



James Krupienski
Acting Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 GARFIELD STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR BETH DELBUONO

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

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

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[Signature]
Town Clerk

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:01 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
Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk
3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – ON AGENDA ONLY (Via Zoom Application or Phone)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ITEMS ON AGENDA ONLY)
 - A. Public Comments
 - None
 - B. Email Correspondence
 - None
4. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
 - None
5. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Consider and Take Action on the Appointment of a Town Manager

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

Pursuant to Section C-501 of the Newington Town Charter, the Newington Town Council hereby appoints Thomas Hutka to serve as Town Manager, effective July 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby authorizes Mayor Beth DelBuono, Tim Manke, Majority Leader and Mitch Page, Minority Leader to execute the final negotiated Employment Contract, a copy of which shall be attached to this resolution and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Seconded by Councilor Camillo.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion passed 9-0

- Mayor DelBuono thanked James Krupienski for all his hard work as our acting town manager and is staying with us as our town clerk; congratulations to new our town manager, Thomas Hutka; looking forward to working with him soon.

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

- None

7. **REMARKS BY COUNCILORS**

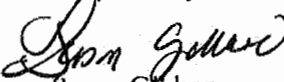
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko thanked James for doing a herculean job and getting us through this period. We had an incredible field of candidates and Mr. Hutka rised to the top. There will be a press release regarding his appointment and a reception in the future to meet him. Mr. Hutka is relocating from Pampano Beach, FL. He has as a tremendous amount of experience. Very involved in economic development and has a fondness for historical properties and reuse of historical properties. Has worked in many areas of the country and that perspective will benefit us here in Newington. Looking forward to seeing what he brings to the position.
- Councilor Manke thanked James for filling in, had a busy season with budget, etc. appreciate all you efforts. Thank you to the search committee. Thank you to the councilors for taking the time to do this. Welcome Thomas to Newington.
- Councilor Page thanked James for all his hard work; lucky to have you in town. Thank you to our consulting firm Randi Frank for guiding us through this process. Had a lot of positive feedback from all candidates about how wonderful our town is. Appreciate the work of all the councilors at this table; have had tanglements, disagreement and fights, but al wall agree on this decision 100%. Mr. Hutka will bring a wealth of knowledge to the position. Feel employees will be pleased.
- Councilor Radda thanked James for taking on the role and working with us day in and day out. Appreciate your support, professionalism and humor. Thanks also to Randi Frank and her associates; they did a wonderful job working with us and bringing us stellar candidates. Thanks to everyone at the council table. We work together collegially, took this task very seriously and in the end we feel Mr. Hutka was best for Newington.
- Councilor Nagel echoed what everyone said about the process, and those in town, James and the different departments. Thanks to Randi Frank for guiding us through this journey. This was a bipartisan conclusion for who we think is best for Newington. Mr. Hutka has been at the helm of a town of this size. He and his family have ties to Connecticut. Appreciate that he wished to be part of our community. Applaud everyone involved in this process.

- Councilor Anest reiterated what everyone said. Thanks to James for his dedication and professionalism and all his hard work as acting town manager. Looking forward to welcoming Thomas to Newington with his diverse background. Once the residents get to know him, they will agree we did a good job picking a candidate. This was a unanimous decision and we all felt he was best for the town. Thanked everyone sitting at the table.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that Randi Frank, Rich Brown and Bob Slavin did a great job for us and lead us down a nice path. Took into facets of our community to get the right candidate. Did go through a step by step process. Had a full day of in person interview with town staff, James, and the council. It was a unanimous decision. In the end Mr. Hutka rose to the top. Think he will be great to work with and the employees will enjoy working with him as well. The consultant will be meeting with us to set goals. Can't wait to start working with him.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Manke to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Radda.

Respectfully submitted.


Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk