



John L. Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR JEFF WRIGHT

February 22, 2011

Minutes – Newington Town Council

Regular Meeting

Mayor Wright called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Helen Nelson Room – Town Hall

I PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II ROLL CALL

Councilors Present:

Councilor Banach
Councilor Casasanta
Councilor Cohen
Councilor Lenares (Arrived at 7:20 PM)
Councilor McBride
Councilor Nagel
Councilor Nasinnyk
Mayor Wright

Councilor Klett - absent

Staff Present

John Salomone, Town Manager
Ed Meehan, Town Planner
Mary Richard, Council Clerk

Councilor Nasinnyk moved to add an item to the agenda, Item V.E for the introduction of the new Library Director, Donna Miller. Seconded by Councilor Cohen. Vote 7 – 0 Councilors Klett and Lenares absent.

III PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Mayor Wright announced the phone number for the public participation – 860-665-8736

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive – thanked the TPZ members and members of the Open Space Committee for their taking time in listening to the public regarding Cedar Mountain.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Mid Year Transfers

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 Fund, the amounts listed below:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
940	Employee Benefits	\$138,700

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Ann J. Harter, Director of Finance

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds to the following accounts in the General Fund:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
110	Town Council	\$1,200
120	Town Manager	8,400
150	Finance	7,500
210	Police Department	83,400
230	Fire Department	2,500
310	Engineering	3,500
420	Town Planner	2,000
450	Building Department	7,500
610	Human Services	7,500
830	Grounds Maintenance	10,000
3000	Employee Leave Liability Fund	5,200
Total		\$138,700

MOTION BY: Councilor Nagel

SECONDED BY: Councilor Nasinnyk

VOTE: 7 – 0 Councilors Klett & Lenares absent

V. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

A. Open Space Committee 2010 Annual Report to the Council

Chairman Tom Bowen presented a Power Point presentation on acquiring property and requested a start in the process. He introduced other members, Vice Chairman Carol Wojtowicz, Jay Bottalico, Stanley Marcinczyk. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Councilor Nasinnyk, a member of the Open Space committee, said that the TPZ and the Open Space Committee has done a superb job for the work they've done on this project and she said that she is looking forward to the next phase of the project. Councilor Nagel, also a member of the Open Space Committee said he appreciates the hard work done and thanked everyone. He also mentioned members not present, Secretary Bernadette Conway, Caroline Klett, Gary Turco, David Lenares. Mayor Wright asked what would be the largest open space donation we've had. Mr. Ed Meehan, Town Planner, said that he doesn't recall any large pieces of land donated other than the subdivision.

B. Approve Architect: Board of Education School Roof Replacement Project

Mayor Wright asked for a motion to waive the rules to act on this request this evening. Councilor Banach so moved. Councilor Nasinnyk seconded. Vote 7 – 0 Councilors Klett and Lenares absent.

RESOLVED:

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Board of Education Roof Replacement Project Building Committee, the firm of Silver/Petrucci & Associates of Hamden, CT is hereby selected to provide architectural services for the first section of the John Wallace Middle School Roof, Newington Board of Education Roof Replacement Project, said services to be provided based on their fee proposal of \$15,600.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Town Manager, John L. Salomone, on behalf of the Town of Newington, is hereby authorized to negotiate an Agreement to employ the firm of Silver/Petrucci & Associates of Hamden, CT to provide architectural services for this project.

MOTION BY: Councilor Cohen
SECONDED BY: Councilor Nasinnyk
VOTE: 7 – 0 Councilors Klett & Lenares absent

- C. Consideration of Compensation Adjustment for Town Manager
- D.

Councilor Nasinnyk moved to waive the rules. Councilor Banach seconded. Vote 8 – 0 Councilor Klett absent. Councilor Lenares arrived at 7:20 PM.

RESOLVED:

That reflective of the Town Manager's performance from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, the Town Council; hereby authorizes a salary increase of 2% (\$2,593.75) on the current salary of the Town Manager, John L. Salomone for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010.

Councilor Nasinnyk noted that this increase is already eight months behind and commended Mr. Salomone on the work he has done and this Council appreciates his performance. Councilor Cohen said that not many people are aware of the work that takes place behind the scenes and the Council knows and appreciates Mr. Salomone's job. Councilor Banach said that things have been going right in Newington for some time and Mr. Salomone has gotten us through a number of issues and is very pleased with his performance.

Mayor Wright said that Mr. Salomone has done a fantastic job and it's a very challenging job, and is pleased with Mr. Salomone's work but will stay consistent and not vote for the increase.

Roll Call vote:

- Councilor Banach yes
- Councilor Casasanta yes
- Councilor Cohen yes
- Councilor Lenares yes
- Councilor McBride yes
- Councilor Nagel yes
- Council Nasinnyk yes
- Mayor Wright no
- Councilors Klett absent

Vote: 7 yes Mayor Wright voted no, Councilor Klett absent , Councilor Lenares absent for the vote.

- D. Open Space/Development Discussion

Mr. Greg Kamedulski, Division President for Toll Brothers addressed the Council. Also present were Mr. Dan Rossi, Land Development Manager and Chris Bennett, Assistant Vice President and Mr. Stanley Cohn who is the owner of one of the properties being dealt with. Mr. Kamedulski said that their plan is to preserve nearly 50 acres of open space. He said that there are other benefits for the Town of Newington. He said that fees, 150 to 200 people will be employed, and property taxes, which will benefit Newington. Mr. Rossi explained the proposals and showed layouts of the plan. Mr. Salomone said that any approvals lie with the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Kamedulski said that the reason for them being here tonight is to simply to encourage discussion and input by the Council. Councilor Cohen asked about the sizes of the units and Mr. Kamedulski said that they would be two and three bedrooms, some with four bedrooms.

Mayor Wright thanked the gentlemen for coming and showing their ideas for preserving the Open Space and also Mr. Stanley Cohen who is giving up some financial gain by giving us this property.

- E. Introduction of the new Director of the Library.

Mr. Eric Rothauser, President of the Library Board, introduced Ms. Donna Miller as the new Library Director. Ms. Miller said she is very pleased to meet everyone tonight. She said that Newington Library has a fantastic reputation. She said she has over 30 years of experience and mentioned some responses she got when she announced the appointment. People have spoken so highly about the great book sale, the friendly and helpful staff and the best up to date computers. She feels lucky to be here. She said she will be starting on April 4th and looking forward to working with everyone. Councilor Nasinnyk welcomed Ms. Miller and said she looks

forward to working with Ms. Miller. Councilor Nagel said that the Town is very proud of our Library and Ms. Miller is a very welcome addition.

VI. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointments:

5. Central Connecticut Health District Board of Health

Representative	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Enzo Pistritto	20 Allston Road	D	IMMED – 6/30/13	Amanda Hurwitz (Term Exp. 6-30-10)

20. Board of Parks and Recreation

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Bernie Feeney	30 Rosewood Drive	D	IMMED – 11/30/11	John Kennedy (resigned 2-11)

MOTION BY: Councilor Banach
 SECONDED BY: Council Nasinnyk
 VOTE: 8 – 0 Councilor Klett absent

VII. TAX REFUNDS

RESOLVED:

That property tax refunds in the amount of \$872.92 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.

MOTION BY: Councilor Lenares
 SECONDED BY: Councilor Nasinnyk
 VOTE: 8 – 0 Councilor Klett absent

VIII. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RE meeting – February 8, 2011 – Councilor Banach – Page 3 – regarding the article referenced by Councilor Nagel, it needs to be pointed out that the Dept. of Transportation would be losing around 9 to 10 million dollars, the article did not include that information.

Councilor Nasinnyk – Section 5 – regarding the electronic devices - it should read that electronic devices can be dropped off at the transfer station in Newington

Councilor Nasinnyk moved to accept the minutes with corrections. Councilor Casasanta seconded. Vote 8 – 0 Councilor Klett absent.

IX WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC - NONE

X COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Nagel said that one unit of air conditioning has been placed on the roof of the Library, also coming up May 15 is the Road Race, on March 27 at 2 PM with a jazz concert, and more information will be available on NCTV. He said he had attended a Fire Department meeting and regarding the hydrants, the Volunteer Fire

Department is not responsible for uncovering the hydrants. The residents are responsible for finding and uncovering the hydrants. He also mentioned the sidewalks not having been shoveled, he said there are time regulations that sidewalks need to be cleared. Mr. Salomone said yes there is a time regulation, and usually we will clear a sidewalk when necessary and then bill the resident.

XI PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Sue Masacoli, 149 Harris Drive – said that knowing the Open Space Committee would be presenting their plans and ideas tonight, she said that adding new two and three bedroom dwellings, with the 75 town homes, some with four bedrooms comes up with about 284 children and even lowering that number it means anywhere from 10 to 15 new classrooms. We already have the VA property with added children and now with these additional children it should be looked at and considered. She said that with the presentation, it was mentioned that it was their “right” to do this and this was a concern to her, almost sounding like a threat. She said new teachers, principals, new services etc. would be needed. She said that sometimes the property taxes might help with these expenses but that doesn’t always work out that way.

XII REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

Councilor McBride said that the St. Patrick’s Day parade will be celebrated on March 6 at the new Finn B-Que’s restaurant, \$10.00 at the door, from 3 to 7 PM, with the usual Irish fare with step dancers etc. Mayor Wright asked who is the honoree this year for Irishman of the Year and Councilor McBride said that he had the honor of being the chosen honoree.

Councilor Nagel – had received an email regarding a safety issue, like this week-end, where does one go to report a safety issue. Ms. Salomone said that the first call should be to the Police Department and secondly to call the Town Manager’s office or send an email.

Councilor Casasanta welcomed Ms. Donna Miller to our Newington Library and wished her well. Mayor Wright also welcomed Ms. Miller as our Library Director.

XIII ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Nasinnyk moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Banach. Vote 8 – 0
Councilor Klett absent.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Richard
Council Clerk

