



John L. Salomone  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

**MAYOR STEPHEN WOODS**

## MINUTES

### NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING 7:00 P.M.

January 8, 2013

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION Re: Personnel – 6 P.M. – Conference Room #1

Mayor Woods called the Executive Session, re: Personnel, to order at 6:00 p.m. in conference room 1 of Town Hall. All Councilors present at the regular meeting and Town Manager Salomone were in attendance. The Executive Session was recessed at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Woods called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Helen Nelson Room.

#### I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### II. ROLL CALL

Councilor Borjeson  
Councilor Bottalico  
Councilor Castelle  
Councilor Cohen  
Councilor DelBuono  
Councilor Klett  
Councilor McBride – absent  
Councilor Nagel  
Mayor Woods

#### Staff Attendees:

John Salomone, Town Manager  
Ann Harter, Finance Director  
Chief Schroder, Fire Chief  
Jaime Trevethan, Executive Assistant  
Linda Irish-Simpson, Clerk of the Council

Bob Seiler, Fire Commissioner  
Chet Bogatz, Fire Commisisoner

#### III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL - None

#### IV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

Councilor Bottalico asked John Salomone about the status of the Academy roof and the Town Manager explained the item was in the budget and the Town was waiting for final State approval.

Councilor Borjeson commended the Human Services Department for their hard work over the holiday season ensuring gifts for 400 Newington families. He stated he had attended a two day seminar for the Partnership for Strong Communities and indicated Newington had the largest representation of the towns attending and felt it would be beneficial in the future.

Councilor Cohen remarked about the busway and whether or not the State would be exempt from Newington's zoning. Councilor Borjeson indicated the Town should have a community forum to get ideas from all interested parties and then determine what was best for Newington to be able to be proactive on the project. Mayor Woods stated that he did not think the State owned any land other than the right of way along the busway. He felt the State would not have the money to purchase land but if they did, the Town would not have jurisdiction over the land.

Mayor Woods stated that during the week of February 4 there would be a community wide program for the discussion of school safety. Councilor Klett commented Newington had been working on the issue of school safety for the past ten years and felt the Town was ahead of many towns. Councilor Klett asked about the 16 towns included in the Partnership for Strong Communities and why certain towns were included since they were not directly involved in the busway. It was explained the seminar concerned the towns involved in the busway as well as rail that was planned to go from New Haven to Northampton and eventually to Montreal.

Councilor Klett remarked that the Governor should be applauded for his recognition of not only gun control but also the need for mental health programs to address individuals needing help.

## **V. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Town Council 2013 Regular Meeting Schedule**

Councilor DelBuono moved the following:

#### **RESOLVED:**

**The Newington Town Council, in compliance with the Freedom of Information act, hereby approves the 2013 Town Council regular meeting schedule as indicated on the attached document.**

Councilor Cohen seconded the motion and the motion was passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

## **VI. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. DEHMS Homeland Security Grant Funding**

Mr. Salomone explained it would give surrounding towns access to any grant money received and consolidated the different regions. A resolution would be presented to the Town Council at the next meeting.

### **B. CIP Funds Transfer**

Ann Harter and Chief Schroeder explained the funds needed for the Fire Department were for fully equipping the new engine. Mr. Salomone indicated the second item was to create funds for installation of signs for the Market Square/Constitution Square project. The merchants intend to rebrand Market Square as Constitution Square.

Councilor Bottalico asked the Chief why the equipment was not added in right away when an engine was purchased. Chief Schroeder explained the bid came in under budget and the Fire Department was attempting to get the money back that was originally budgeted. Councilor Castelle indicated the bulk of the money was going to come from the Tax Revaluation Reserve and Mrs. Harter explained that approximately half of the fund would be used for the resolution with the remaining half being used for possible court cases still to be decided.

Councilor Cohen moved to waive the rules so the resolution on the CIP Funds Transfer could be voted on. It was seconded by Councilor Bottalico and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

Councilor Cohen moved the following:

**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 Public Building Fund, the amounts listed below:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
88306	Fire Company #1 Window Replacement	5,991

*Ann J. Harter, Director of Finance*

**RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds in the Public Building Fund to the following accounts in the Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditures Fund:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
88142	Public Safety – Equipment Reserve	\$5,991

The motion was seconded by Councilor Nagel and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

Councilor Cohen moved the following:

**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 Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditures Fund, the amounts listed below:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
88324	Residential Trash Containers	5,468
88721	NVA Sky Light Replacement	7,829
88911	Tax Revaluation Reserve	24,712
	Total	38,009

*Ann J. Harter, Director of Finance*

**RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds in the Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures Fund to the following accounts in the Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditures Fund:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
88115	Market Square Development	\$12,000
88142	Public Safety – Equipment Reserve	<u>\$26,009</u>
	Total	\$38,009

The motion was seconded by Councilor Nagel and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

C. Discussion: Board of Ethics

Councilor Bottalico indicated he wanted to establish a committee to review the original Board of Ethics and make changes to it if needed since it was last revised in 1997. Mr. Salomone indicated that in order to change an ordinance the Town Council would have to make changes, hold public hearings, and then hold a vote. Mayor Woods requested Councilor Bottalico to give all his information to the Town Attorney and for Mr. Salomone to have the attorney attend the next Council meeting for his opinion and discussion on the topic.

Councilor Klett asked the Town Manager to send the Council information on surrounding towns' ethics ordinances for comparison before the next meeting. There was further discussion on whether the Council had too much on its' plate right now and how certain language could/should be interpreted and clarified. John Salomone stated he would have the Town Attorney at the next meeting to discuss the topic and if the Council wanted to move forward, a motion would have to be made to start the process. He would also contact CCM to obtain other towns ordinances for the Council to review.

D. Town Council Goal Setting Session – January 26, 2013

John Salomone stated after final confirmation from the Council the public meeting would be held at Indian Hills again this year and would involve the same format with less time spent on background information for the Council.

E. Town Manager Evaluation/ Consideration of Compensation Adjustment

This item was postponed until the next meeting when Councilor McBride would be able to attend.

VII. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

- A. Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee
  - 1. Appoint Beth DelBuono

Councilor Nagel moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointment:**

**Town Hall Renovation Project Building Committee**

Name	Address	Party	Appointing Party	Term	Replaces
NTC REP: Beth DelBuono	327 Walsh Avenue	R	R	IMMED – Conclusion of NTC Term	J. Bottalico (resigned 11-2012)

The motion was seconded by Councilor Castelle and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

B. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Councilor Borjeson moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointments:

1. Commission on Aging & Disabled

Name	Address	Party	Appt. Party	Term	Replaces
Stein Ramstad	555 Main Street	D	D	Immed. - 11/30/15	S. Ramstad (term exp. 11/30/12)

6. Conservation Commission

Name	Address	Party	Appt. Party	Term	Replaces
Neil Forte	123 Church Street	R	R	Immed. - 11/30/15	N. Forte (Term exp. 11/30/12)

23. Zoning Board of Appeals

Name	Address	Party	Appt. Party	Term	Replaces
Alternate: Neil Forte	123 Church Street	R	R	Immed. - 11/30/17	Vacant
Alternate: Paul Vessella	31 Northwood Road	R	R	Immed. - 11/30/17	P. Vessella (term exp. 11/30/12)

Councilor Nagel seconded by motion and it passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

**VIII. TAX REFUNDS**

Councilor Nagel moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

That property tax refunds in the amount of \$12,623.75 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.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Cohen and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

**IX. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

A. **Regular Meeting, December 11, 2012**

Councilor Borjeson asked a correction be made on Page 2, Paragraph 1 from "two months" to "twelve months." Councilor Cohen moved to accept the amended minutes of December 11, 2012 and was seconded by Councilor Borjeson. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

**X. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC**

None

**XI. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL**

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She asked about the number of boards and commissions that were still meeting, active/inactive, and if people on the boards did not show up, was there a process to determine attendance. She also asked if a certain number of meetings were missed, was a person replaced.

**XIII. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS**

Councilor Nagel indicated there were some people unable to watch NCTV over the ATT network. It was determined to be an ATT issue and was being worked on.

Councilor Bottalico asked Mr. Salomone about Mrs. Lyons concern, and the Town Manager stated some committees were either active or inactive and there were others that were part of a particular project that had to do a final report before being closed. He explained attendance information was required 2X a year and were on file in his office but that nothing could be done if an individual did not show up. Councilor Klett asked for a list of all committees for review to determine which could be closed.

The Town Council resumed the Executive Session re: Personnel at 8:20 p.m. All Councilors present at the regular meeting and Town Manager Salomone were in attendance at the Executive Session.

Councilor Bottalico moved to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilor Castelle. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilor Nagel. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor McBride, absent).

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Irish-Simpson  
Clerk of the Council

JT



John Salomone  
Town Manager

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131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the following is a list of meeting dates of the Town Council for 2013.

All meeting times are 7:00 pm.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u>
January 8, 2013	August 13, 2013
January 22, 2013	August 27, 2013
February 12, 2013	September 10, 2013
February 26, 2013	September 24, 2013
March 12, 2013	October 8, 2013
March 26, 2013	October 22, 2013
April 9, 2013	November 12, 2013
April 23, 2013	November 26, 2013
May 14, 2013	December 10, 2013
May 28, 2013	December 17, 2013 (December 24 is Christmas Eve)
June 11, 2013	January 14, 2014
June 25, 2013	January 28, 2014
July 9, 2013	
July 23, 2013	

Cc Facilities Department  
IT Department  
Superintendent's Office, Board of Education