years. We are keeping our trucks for 20 years, as first line and then down to spares for another five or six. One of our engines is a 1990. We are not abusing the system. You don't want to buy a used 12-year-old engine. When the chief's vehicle is replaced, it gets passed down to staff. The highway department performs preventative maintenance on the vehicles in the spring and the fall. Mr. Whalen reviewed the upcoming apparatus replacement schedule.
- Chief Trommer stated that the 2023 estimated cost for a rescue/tac vehicle is \$1.5 million and the estimated cost for a ladder truck is close to \$2 million. The problem is all these trucks have a three-year build time.

- Commissioner Whalen stated that the big cities are purchasing all the stock trucks because they can't wait the three years to order them.
- Chief Trommer stated that it was brought up during the CIP discussion that Clinton bought a used vehicle and I talked to the chief, they bought a used truck because they had a catastrophic failure on one of their apparatuses, yes they did buy a used truck, but when their new truck came in, they sold it. We have to think about what we want to do because of the three-year build time.
- Mr. Whelan stated that Berlin recently purchased a few vehicles and Rocky Hill went to referendum and replaced their entire fleet (reduced size of fleet).
- Chief Trommer stated that Rocky Hill reduced fleet due to size of their manpower (50 ppl).
- Mr. Whelan stated that we are very proud that we have ISO Class 3 Certification.
- Chief Trommer stated that about six years ago we received Class 3 certification and have increased that certification to a high-level Class 3. I recently met with our rep, and we think we have the ability to get to Class 2 certification. That not only benefits us as a department, but it benefits the entire town because of the insurance rating you have. We need an 80 and are currently at 77.96. Some things are out of our control and one of those things is hydrants. It is required that they be reviewed every 5 years and MDC has not flow tested some the hydrants since 2011. We are pushing MDC to help us with that and that hurts us tremendously. Fifty percent is fire department, forty percent is water supply. Looking to have our legislatures help with this. Not just Newington, entire Hartford country area they service.
- Mr. Whelan stated that if that happens, we will be the only volunteer fire department in the state with a class 2 rating. Wethersfield just had a study done the report stated they should mirror Newington's. We are going to out of town on calls at least one to two times per week.
- Chief Trommer stated that they fire department is part of Task Force 51 which includes Wethersfield, Rocky Hill, Berlin, Cromwell. It's a determined number of men/women going to the fire to help.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked if Pierce was the only maker of fire trucks in the country.
- Mr. Whelan stated that there are four manufacturers in the county and all have wait times.
- Chief Trommer stated some of these companies, when you sign a contract, they don't hold their prices. Pierce holds the price for us not matter how long the build takes.
- Chief Nesklada stated that we try to stick with Pierce for standardization, training, fire fighter safety. Want to be able move from one engine to another without issue and it's safer for everybody. It also helps with maintenance to service vehicles.
- Councilor Manke thanked the fire department and Mr. Hillman for this information. Would like to see what vehicles the board of education have.
- Acting Town Manger Krupienski stated he will ask for that again tomorrow.
- Councilor Page thanked the fire department for the information they provided and the age of the vehicles. Prices of the vehicles is a little scary. Very informative. Appreciate all you do.
- Chief Trommer that the payment is spread out over a five-year period.
- Mayor DelBuono thanked the fire department for clarification of the take home truck and the reason for it. In terms of NFPA standards, is it based on years or mileage?
- Mr. Whelan stated that New Britain replaces their vehicles every 12 years.
- Mayor DelBuono asked how many take home vehicles there are.
- Mr. Whelan stated beside the take home car, there are the chief and four deputies.
- Mayor DelBuono asked what the standard is for take home vehicles.

- Chief Trommer stated they are for fire department use. Not able to take vehicle out of town without permission by the board of fire commissioners.
- Mr. Whalen stated that we have a vehicle policy.
- Chief Trommer stated that when the deputies and chief get their vehicles they gave up their gas allowance.

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

A. Public Comments

- Dennis Machol, 195 Camp Avenue came here 15 months ago to provide information and problems on Camp. The street was narrowed on both sides of the street. The storm drains haven't been moved in 40 years. The residents on Camp Avenue deserve to have a safe street that's properly widened. Very frustrating. The town of Newington made this mistake. No one only parks on one side; signs need to come down, not fair. Know that it's expensive.
- Janet Machol, 195 Camp Avenue stated that they have lived there for 49 years. It was narrowed two feet on each side. We need a safer fit on Camp Avenue. By narrowing it was not made safer. Have multi generations living in houses with many cars. We can barely drive through when delivery vehicles are parked on the street. Appreciate your reaching out to the residents regarding this.

B. Email Correspondence

- None

6. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

7. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Auditor

- Ms. Murphy stated that this is an annual appointment of our auditor.

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

Per Section 610 of the Newington Town Charter, the firm of Clifton Larsen Allen LLP, formerly Blum Shapiro, is hereby appointed as auditor for the Town of Newington for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; said firm agrees to file a complete report on or before December 15, 2023.

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0

B. Budget Transfers

- Ms. Murphy stated that these are three projects they are looking to supplement. Senior Center Windows; Road Reconstruction; and Highway and Parks Garages.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Budrejko

CERTIFICATION:

In accordance with Section 808 of the Town Charter, I hereby certify that there exists, free from encumbrances, in the following appropriations in the General, Public Building, and Capital Improvement Funds, the amounts listed below.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10191-8101	Salary – Facilities	\$50,000
10191-8308	Heating Fuel	\$6,580
10197-8101	Salary – Information Tech	\$130,000
10170-8101	Salary – Town Clerk	\$45,000
30640-88112	Senior & Disabled HVAC Rpl	\$28,420
10322-8101	Salary – Highway	\$30,000
10324-8102	Overtime – Snow & Ice	\$70,000
10154-8224	Local Elderly Tax Relief Program	\$50,000
10120-8101	Salary – Town Manager	\$50,000
31130-88904	Highway Garage Building Upgrade	\$10,668
31130-88910	Highway Garage Ada Compliance	\$28,803
30329-88729	Highway Garage HVAC	\$36,937
30329-88735	Highway Garage Emergency Repair	\$904
30329-88933	Highway Garage Fire/Secure Alarm	\$3,530
30831-88725	Park Garage Boiler	\$17

Janet Murphy, Director of Finance

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds in the General, Public Building, and Capital Improvement Fund to the following accounts in the Public Building and Capital Improvement Funds:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
31160-88103	Senior Center Window Replacement	\$260,000
30195-88121	Road Reconstruction	\$200,000
31110-88308	Highway & Parks Garages	\$80,859

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0

- Councilor Page asked about the salary unencumbrances. How is that possible?
- Ms. Murphy stated that those are positions they were unable to fill.

C. ARPA Funds Allocation – Clem Lemire Turf Field

- Budrejko asked that the specific amount be stated on the resolution. Would like that listed, don't feel comfortable without it.
- Ms. Murphy this was how other resolutions were done in the past, just trying to stay consistent with all the other ones.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby endorses the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the replacement of the Synthetic Turf Field at Clem Lemire Park. These funds shall be up to, but not to exceed, \$600,000.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0

D. BOE CIP Transfer Request-Undesignated Funds

- Councilor Camillo asked why they are resurfacing the track when they need a new field. Why spend money now. You are wasting \$100,000.
- Lou Jachimowicz stated they did look into with the track company and we cannot effectively make any changes to the track configuration. Don't have ability to restructure

without huge collateral issues. Currently can only support 180 width field. Did speak to field turf company about resurfacing later, they stated it would not be a major supplemental expenditure. The condition of track warrants the need to resurface.

- Councilor Camillo asked why you can't state reimbursement for this.
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated that athletic fields are only reimbursable at the time of original construction, so that's not an available resource.

Motion by Councilor Nagel

CERTIFICATION:

In accordance with Section 808 of the Town Charter, I hereby certify that there exists, free from encumbrances, in the following appropriations in the School CIP Fund, the amounts listed below.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3003-4999	School CIP Fund Balance	\$300,000.00

Janet Murphy, Director of Finance

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds in the School CIP Fund to the following account:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
31193-88758	Blacktop/Paving	\$200,000.00
31193-88252	Track/Tennis/Basketball Surfaces	\$100,000.00

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0.

E. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant

- Chief Trommer stated the purpose of the grant is for recruitment and retention (70% usage) and for emergency notifications (30% usage) for town citizens. It will be in front of Company 1. It will shut off at a certain time each night, can be dimmed, taking into consideration the neighbors of the fire house.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that there are zoning regulations in terms of electronic signs. You got the grant, if this does not get through zoning, can you use the funds in another way?
- Chief Trommer stated that we've already reached out to Erik Hinckley in zoning and he stated that town buildings are exempt from any zoning regulations. We will go through the process.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that we typically ask that things go through the process.

Motion by Councilor Donahue

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council hereby authorizes the Acting Town Manager, or his designee/successor, to accept the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant award for the Newington Volunteer Fire Department, in the amount for \$45,226.00 for the installation of a digital sign to assist with recruitments. A copy of the executed grant shall be attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0

- Mayor DelBuono thanked the department for continuing to go for grants. You've been working a lot on getting funding in that way. It doesn't go unnoticed, and we appreciate that.

- Chief Trommer stated that they have 2 or 3 in process. Hope to hear something in September for a grant for thermal imaginers and a drone for the fire department.

Motion by Councilor Nagel

RESOLVED,

That the Acting Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to submit a proposal for the Fire Department Digital Sign Project to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission for its report in accordance with Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

Second by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0.

F. Town Manager Search Update

- Councilor Manke stated that council has reviewed a number of resumes; narrowed down the candidates; had interviews with five individuals. Narrowed down candidates to in person interviews. Process is moving along.

8. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

A. Appointment – Town Plan & Zoning Commission, Alternate

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council here by makes the following appointment:

Town Plan & Zoning Commission

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

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Michael J. Fox, Alternate	1901 Main Street	U	5/9/2023- 11/30/2023	Resignation of T Gill

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 9-0

B. NTC Appointments to Various Boards

Motion by Councilor Page

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council here by makes the following appointment(s):

Audit Committee

3 NTC Members

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Balf-Town Committee

7 members, 3 alternates: 2 NTC, 1 Env. Comm., 2 residents, 2 Balf Reps

Party Max: 5 regular, 2 alternates

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Blight Ordinance Subcommittee

3 NTC Members

Name	Address	Party	Term	
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Kim Radda NTC Member	128 Cambria Avenue	D	NTC Term	
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Employee Insurance and Pension Benefits Committee

9 members: 5 specialists, 2 NTC, 2 BOE: 2 alternates

2-year term (specialists)

Party Max.: 6 members, 1 alternate

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Facilities Naming Subcommittee

3 NTC Members

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Kim Radda NTC Member	128 Cambria Avenue	D	NTC Term	

IHC Committee

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Rep	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

School Code Compliance Committee

5 Members, 3. NTC, 2 BOE

Party Max: 4

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Standing Insurance Committee

9 members, 2 NTC, 2 BOE, 2 Casualty/Claim or Engineering, 3 Underwriters; 2 alternates

2-year term

Party Max.: 6

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Town Hall Renovations PBC

2 NTC

Party Max: 1

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Youth Adult Council

Name	Address	Party	Term	
Carol Anest NTC Member	30 Harding Avenue	D	NTC Term	

Seconded by Councilor Radda. Motion passed 9-0

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. April 18, 2023 Public Hearing Minutes – Disabled over 65
- B. April 18, 2023 Public Hearing Minutes – Exempt MV
- C. April 18, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- D. April 20, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
- E. April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- F. May 1, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

G. May 3, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilor Radda to approve the above meeting minutes. Second by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Board of Education - John Wallace Middle School Grant Application Authorization

- Lou Jachimowicz stated at the last BOE meeting they approved the education specifications for this project, step number one in the school grant process. Now onto the town council and there are four motions required in order for us to get on the list for consideration for the general assembly in December and that will allow us to file the grant application by the end of June. Mr. Jachimowicz reviewed the different resolutions that need to be passed. We have a high degree of confidence in the cost estimates. It is an approx. \$10 million project. Will be avoiding the expense of the window systems. Mr. Jachimowicz reviewed the cost estimates. State reimbursement would be 57.14%; hoping to get as much as 80% for this project.
- Mayor DelBuono asked how set the reimbursement rate would be prior to going out to referendum.
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated that he doesn't have an answer on that.
- Councilor Camillo asked about egress windows for security. Is that in there?
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated not at this time. That would be part of the finalized design development work.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked about the terms build as new, renovate as new. This 57.14 is based on renovation?
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated the 57.14 is based on calculations by the state and based on the grand list. We've been at 57.14 for about 7 years now and set independently each year. We've expressed concern about the safety and security of our students and our legislatures are willing to try to get a better reimbursement rate for us to pursue this project. Know that server other communities in different financial places than Newington were able to get up to 80% for their project. Mr. Jachimowicz stated that this would be a renovation project. Renovate as New is an incentive the state created so schools don't get discarded and the building gets revitalized.
- Mayor DelBuono asked what the timeline for this is.
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated he hoped this could be done by the first meeting in June. Will need a couple of weeks to get the packet together forth June 29th deadline.


11. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

- Acting Town Manager Krupienski stated that shredding event will be held on May 20th from 9am-12pm. The new Town Engineer will be starting on May 22nd. Newington Fire Fighter Dedication on May 22nd. Mr. Krupienski provided an update on construction projects around town.
- Councilor Donahue stated on the Dakota property it looks like they are preparing a center turn lane.
- Acting Town Manager Krupienski stated that as part of their state permit to extend the road for safety.
- Councilor Donahue asked if there was any word on Alumni Road.
- Acting Town Manager Krupienski stated that he is waiting for sign off on the state permit.

12. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilor Nagel stated CROG met the day after our last meeting, they plan on having a meeting in the future at Riverfront Recapture Boat House. Library met yesterday and their road race is May 21st; have consolidated all their bank accounts into one bank to be more streamlined. Have completed visiting with town schools and have started programs with them. Friends of the Library book sale took in \$13,500. Concert Series by Hanel family – concerts on July 17th and July 24th. Very excited about having their budget approved and getting a teen librarian.
 - Councilor Donahue on stated that Thursday NCTV will be hosting Daren Sweeney, professor at CCSU, video class. Hope to get a couple of volunteers out to this and hope this turns into an annual event.
 - Councilor Radda stated that on May 23rd Chambers Annual Meeting the Friends will be receiving the Gail Whitney Service Award.
 - Mayor DelBuono stated that the Police Community Council is receiving a public safety award.
13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (Via Zoom Application or Phone)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ITEMS IN GENERAL)
- None
14. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS
- Councilor Anest stated that she will not be at the next meeting.
15. INFORMATION ITEMS
- A. 26th Annual Newington Library 5K Challenge Road Race; added Little Readers Sprint. Also asking for paper goods and personal hygiene products.
- B. Parks and Recreation Upcoming Events
1. Edythe & Harry Mandell 2023 Concert Series
 2. Newington Goes Country, June 8, 2023, featuring *Southern Voice*
 3. Food Truck Friday, June 9, 2023
 4. Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides, July 14, 2023
 5. Newington Children’s Theatre – NCTCarts.org. They do some amazing stuff.
16. ADJOURNMENT
- Motion by Councilor Camillo to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Donahue.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk