



John L. Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR ROY ZARTARIAN

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Helen Nelson Room (Main Level) – Town Hall
131 Cedar Street

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Zartarian called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Helen Nelson Room, Town Hall.

Councilors Present

Councilor Anest
Councilor Budrejko
Councilor DelBuono
Councilor Klett
Councilor Manke
Councilor Marocchini – Absent
Councilor Nagel
Councilor Serra
Mayor Zartarian

Staff Present

Jaime Trevethan – Asst. to the Town Manager

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – ON AGENDA ONLY (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)

Clarke Castelle, Mr. Castelle addressed the Council regarding Town Manager Salomone. He urged the Council to consider the Town Manager's accomplishments and the commendations that he received from past Councilors for those accomplishments. He listed some accomplishments including: negotiations with the owners of the Marcap property, securing a part of Cedar Mountain as dedicated open space for Newington, leadership of the Town's Emergency Operation Center during recent storms and his work with State and Federal Agencies to help the Town recover quickly. He indicated that Mr. Salomone worked with State agencies in securing grants for the Town, including STEAP grants, grants to upgrade municipal housing and the grant from the DECD Development to raze the National Welding building. Mr. Castelle also indicated that Mr. Salomone negotiated two new labor contracts during the last 3 years, resulting in fair but significant cost-containment for taxpayers and hired and retained employees and department heads—most recently director of Parks and Recreation, Bill DeMaio and Chief of Police, Steve Clark. He indicated that the Council credited the Town Manager and his staff for the recent ratings up-grade by Standard and Poors and commended his work in preparing the annual budget. Mr. Castelle remarked about the soundness of his financial recommendations and decisions, cost-saving innovations. Mr. Castelle indicated that during his formal evaluation processes, the Town Manager received high ratings for demeanor, composure, personal integrity, motivation, and professionalism. He remarked that the Town Manager is a decent man, admired by his peers, colleagues, and staff. Mr. Castelle asked the Council to keep these qualities in mind during the upcoming Executive Session.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: PERSONNEL

Deputy Mayor Klett moved to go into Executive Session regarding personnel at 7:06 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Marocchini absent). All Councilors present at the regular meeting attended the Executive Session.

The Council adjourned from Executive Session and returned to the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

V. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS (**Action May Be Taken by Waiving the Rules**)

Councilor DelBuono moved to waive the rules to take action on New Business items A and B. Motion to waive the rules seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 on a unanimous roll call vote (Councilor Marocchini absent).

A. Consider and Take Action on Town Manager's Employment Agreement

Deputy Mayor Klett moved the following:

RESOVLED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of John L. Salomone as Town Manager and authorizes the Council leadership to execute any necessary documents. The Council thanks Mr. Salomone for his service and extends its best wishes to him in his future endeavors.

Motion seconded by Councilor DelBuono. Motion passed 8-0 on a unanimous roll call vote (Councilor Marocchini absent).

B. Consider and Take Action on the Appointment of an Acting Town Manager

Councilor Anest moved the following:

RESOVLED:

Pursuant to section C-504 of the Newington Town Charter, the Newington Town Council hereby appoints Tanya Lane to serve as Acting Town Manager for a period not to exceed 90 days and authorizes Council leadership to execute any necessary documents.

Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Klett.

Public Participation

John Bachand, 56 Maple Hill Avenue: Mr. Bachand stated that he will not celebrate what has transpired, however he believes that Tanya Lane will be a good interim Town Manager.

Motion passed 8-0 on a unanimous roll call vote (Councilor Marocchini absent).

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – ON AGENDA ONLY
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)

Peter Arburrr, 133 Tremont Street: Mr. Arburrr stated that the timing of the Town Manager's resignation is unfortunate, as the Town enters into the budget session and union contract negotiations.

Patty Foley, 51 Crown Ridge: Ms. Foley thanked the Council for its work and indicated that Mrs. Lane will do a wonderful job as Acting Town Manager.

Mike Fox, 1901 Main Street: Mr. Fox remarked that the Council made an excellent choice in the appointment of Mrs. Lane as Acting Town Manager.

VII. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

Deputy Mayor Klett thanked Mrs. Lane for taking on the responsibility of Acting Town Manager and expressed her confidence in Mrs. Lane.

Councilor DelBuono expressed her confidence in Mrs. Lane's ability to move the Town forward.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Nagel moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Klett. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Marocchini absent).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaime Trevethan
Assistant to the Town Manager - Administration