



Keith Chapman
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR BETH DELBUONO

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES May 19, 2020

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James E. Krupinski
Town Clerk

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

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. via Zoom.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

- Councilor Anest
- Councilor Braverman
- Councilor Budrejko
- Councilor Camillo
- Councilor Donahue
- Councilor Manke
- Councilor Miner
- Councilor Nagel
- Mayor DelBuono

Staff Attendees:

- Keith Chapman, Town Manager
- James E. Krupinski, Town Clerk
- Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

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

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive stated that at the last meeting she had a couple of comments, wondering if anybody had gotten information. Thought she read in meeting minutes that the plan for Mill Pond Park, it was approx. \$8 million with a balance of \$4 million in future CIP requests. Ask for an answer for that. As previously asked at CIP meetings, if money is going to be spent, the public should be made aware of it before going to referendum. Is there a copy of the plan and cost for the plan available anywhere on the town website? Another comment I made the last time is about CIP and about the Chromebooks. Getting the feeling that they aren't going to be in CIP for this year. At last week's meeting, Councilor Camillo stated that at a CIP meeting he asked Lou Jachimowicz about it and there was no other place to put it and he says [quote from the minutes] "it doesn't meet the criteria and now with the pandemic schools aren't being used as much and there may be a surplus, don't know that for a fact, but maybe money can come out of that to fund it later, not put back in right now." I went back to the CIP meeting and Mr. Camillo did ask the question regarding the Chromebooks because the cost is \$250,000, and we was given an answer by I think Lisa Rydecki saying that the CIP fund is the only place that funds can be accumulated and flow year to year and since this is a reserve account CIP is the appropriate place. Just wondering seeing someone from

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finance said it was the appropriate place, where are we coming up with that it isn't and if it isn't, which maybe is shouldn't be can we have an explanation as to why it shouldn't be in there. Thank you very much, I look forward to hearing what you have to say.

IV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Councilor Camillo stated that during CIP meeting believe that whatever gets funded needs to last 7 years, is that correct?
- Mayor DelBuono stated that is correct.
- Councilor Camillo stated that the Chromebooks don't last seven years and that is why they don't belong there.
- Councilor Anest stated that she sent a request to the town manager regarding the Chromebooks versus the technology from the town and was wondering if there was anything from the town that didn't meet the criteria and I haven't gotten a response to that. Saying that, it is the only place we can have a reserve with an accumulation and I think that was the explanation back in 2012 and I am still waiting to get an answer on that. Hope that at some time we can get a definitive answer as to why it was put. It might not fit there, but there must have been some thought behind it in 2012.
- Councilor Nagel stated that it does not meet the criteria in terms of life expectancy and it our committee did not recommend it to be included and as far as I know at this point, it is not included. Whether funds can be used from elsewhere may or may not be the fact, since I cannot speak to whatever may be negotiated. But it is not in the CIP as recommend or in our budget recommended at the moment.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she was in attendance at those CIP meetings this time around and my recollection was that there was a BOE member on the CIP committee that actually requested they be taken out of CIP. From my understanding he was the one that brought it to the attention of the committee and that it doesn't belong there.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he agrees, that is true, yes.

V. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Board of Education MOU-Non-Lapsing Account

- Mayor DelBuono stated that in the past the town council has set up an agreement with the BOE to allow for a non-lapsing account each year if there was a surplus of up to 1% of their total budget, they were able to put it into this account in order to save and use it for things that they might want to purchase or do out of this account. The proposal in front of us this evening, and we did have Ms. Brummett join us at our last meeting to express her agreement with this was that the BOE requested, in addition to what is currently in the town council proposed budget an additional \$590,355 that was removed from budget by Town Manager. Before you is an agreement that we need to consider authorizing our town manager to enter into with the Superintendent of Schools. This agreement would allow a one-time additional contribution of that \$590,355. The BOE has indicated that they are anticipating a surplus at the end of this year, primarily due to COVID closure and they are hoping that it will be \$1.5-2 million and that is not a solid figure yet, we don't know what the next few weeks will old. Given that, they would like the ability to put the extra \$590,355 into that non-lapsing account for future use and their needs. I imagine that they can use the money for Chromebooks if they see fit. It will be for an additional .79 percent and it is a onetime addition to that account for now over the one percent that they are always allowed and that .79 percent equals \$590,355. After this year it will revert back to the previous agreement of one percent and that this agreement should not be considered a precedent, it is a one-time agreement.

- Councilor Budrejko asked if the \$1.5 to \$2 million savings fits into this at all, is that included in this agreement. Will that be returned to the town.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that it she should have stated that.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if that was implicit, is it stated is this MOU?
- Mayor DelBuono stated that is by Charter. Our Charter states that if there is a surplus at the end of the end of the year, the BOE returns that money over to the general fund. So we are going to assume that will happen because that is the way business is done in our town. The agreement is to simply allow them to save a little extra out of the surplus and the additional surplus will be returned to the general fund as by town Charter.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if we will notified or informed of what that additional surplus is and when and how much is expected to be returned. In the past, quite frankly, communication has not been that solid and hoping it does seem like Dr. Brummett is a different animal and she will cooperate with us but there is some hesitancy there. Is there any way for us to monitor what has been spent, what is left and what can be returned.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that Mr. Chapman and Ms. Murphy can keep us posted on how that transpires over the next couple of months before the end of the fiscal year.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that they will do that but it probably will not be completed and fully understood until the end of the year, but once we know the figures and we are confirmed with those figures, we will let the council know that.
- Councilor Manke thinks this is a great opportunity for both the town council and the BOE to work together. Hopefully it is the start of a new era of cooperation by the two bodies to do what is best for the town. The agreement gives the BOE some extra money to go into the next fiscal year with and it helps relieve our taxpayers of the burden for taxes. Hopefully it spells a new cooperation between the BOE and the town instead of being adversaries we can work on solutions and come to terms.
- Councilor Camillo stated that he agrees with Tim. Thank you Dr. Brummett. This was a lot easier than witnessed in the past.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that the budget season is never fun and is challenging each and every year, but this year working with our BOE chair, as well as Dr. Brummett, it was a pleasure to work with them and try and figure things out together and come to this agreement. Really pleased we were able to help the BOE achieve what they needed to achieve, but at the same time not raise taxes to achieve it. Part of their budget will go to taxes, but this extra amount is less of a tax burden to our residents and it allows the BOE to do what they need to do. Really grateful that the BOE and Dr. Brummett were willing to work with us on this.

Motion by Councilor Camillo

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council authorizes Town Manager, Keith Chapman to execute a Modified Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Newington and the Board of Education, regarding the Board of Education Non-Lapsing Account, to allow for an additional current year contribution of 0.79%, or \$590,355.00, for the Budget Year ending June 30, 2020, a copy of which shall be attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Anest. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

- B. Adjustments to Tentative Budget FY 2020-2021
 - Councilor Anest stated that they have no adjustments.
 - Councilor Manke stated that they have no adjustments.
- C. Adoption of Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

That the following General Fund appropriations of the Town of Newington are hereby adopted for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, in accordance with Section 805 of the Charter of the Town of Newington:

APPROPRIATIONS:

Town Government Operations:

General Government	\$5,265,438	
Public Safety	9,466,343	
Public Works	5,494,009	
Community Planning & Development	480,302	
Public Health	200,333	
Community Services	1,089,364	
Public Library	1,849,577	
Parks & Recreation	1,863,885	
Insurance - Miscellaneous	12,680,277	38,389,528
Debt Service		2,482,598
Metropolitan District		4,823,600
Capital Improvements		2,288,204
Equipment Reserve		897,400
Employee Leave Liability Reserve Fund		67,000
Board of Education		76,768,011
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		\$125,716,341

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 805 of the Charter of the Town of Newington, the following General Fund estimated revenues be raised to meet these appropriations:

Estimated Revenues:

Current Taxes	\$94,233,116
Prorated Taxes	1,130,637
Prior Years Taxes	375,000
Interest & Liens	195,000
Motor Vehicle Tax	8,284,546
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	1,984,600
Assessments	15,300
Licenses & Permits	284,500
Rentals	97,000
Investment Income	300,000
Fines	22,000
Charges for Services	544,875
Refunds & Reimbursements	30,000
Sale of Town Property	5,020
State Aid	15,485,881
Federal Aid	9,000

Miscellaneous	60,000	
Transfers from Other Funds	159,866	\$123,216,341
General Fund Balance Applied		<u>2,500,000</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPLIED FUND BALANCE		\$125,716,341

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Clerk is hereby instructed to place the accompanying General Fund Budget Summary on the record of this meeting to illustrate the above appropriations and revenue estimates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the following budget is hereby adopted for the Public School Capital Improvement Projects Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021:

Appropriations:

Painting	\$25,000
Carpeting	25,000
District-wide Security and Safety	25,000
District-wide Furniture Replacement	25,000
Technology Equipment	50,000
System-wide HVAC Installation	25,000
Athletic Improvements	25,000
District-wide Playground Renovations	15,000
District-wide Lighting Improvements	15,000
District-wide Corridor/Exterior Doors	25,000
District-wide Roof Reserve	25,000
District-wide Blacktop/Paving	115,000
District-wide Vehicles	25,000
District-wide Building Systems & Controls	25,000
District-wide Environmental Services	25,000
District-wide Sidewalks & Concrete	15,000
District-wide Electrical Infrastructure	<u>15,000</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$500,000

ESTIMATED REVENUES:

General Fund Appropriations	\$125,000
Interest Earnings	2,000
Tuition Receipts	200,000
School Rental Receipts	73,000
Public School Capital Improvement Program Fund Balance	<u>100,000</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPLIED FUND BALANCE	\$500,000

Seconded by Councilor Anest. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

- Mayor DelBuono stated that she just wanted to say that it is always difficult doing a budget, but certainly doing it via Zoom and not being able to meet and have face-to-face discussions made this an even more challenging time of year for us. I want to thank the council for all of your deliberations

on Zoom, in breakout rooms and all kinds of executive session Zooms and everything that we had to do to accomplish coming together tonight with a budget to present for consideration, so thank you to everyone for that.

- Councilor Manke started that he echoes that. Doing the budget over Zoom was much more difficult, it is better to sit around the table and see each other face-to-face. I was struck by the cooperation of all parties to get this done and the extra time we had to put in to do this; it took a little more effort and more use of technology that we are used to. I think it is a good budget for the town, it keeps our taxes at a neutral rate, but it also provides services and improves some areas of service so I think it is a win-win all around.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that she is obviously supporting this budget and given the fiscal realities that we are in, not only what we know but also what we don't know, I think that this is a very responsible budget for the town given the times we are facing. We are joining other communities - New Britain, West Hartford and Middletown who have passed budgets without any tax increases because they know that they need to ease the financial burdens on taxpayers. There are going to be an awful lot of unknowns in the fiscal year ahead and actually the economic pundits, they are comparing the future, they are saying the state is going to be billions of dollars in debt that the federal government will be trillions of dollars in debt and money is not going to be flowing as easily as it has before. There aren't going to be as many grants and handouts. There certainly is not going to be the type of monies available for projects and programs that we come to take for granted and expect that well we will get funded by the feds, we will get funded by the state. So, as cooperatively, as bipartisanly, we looked at the budget, I think we all kept that in mind and will keep this in mind as we move forward. So, again, I think it is a responsible budget, it preserves essential services and gives even a little bit more and yet I do believe it puts us in a better position to prepare for some of the challenges that may come ahead. So I thank everybody for working on this.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she is happy that the budget passed 9-0 and is pleased with the collaboration and is very appreciative. Thank you, thank you, everyone.

D. Adoption of Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan 2020-21 through 2024-2025

Motion by Councilor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council hereby adopts the “Town of Newington Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan 2020-2021 through 2024-2025,” a final copy of which will be on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

NOTE: This vote is binding only for the funds committed for fiscal year 2020-2021; the proposed funding for 2021-2022 through 2024-2025 is for planning purposes only and is subject to change through future budget deliberations.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

E. Set Mill Rate

- Mayor DelBuono asked Ms. Murphy what the new mill rate will be based on the adjustments made over the past several weeks.
- Ms. Murphy stated that the current mill rate will be 39.28.

Motion by Councilor Anest

RESOLVED:

In accordance with Section 805 of the Town Charter of the Town of Newington, the Town Council hereby fixes a tax rate of 39.28 mills for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, which shall be levied on taxable real and personal properties and motor vehicles

property in the Town of Newington listed on the October 1, 2019 Grand List, and said tax shall become due and payable in accordance with Section 43-1 of the Newington Code of Ordinances. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to make out and sign the rate bill in accordance with this motion.

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

- Councilor Budrejko asked to have the current mill rate reiterated so that the public can see the difference.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that the current mill rate is 39.45, if I am incorrect Ms. Murphy please feel free to jump in. So that will be a decrease of .17. I will say, I am very pleased, not only with the collaboration, but with the efforts made to maintain a mill rate that we know we are going into a very difficult fiscal year...well, we don't know what it will be. We really just don't know with the COVID crisis at hand and what that is going to look like long-term. So, I am really pleased that we were able to decrease our mill rate, slightly, and be conscious of what our residents need from us in this difficult time. We know that there are going to be a lot of challenges ahead, but I think that is a good first step as a council in a unified way for us to go ahead and do this for our residents.
- Councilor Manke stated that we would be remiss if we didn't recognize our town manager who put together the budget and all of the department heads and the people who work for this town who really gave some serious thought to their budgets this year knowing the conditions we are facing, we should just acknowledge them too. A lot of hard work goes into doing a budget and it is important that we acknowledge everyone that had a part in it.
- Councilor Donahue stated that he agrees with that.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she would like to echo that. Thank you Town Manager Chapman who really hit the ground running and jumped in right at the very beginning at this budget season and put together and brought us a budget that was very fiscally responsible and made our jobs that much easier to follow through on this budget. So thank you Mr. Chapman and thank you to all his staff who put together this budget and get it ready for us and to make these adjustments on the fly with us as we go and try to get this done, so thank you to everyone involved.

F. Annual Appointment of Auditor

- Ms. Murphy stated that last year the town went out to RFP for the audit committee to select an auditor. Required to do it every 3-4 years. We chose Blum Shapiro who was our auditor prior to that. This is the second year of the 4-year contract they have with us. We are required by Charter every year to appoint our auditor.

Motion by Councilor Anest

RESOLVED:

Per Section 610 of the Newington Town Charter, the firm of Blum Shapiro is hereby appointed as auditor for the Town of Newington for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020; said firm agrees to file a complete report on or before December 15, 2020.

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

G. Cancellation of May 26, 2020 Regular Meeting

- Mayor DelBuono stated that they have had a number of meetings recently and are pretty caught up with current business so we are looking to entertain a motion to consider the cancellation of our May 26, 2020 regular meeting of the town council. As always, if there were business that should arise and we need to have a meeting we can call a special meeting if this meeting is cancelled tonight and conduct our business in that fashion.

Motion by Councilor Donahue

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby amends its approved meeting schedule by cancelling its Regular Meeting scheduled for May 26, 2020.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0 (roll call vote)

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mill Pond Park Pool PBC Creation

- Mayor DelBouno stated that this is for our consideration this evening. At our last meeting we had presentation from the Parks & Rec board and Mr. DeMaio regarding possible improvements to the Mill Pond park pool and they are asking us to consider putting together a building committee so they can go ahead with the work needed to move that forward for the possible project. The consideration that they mentioned was given the COVID crisis right now, there may be monies available for shovel ready projects in the future and just hoping to be ready should funds become available to have a project ready to go. That is how it was presented to us.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that memo you have in your packet explains it all, just being ready for a possible opportunity.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that in our packet there is a resolution with the make-up of the committee. The committee shows three council representatives, 2 parks and recreation representatives and there are three empty spots that are perhaps members of the public.
- Councilor Anest stated that in the past, number one that committee totals eight, in the past our building committees and we have two right now, there are two town councilors, for Anna Reynolds, 2 members of the BOE and three public. I would like to see the same make up for this so that it would be a seven member building committee.
- Councilor Manke stated that the representatives from Parks & Rec, there would be one republican and one democrat.
- Councilor Anest stated yes and the same thing for the council; it would be one republican and one democrat and then for the public it would be two republicans and one democrat.
- Councilor Manke just wanted to be clear.
- Councilor Anest stated yes, that is what we are proposing.
- Councilor Donahue stated that if we approve this building committee tonight, I don't want the public to think that we are, you know, starting a building committee that there is a forgone conclusion and it going to override our report that we are waiting for in November. It is just so they can start putting a board together but this isn't a done deal, it is not a project.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that is valid point.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that she wants to reiterate what John just said. I have no problem putting a building committee in place, but I don't, at this point I am not comfortable and I don't want to give the public or anybody the expectation that because a plan will be developed that this will jump to the head of the line in terms of what needs to be done. Again, even our town manager had said last night at our meeting that the future...the funds may not... many economists are saying this is not...this economic situation is closer to the great depression than it is to the 2008 recession. There has been an awful...there is going to be a lot of effort needed to support areas that have been truly impacted in terms of essential services. There is going to be money that is going to have to go to...education models might change, the way schools operate, helping to retrain workers that have been furloughed permanently. Helping small businesses recover, businesses that have gone bankrupt or closed. Assessing impacts to burned out workers, because you know that there is going to be lawsuits or health issues or whatever. So, in my estimation, and like some people say, the funding and the grants, it is not going thrown at aspirational infrastructural projects, it is going to be doing hands on social services, a need to get essential services done. I think it is a good idea to get prepared and to think broadly about what

our priorities and programming has to be and certainly we know that Mill Pond is one of them, our pool and our park. We've also have had a library building committee sitting for as long as I have been on the council, is that in existence, is that still a need, I don't know. Should they be getting going pretty quickly. You know the fire department, whatever. So, in any case, we are going to be asking the tax payers at some point to fund some very important projects when they taxpayers are going to have less money in their pockets and the town is going to have less money coming in to their coffers and there will be less likely money coming in grants. So, at this point, putting a building committee together is fine, but I don't really think...there has got to be an understanding, it is not going to jump to the head of the line. We really need to know how we stand in terms of overall infrastructure, which we made a good deal by getting a consultant there. Their study is going to be done by the end of the year and waiting for the results of everything and then when and if the time comes and there is going to be monies available we will be able to put our priorities in order.

- Councilor Manke stated that he would also like to point out that while they say they are looking for shovel ready projects, this is far from being able to put a shovel in the ground tomorrow and start digging a pool. An expenditure of this size would have to go the town in some sort of referendum at some point so the town will have a chance to weigh in on this on whether they want to commit their tax dollars or not. Just because...I don't want people to think that being shovel ready we are ready to start digging hole tomorrow once we pass this and someone is laying out on the ground in chalk where the pool is going to go. It is going to take a while to work through this system and actually get it so that it is presented to the town and ultimately who have a say in whether this goes forward, whether they approve it or not would be up to the town, up to the voters.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he wanted to reiterate about what Councilor Budrejko mentioned that the library does have a committee that I believe it is still in existence, but it is waiting in abeyance for the right time and appropriateness in order to reactivate itself and move forward. I do think that indeed there are too many unknowns in our future and the future of the country, let alone the town in terms of expenditures. To think that something of this nature would of the utmost importance. I am not against it, but in terms of forming a committee, I do think we should be weary about the monies coming forth from other places and I also want to emphasize and that the public should be aware that yes, we do have a facilities survey going on and that indeed it may show that the needs for us, going to referendums, may be more important in other areas then here. And I agree with other councilors who have mentioned that indeed don't think that if we do approve this resolution, no matter how many people are on it and in what configuration or not, that indeed it is something pushes its way to the top of the list, so to speak.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she is going to throw it out there for a quick consensus. Is everyone ok having the resolution read in as was suggested by Councilor Anest.
- Town Clerk Krupienski stated that this is only New Business right now.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that this is for consideration at our next meeting. Any discussion on the makeup of the committee prior to our next meeting?
- Councilor Donahue stated that he doesn't see where there are three public spots.
- Councilor Manke stated that he thinks it is ok, for me anyway, as long as is specifies that the Parks and Rec board is one republican and one democrat; we should just spell out the party so that it is clear to everybody when we go ahead and finally approve this at our next meeting.
- Mayor DelBuono stated right, and those three spots at the bottom would be members of the public with one democratic members and two republican members.
- Councilor Anest stated that is how it goes, it is minority representation, as with all the boards and commissions you would get the one more seat. But we can definitely spell it out for the Board of Ed, I mean parks and rec and the council, but yeah, that is how it would be, it would be four three.

VII. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

- None

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

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive stated that she would like to thank the councilors that explained that even though a building committee is being formed, that does not mean that the project is going forward, you saved me about 2 minutes in my time limit. I don't want to beat a dead horse here, but I just want to make you aware of the fact that I am well aware of the criteria for CIP, the \$25,000 and the seven year use. Did anyone go through line by line and look at all the projects, especially parks, pools and playgrounds? They get a dollar amount but they never spell out what they are going to do with that money. I wasn't questioning the criteria. I was just stating that it was Lisa, not Lou at the answered the question, or gave an answer and it just makes me even more adamant that I believe that there should be some guidelines, rules to follow with CIP other than just the criteria. I said it before and I will say it again, every year I go, and it has been for the past 10 years, it all changes, the rules change. I never have I seen a Board of Ed member request that money be taken out of CIP, I wonder if it was run by the superintendent of schools, if she was informed, if the BOE was aware that he was going to make the motion or suggestion that they take the Chromebooks out of CIP; like I said, I have never seen that done before. Our IT department puts money aside, whether that meets the criteria, I don't know. I just hope that when you have to have a subcommittee or some kind of consensus of opinion that you can do what you do with the CIP, then I would feel more comfortable every year when new people come on board and make suggestions that they know what is allowed and what is not allowed. Thank you very much for your hard efforts in getting the budget together this year, you have been under a lot of pressure and I'm sure that a lot of you have other things going on in your life and the time that you take for this town is muchly appreciated. With that being said, I would also like to give a shout out to NCTV; I don't know if it is Patty Foley or who it is providing us with the video portion of this on NCTV, but I do appreciate it. Thank you again, stay well, stay safe.

IX. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

- Councilor Donahue stated that he wanted to respond to Rose Lyons regarding NCTV. Rose, it is always a team effort at NCTV to get stuff on the air. Thank you for the kudos though.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that Ms. Lyons is a well versed member of the public at our CIP Plan and I have to say, having been chairman of that committee in the past, and having served on it a few times, I have to say that there is some work that needs to be done. As a council, we have talked to Mr. Chapman a little bit about this and I think he has some thought and ideas on how to improve the plan in the future, so I would say stay tuned for how we move forward. I hope that we do a lot of work on improving the CIP process in the coming months and maybe even before our next budget so that it is not last minute. So that is a hope and it is something that we will be working on with Town Manager Chapman to improve that process.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he said he had previously said he wasn't particularly fond of the CIP and the way it moved and the confusion involving it, so I concur with Mayor DelBuono that indeed things need to be done with it and I know with Mr. Chapmans help we will be able to do it, make it clear and hopefully what it was intended to be in the first place.
- Town Manager Chapman asked the Mayor to remind everybody about the State of the Town tomorrow.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that the State of the Town address will be tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring it, we will be meeting at a local company called VisionPoint, who is doing the AV work for the town hall and this will be an opportunity for us to

see the type of technical work they can do and what we can look forward to in the new town hall. We are cooperating and working collaboratively with NCTV, so it will be broadcast through NCTV as well and if you go to the Chamber of Commerce website, I know on their website they have all of the links and what we need to do get on to watch the presentation. It will be broadcast live as well as rebroadcast on NCTV as well. Thank you for reminding Mr. Chapman. Mr. Chapman and I have been working together and we have quite a nice presentation we have put together and hopefully it will go well.

- Councilor Budrejko stated that she wanted to say that...I think this is Memorial Day coming up, isn't it? I am going to miss each and every one of you walking down Main Street for the parade. Hopefully next year we can do it, or there will be some other kind of parade that we can go in. Happy Memorial Day to everybody and all the residents.
- Councilor Camillo stated to everyone who is watching, tomorrow Tom Gill is coming home after 59 days in the hospital. It will be quite a procession, lots of people, so if you are wondering what is going on it is Tom coming home, so all of our prayers worked.
- Councilor Donahue asked if the Mayor mentioned the volunteer dinner yesterday.
- Mayor DelBouno thanked Councilor Donahue for the reminder. The Senior and Disabled Center held their annual volunteer dinner yesterday. It was just an incredible show of thinking outside of the box. Diane Stone and her crew over at the Senior and Disabled Center had 15 volunteers driving around town handing out the meals to our volunteers to thank them for their efforts over the past year. The meals were provided by Italian Gourmet, I believe. Fifteen people drove all over town delivering those to, I think, 100 volunteers that were honored. It was a wonderful Zoom conference way to do it even though we couldn't all get together it was a wonderful way to show people how much we appreciate their efforts and volunteerism and how much it impacts our town and how much we appreciate it.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Camillo made a motion to adjourn the meeting 8:03 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk