



Keith Chapman  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

**MAYOR BETH DELBUONO**

## NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020**

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

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James E. Krupinski  
Town Clerk

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

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  
Janet Murphy, Finance Director  
James E. Krupinski, Town Clerk  
Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

Also present:

Dr. Maureen Brummett, Superintendent of Schools  
Lou Jachimowicz, Chief Finance & Operations Officer

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Motion by Councilor Manke to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilor Anest. Motion passed 9-0.

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

A. Public Comments

- Charles Sullivan, 88 Fisk Drive. Attended Black Lives matter protest in Newington, had a two sided sign that on one side said “What are you afraid of? Accountability?”, as leaving heard an older white police officer state he is not afraid of accountability. Dumbfounded by the comments. In doing research found that Newington got a B- sunshine grade in FOI compliance. Doing research regarding an incident concerning police misconduct involving Christopher Jenkins and Detective Michael Morgan. Black people in our community are standing up and state that they do not feel safe in Newington because they have received profiling and racial discrimination by our police. If Newington is to be a town that I and many others are proud to live in we have to remove that taint. Current police force is failing to do that. For them to take a knee with us is an empty

gesture and Chief Clark's words rang entirely hollow as he failed to tell us how actions by police officers across the country from happening here. If that police officer who called out to me at the protest stated he is not afraid of accountability, it is because he has not truly experienced it.

- Anna Saunders, 30 Camp Avenue. Stated that she also wanted to discuss police conduct in Newington. In doing research, came across a report dated May 2020 by the CT Racial Profiling Prohibition Project, which analyzes traffic stop reports statewide for the year 2018. Of the 94 precincts in Connecticut and of the 62 that were found to have racial and ethnic disparities between traffic stops and their population demographics Newington was one of eight that exceeded the threshold on over half of the listed criteria for racial profiling. There is 14.5% minority population of driving age, 85.5% white population of driving age in Newington. An analysis of traffic stops for our town for the same year should be similar, and not biased. Of the 14.5% population, 44.8% of all traffic stops were minorities. Visually apparent significance there. There is a counter argument that this idiosyncrasy is due to the large number of minority drivers passing through Newington. CCSU analyzed traffic stops for Newington minority residents only and the difference was 9.1%. Those numbers make me uncomfortable and imagine they make minority residents uncomfortable as well. Chief Clark stated that NPD had been working with the Center for Police Inequity since 2017. Statistics worsened from 2017 to 2018. If one of the NPD core values is respect, why is there statistical evidence of racial profiling of the people they chose to serve and protect. It is hard for me to speak about this, imagine it is harder for people of color to speak of it as well. Here out of love for my community and faith that our community can do better.

B. Email Correspondence

- None

V. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

VI. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Health Update – COVID-19

- Charles Brown, Central CT Health District. Stated that there is good news to report. Number of cases going down across the state. Newington had 387 total cases of COVID-19 with 51 deaths (1.3 % of population of Newington). As of this date, 1,613 Newington residents have been tested for COVID-19. Here to caution about phased reopening. Continue with social distancing, washing hands, wear masks where appropriate. Newington has 2<sup>nd</sup> highest mortality rate in district, Rocky Hill has the highest and the reason being high number of nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities.
- Councilor Miner asked about the number of lives lost not in facilities or nursing homes.
- Mr. Brown stated it is a relatively small number.
- Councilor Miner asked about the WHO report regarding the asymptomatic spread and is not as concerning as it original was. Concern that as we are trying to get back to a sense of normalcy, cure it not more harmful than the disease.
- Mr. Brown stated that WHO did come out with a report and backed off on that. The majority of people who spread disease show no signs of the disease. Still a lot of people in Newington that have a potential to contract virus. Each interaction we allow continues the spread of the virus.
- Councilor Anest asked about the number of deaths in the nursing homes and long-term care facilities in Newington.
- Mr. Brown stated he does not have that number, but is a large percentage of the deaths (approx. 85%).
- Councilor Anest asked if that percentage is the same as the number of people who has tested positive in those facilities.

- Mr. Brown stated it is not.
- Councilor Anest asked if the facilities had areas designated just for COVID patients.
- Mr. Brown stated yes, that is one of the actions used by these facilities to prevent the spread of the disease within the facility.
- Councilor Nagel stated that many people in town want to know when things will start opening, specifically the parks, meetings within the town, the town hall opening and so on.
- Mr. Brown stated that some things can be done safely. Going to the park can be done safely. Outdoor activities hiking, etc. can be done safely. Wearing a mask will help. Remind people that as we start to reopen, if you can work from home, continue to do so. Those with high risk stay home and stay isolated in order to stay safe. Safest way to conduct meetings is the way you are doing it right now. The town has done a wonderful job providing services in a safe way to their residents. Things needed in place to get back to normal are a vaccine and viable treatment for the disease. Until we do so, it is the social isolation that we have put in place that's keeping everyone safe.
- Councilor Nagel stated that his understating is that there is not definitive answer as to when things can and should open. It is up to the individual to do things when they feel safe as opposed to be told so by the government.
- Mr. Brown stated that the initial guideline put together by the governor and the committee was put together practically. They had certain milestones in place. What we have seen since May 20<sup>th</sup> is a lot of pressure pursuing those timeline forward. Just because you can do something, doesn't mean you should. Have had the ability to look at other states in the country to see what happened when restrictions were lifted and there was an increase in cases. In a lull right now, expect to see a resurgence. People need to continue to wear masks, and continue social distancing. If you give this virus an opportunity it will take it. Have been planning emergency preparedness for a pandemic since 2002. Have been working with health department since then.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that the governor is going to be creating a task force to find out what when wrong with our long-term care facilities and nursing homes and with the possibility of a resurgence of the disease, asked if the long-term care facilities nursing homes should ease restrictions.
- Mr. Brown stated that the only thing protecting those facilities has been the isolation and restrictions placed on them. The more interactions they have, the more opportunities to get the virus. Learning about virus every day. Lack of PPE for healthcare workers within those facilities facilitated the spread of the disease. Agree with governor that we need to do a study on each facility within the state. There is still a lot of opportunity for this virus to spread. Advise caution in moving slowly.
- Councilor Miner asked when in person meeting can resume for the town council, and have the public view remotely, at least afford opportunity to meet in person. Happening in other areas.
- Mr. Brown stated his first thought is can you conduct the business you have to do remotely via technology. If you can do that, that is the safest way to do so. Other thought on this is, the age of some of the councilors put them into the higher risk age group and they should remain isolated at this point. It is your choice to meet, but do not recommend.
- Councilor Miner stated we can have the meetings electronically, but it takes away our ability to interact. Not encouraging anybody to do something if they don't feel that they should. Have it a personal responsibility and not have it mandated.
- Mr. Brown stated that he can provide the risks and the best way to eliminate spread of the disease is not to have face-to-face meetings. Using technology is the best way to go.
- Councilor Miner stated that as other town departments open, the library for example, at what point do you envision them operating safely and what precautions will need to be taken? Will the facilities be cleaned daily. Can playground equipment be cleaned safely.

- Mr. Brown stated that he would love to see ball fields, playgrounds opened up. Goes against grain to restrict those types of activities. Challenge with the library is shared resources. Not having the ability to know who used the book and having the ability to sanitize. A lot of times with books, very tactile, good opportunity for virus to travel. Can they art to be opened, yes. Need to look at where we are and can we provide that service with minimal risk. Will continue to work with the libraries to open and conduct business within the most responsible way.
- Councilor Miner stated that national grocery stores, etc. stayed open the whole time and have been receiving product. What makes that different?
- Mr. Brown stated that is it different. A lot of the products you are buying at the store, you don't have the same duration of contact you would have with a book you spend 1-2 hours with, with close proximity to your face. As we take the risk, we have the responsibility to protect those we come in contact with and not continuing the spread of the disease.
- Councilor Miner stated that the facilities affected in Newington are the rehabilitation facilities and his initial concern, was an influx of patients coming in from hospitals. Was there a difference in number of cases.
- Mr. Brown stated that not much difference, both types of facilities are opportunistic.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he wanted to follow up with comments regarding the library. For books they are taking in, they are being safely put in an area in the library for a certain number of days to remove any chance of the virus before being put back into circulation. Also, many sanitation products being used, does that come under the COVID expenditure for reimbursement.
- Mr. Brown stated that for the towns, the possibility for reimbursement does exist, up to 75%. Some funding available. The health district has been given \$51,000; expected to last until March 2021.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that one of the biggest questions she has received is reading day care and the governor stated that facilities and open with up to 50 children at this point. Getting pressure from parents regarding summer programing and camps. What is your recommendation.
- Mr. Brown stated that one of the problems with this disease is not knowing enough about it. Only had less than 6-months exposure to it. The biggest challenge is that the virus doesn't always present in ways we can quantify. Don't always have fever or cough. Kids are wonderful vectors of disease - hand hygiene, keeping masks on kids, sharing; those are all things that kids want to do. Have had many conversations with Bill DeMaio. Not something I take lightly to recommend against. Have to take the opportunities to do things differently. First town to step up and say it is not something we can do safely. Don't have the ability to control the virus within that setting. Having one person, one child can wipeout and entire program very quickly.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that it is a clear message from you, but when the governor states that a day care facility can open with 50 kids, it is difficult.
- Mr. Brown stated that he doesn't agree with, being led be economic measures and not health measures. That is your job as policy makers. As a public health official I think we are rushing things.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she is looking at things an educator as well. The CEA is stating that in order to return to school, there will be small groups of children, alternate busing, different schedules and so any restrictions.
- Councilor Miner asked if Mr. Brown would be amicable to come back in a few weeks to provide an update.
- Mr. Brown stated that he is willing to come back whenever you want.

#### B. Mill Pond Park Pool PBC Creation

- Councilor Donahue stated he want to go on record by saying that just because we are creating this building committee it is 100% a go. It is an exploratory committee and not saying that this is a

priority; waiting for facilities study to come in. Agree that the committee should be formed. Don't want any misconceptions.

- Councilor Budrejko stated that she agrees that there may be funds coming and the pools in town need attention and it is a good time to prepare. Have also started process through facilities committee review. Will be asking taxpayers to fund some important project with less money in their pockets and less money coming from the state and the feds. Supporting forming a building committee, but don't have confidence it will jump to head of list when we put items to referendum. Need to put priorities in line.
- Councilor Miner stated that he echoes previous councilor. Historically, coming off hard economic times, shovel ready projects seem to be sought to reinvigorate the economy. The formation of this committee is a jump-start towards getting an end project together to get to the community for referendum. Will also support moving forward.
- Councilor Manke stated that he also supports moving committee forward, with the caution that he would like to see what the facilities study has to say to make sure that this is a number one priority. As far as being shovel ready, don't see this as ready to go to referendum in November and don't think it should go to referendum with Anna Reynolds, something would get defeated. Still needs to go to referendum.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he concurs that this should go forward. Just want to point out that there are other needs in town - the library committee has been formed and other needs we might to have committees for that come under shovel ready if those monies do become available. Looking forward to getting the facilities study to see where this and other projects lie within the real needs of the town.

Motion by Councilor Anest

**RESOLVED:**

**In accordance with Article X, Section 8-39 et seq., Project Building Committees, of the Newington Code of Ordinances, the Newington Town Council hereby establishes a Mill Pond Park Pool Project Building Committee.**

**Said committee is charged to work with the Town Manager (and/or his/her designee) and any other appropriate Town staff in the oversight of the Mill Pond Park Pool Project and related activity. Such improvements shall comply with the appropriate sections of the Fire Code, Health Code, Building Code and OSHA regulations, regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and any other health and/or safety code regulations currently in force.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

**The Mill Pond Park Pool Project Building Committee shall be comprised of 7 members, of which 2 shall be representatives of the Town Council and 2 shall be representatives of the Board of Parks and Recreation and 3 members from the Public.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby appoints the following members to the Mill Pond Park Pool Project Building Committee:**

Name	Address	Party	Term
NTC Rep:		R	NTC Term
NTC Rep:		D	NTC Term
Board of Parks & Recreation Rep:		R	Board of Parks & Recreation Term
Board of Parks & Recreation Rep:		D	Board of Parks & Recreation Term
Public Rep:		R	
Public Rep:		R	
Public Rep.		D	

- Councilor Camillo stated that if this referendum passes and we don't receive the money from the state, we don't act on it. Just like Anna Reynolds, if it passes referendum and we don't get money from the state because of COVID we may not be able to pass either project through. It is a good thing to know what the public wants and maybe put both to referendum at this time. Just an idea, this may be the year to do it. We may get money from the state and federal government at the same time.

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

#### C. Town Hall Project Update

- Town Manager Chapman moving along. Expect to move in to new building between July 15-27. Town hall exterior is substantially complete. Painting on all three levels inside the building is continuing. The vault in the town clerk's office is complete. Grand hall ceiling and lighting is almost complete. The gym finishes are substantially complete. Mazzoccoli Way and ground work is underway. Carpeting will be installed shortly. There is an issue with the gym equipment, and bleachers, may have a glitch there, company shut down due to COVID, anticipate that may not be completed prior to move in. Demolition on old building will begin as soon as we move into the new town hall.

#### D. Discussion – Town Manager Evaluation/Hiring

- Mayor DelBuono stated that the council previously hired Mr. Chapman for a 6-month term and has completed an evaluation process through executive session as a personnel matter. The council has recommended signing a contract with Mr. Chapman. Typically have public discussion regarding this, but with the COVID not able to do so. Mr. Chapman had done an amazing job with the town hall project and COVID-19. Will support continued employment of Mr. Chapman.,
- Councilor Manke stated that he too would support the continued employment of Mr. Chapman. Did a wonderful job with the budget with a slight decrease for taxpayers and through the COVID crises. Need someone at the helm who can take charge in town.
- Councilor Nagel stated that too supports hiring Mr. Chapman and agree with the outstanding job he has been doing. Chair of valuation subcommittee. Very positive comments and ratings show that Mr. Chapman will be a valuable asset to have.
- Councilor Miner stated that Mr. Chapman has entered into a time never seen before in Newington and there have been ongoing issues coming across the table. Only issue is that there was no public input and unfortunately with what we have to work with, there is no viable forum to allow that. With that said, I applaud his efforts to date with all of the issues.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that she will be supporting this. Besides his incredible work ethic, this is hands on individual. Traveling throughout the town with business, parks, streets; wants to know what is going on and get to the bottom of things and get answers. Utilizing staff to do their jobs and get them to grow. Attended a leadership-training program and was very impressed. Communication between departments; not silence as was before.

- Town Manager Chapman stated that from the beginning it has been an honor to be asked to come back. Have a great staff and emphasize working together, training and team building. Very pleased with the relationship we have developed with the BOE and Superintendent. Hand on, like to be out there, meet and talk with people. Honored to be here and serve the community in the best way I know how. Won't always agree, but think over time all of my staff will be stepping up to the plate and raising the bar higher than it has ever been before. I've received positive response from the staff and community, don't want to let them down, including you.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she has not doubts Mr. Chapman will continue to raise the bar. Have seen him in action, and utilize your staff to higher expectations and the climate at the town hall is happy and that matters. Appreciate all your efforts. Cannot praise you enough. The budget was huge and bringing in a zero percent increase.

Motion by Councilor Camillo

**RESOLVED,**

**Pursuant to Section 501 of the Newington Town Charter, the Town Council hereby appoints Keith Chapman as Town Manager, effective upon the expiration of the current executed contract signed on January 21, 2020. Benjamin Ancona, Town Attorney, shall draft a final agreement with terms that are acceptable to both Mr. Chapman and the Town Council and shall have said executed at once. A copy of the agreement between the Town Council and Keith Chapman will be placed on file in the town clerk's office.**

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

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation – Anna Reynolds School Renovation Project

- Dr. Maureen Brummett, Superintendent of Schools introduced Chuck Warrington and John Koplak of Colliers International to discuss the Anna Reynolds School renovation project, a brief overview, cost and timelines.
- Chuck Warrington, Colliers International presented an overview of the Anna Reynolds building project. Work with you from pre-referendum to project closeout. Collier's specializes in education, both public and private, K-12 and higher education. Have a lot of expertise with many different projects within the state and in many districts. John Koplak, senior project manager, has been working closing with Dr. Brummett with the specifications and the budget. Our team has been working on the project since April. The current building has been maintained well, but there are hidden problems - HVAC, roof and windows to name a few. Have also been looking at the size of the building, need to compare to enrollment and standard calculations and that is what the state says you will be reimbursed for. Have confirmed existing programs and space needs.
- John Koplak stated that Colliers has been working on the project since April 11<sup>th</sup>. No signs of active leaks on the building for the time being. Other issues looking at are the windows, doors, HVAC, plumbing with respect to bathrooms, storage is challenging as well throughout the school. ADA accessibility issues and need for elevator are a need. Mr. Koplak gave an overview of the power point presentation. *[A copy of the presentation is available on the town's website.]*
- Mr. Warrington stated that the Ed spec was approved by the Board of Education last night.
- Dr. Brummett stated that they have spent the past couple of months revising the Ed spec, reviewing it and going over it to make sure they meet the needs of the school in its existing footprint, other than the elevator and had a recent review with the State OSGCR and have favorable review.
- Mr. Koplak continued to review the PowerPoint presentation and discussed the criteria used by the State of Connecticut for reimbursement. Reimbursement rate is currently 57.86%. After meeting with OSCGR last week, feel confident that we will that. But until we have waiver in hand it is a bit of a risk. Renovate as new is a common term, which means it has the life of a new

20-year building, but using the current bones of the building. Two ways to secure renovation status. Administrative approval to OSCGR for review, letter to be submitted by licensed architect; best way to do this. Other way is to have local representatives introduce as renovation status. Renovation status greatly reduces ineligible costs. Goal is to renovate in place without using portables and feel comfortable it can be done. Looking at approx. 18 months, maximizing the summer months. Deadline for grant applications is June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year to approve school projects for the following year; will be filing for this on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Grant commitment will be July 2021 and from there you have 2 years starting construction. In November we will start architect selection. Anticipate using a project manager for this project. June 2022 will start working on project; 18 months, end of 2023, expect to complete project. Proposed project budget is \$35.5 million, which includes the total project budget - construction costs, furniture, and contingency. Not looking to do too many site improvements, not a complete overhaul. Estimate the district share to be \$16-19 million, assuming we achieve renovation status.

- Councilor Budrejko asked about abatement issues for possible PCP, dust and mold. How will you do that if the students are remaining in the school. Assuming you would have portable classrooms - how do you noise, etc. How does that work.
- Mr. Koplas stated that the Department of Public Health will not allow abatement while school is in session, can only do that during the summer. As far as noise goes, not really any heavy demolition.
- Councilor Budrejko asked about what the future of our schools will look like. How flexible is this so that the school can function and adapt.
- Mr. Koplas stated that is a great question. Putting together a database of concerns - remote learning, touchless operations. Most classrooms will be getting new mechanicals, may provide dedicate exhaust from the nurses suite. Will be keeping an eye on that. Architectural firms that will be working on this are very up to date with trends.
- Councilor Miner stated that he wants to bring up one thing and that is why renovate as new, why not just build brand new. Know that renovation rates can be extreme.
- Mr. Koplas stated that the “new” reimbursement rate is 10% less than renovation rates. New rate would be 47.86% rather than 57.86%. As far as doing moderate alterations, we did not look into that, but when you do alterations - roof replacement, mechanical systems are not reimbursable, which can cost up to millions of dollars and you are not updating your facilities. To build new you would need 14-15 acres, per state mandates and you will get less reimbursement.
- Councilor Miner asked what is the percentage of renovate to new as opposed to alternations.
- Mr. Koplas stated that we work with the Town of Fairfield exclusively on all their projects, they do alterations, and do modest upgrades on what they need. Most districts do renovations.
- Councilor Donahue stated that the presentation was excellent. We are asking the town to approve this, before we know that we are getting reimbursed from the state. How does that work.
- Mr. Koplas stated that the grant application is submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup>, referendum is in November; will know by late spring, early July what the status of the grant application is. Some districts wait until they get the commitment prior to spending any dollars. If you are on the priority list on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 99% of the time, anyone on that list has received a grant commitment. Escalation is 3.5% at around \$3 million per year. Exposure is roughly \$800,000.
- Mayor DelBuono asked what the next step is for the council. This will stay on our agenda.

#### B. Bid Waiver Request – LED Lighting Project

- Dr. Maureen Brummett stated that this was discussed with the BOE last evening and have asked Lou Jachimowicz to explain why we are requesting a bid waiver.
- Lou Jachimowicz stated that bid waiver request was the result of a competitive bid that we put out earlier this spring for HVAC controls at three of the schools in town. At that point, PowerPoint Energy out of Glastonbury came around and was aware of the bid that was out on the

street and encouraged me to explore the possibilities of the modifications that Eversource and CNG have made to their rebate programs because by packaging light improvements along with the HVAC controls we were looking to do, we had the ability to more than double the available rebate dollars. All of the proposals and forecasts have 65-75% rebate rate compared to the dollars spent. The try and vet this the company that is the apparent low bidder will do the HVAC work and lighting and I have asked them for their perspective on this. This wasn't a competitive bidding situation. The rebate dollars look good and view this an opportunity management and to provide the Board and the town significant long-term improvements for the benefit of everybody and for the taxpayer the amount saved looks to be in the low \$80,000 per year. Grant application has to be into Eversource system by June 30<sup>th</sup> in order to qualify. Looking at an additional \$437,000 of lighting expenses, over 2,500 fixtures, with a net cost of approx. \$116,000. Well down into the \$50-60 range per fixture, very appealing option we are trying to pursue. Last night the BOE approved this to be passed along to council for consideration.

- Councilor Donahue asked why this isn't a capital expense.
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated that the per piece value of the lighting is well below the threshold minimum capitalization amount which is \$500. There was a similar discussion regarding the Chromebooks and removing it from the capital area because it did not have the individual unit value to justify it being a capital item. The value for the lighting is substantially less than the Chromebook. This project encompasses over 2,500 fixtures that are going to be retrofitted and at that level it will be consistently interpreted as we have done for the Chromebooks.
- Councilor Donahue stated that we are not going to be submitting 2,500 purchase orders. It is still \$437,000.
- Mr. Jachimowicz stated that is correct, we will submit one for the entire project. It will \$437,000 gross and our obligation will be around \$116,000.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that will take action on this at our next meeting.

C. Annual Suspense List

- Janet Murphy stated this is something that is done annually, it removes off the tax rolls and puts it into suspense from the grand list of 2004.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that will take action on this at our next meeting

D. Discussion – 2030 Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD)

- Mayor DelBuono stated the TOPC has been updating the plan of June 9, 2010. No action will be taking place tonight. The TPZ will be holding their public hearing on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom software.
- Councilor Manke stated it is pretty concise and detailed. Would like to hear what the public has to say about it as well.
- Mayor DelBuono asked if Mr. Minor or Mr. Pane had anything to add. Important document for us to consider. Will continue this onto our next agenda.

VIII. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS (**Action May Be Taken**)

A. Appointment – Newington Housing Needs Study Committee

Motion by Councilor Anest

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council appoints the following member to the Newington Housing Needs Study Committee:**

**Newington Housing Needs Study Committee**

**2 NTC, 1 TPZ, 1 Sr. & Disabled Ctr. Rep., 1 Interfaith Community Member**

Name	Address	Party	Term
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TPZ Rep: Stephen Woods	94 New Britain Avenue	D	TPZ Term
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Seconded by Councilor Braverman. Motion passed 9-0.

IX. TAX REFUNDS (**Action Requested**)

A. Approval of June 9, 2020 Refunds for an Overpayment of Taxes

Motion by Councilor Budrejko

**RESOLVED:**

**That property tax refunds in the amount of \$283.85 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.**

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0.

X. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- A. May 5, 2020 Public Hearing Minutes
- B. May 5, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes
- C. May 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- D. May 18, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes
- E. May 19, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Manke to approve the above referenced minutes. Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 8-0. (Councilor Miner absent)

XI. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

- None
- Councilor Budrejko asked about an update on the status of facilities consultant, wasn't there a report due last week?
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he has not received a report as of yet.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if Mr. Chapman was going to light a fire under them.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he is giving them a little more time, was told that the individual working on the report had to be out of town. Do think it is time for a meeting.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that we do want to get that information out there for grants. Was there anything in the contract regarding a date of when they needed to have it completed by or interim reports?
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he believes the date is late fall, doesn't believe that they have started on any of the buildings.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that perhaps we should have them come to a council meeting and give us a report.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he agrees with that.
- Councilor Nagel stated that because of COVID residents have been asking what is open in the parks, how can the public know the times of the library. In particular there seems to be some confusion and arguments among residents regarding the use of the Churchill Park tennis courts; can you make that clear for us.
- Town Manager Chapman will put something together by the end of the week and will send an update.
- Councilor Nagel stated that some residents have told other residents that they can't use the Churchill Park tennis courts, that they need to use the ones at Mill Pond. Don't think any resident has the right to do tell another resident they can't use the facilities if they have gone through the proper procedures.

XII. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilor Budrejko stated that at the TPZ meeting there is an application for a gas and convenience store at the corner of Main and Hartford Road. Received a pretty favorable response from TPZ, concerns about exits and entrances on to both Main Street and Harford Road.
- Councilor Nagel stated that he virtually attend both the Library Board and Senior and Disabled meetings. The library has postponed their race until October, and the annual meeting will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>. They are doing curbside services and virtual programs throughout the summer. The Senior and Disabled center is doing virtual programs as well. They are doing weekly calls to seniors to let them know what is going on, they are making food pantry deliveries to 50-60 people weekly. Dial-a-Ride is open for critical operations. The town is redoing the front parking lot, sidewalk and lighting at the senior center. Because the seniors have been unable to use the facilities, the board has decided to waive the annual fee.
- Councilor Donahue has stated that NCTV has been getting a lot of programming from both the library and senior center. Looking forward into moving into our new home.

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

- Susan Mazzoccoli stated that she wanted to be first to congratulate our new town manager.
- Riley Field, 119 Mountain View Drive stated that he was at the protest last week and is disheartened that none of what was spoken about there or what was spoken about earlier about racial tensions and discrimination in this town was at this meeting was addressed. Understand the stress of COVID but can't help but feel that no one responded to these issues in our town. Listening to what people had to say was horrifying. Think it is clear that there is pain in this town, pain in this community. I implore you to please address this at your next meeting. Pay attention to all members of your community. This community needs healing.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that rules of procedure limit public participation to once per meeting.

XIV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

- Councilor Camillo stated he didn't get the addresses for Charles and Anna.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she was unable to attend to the protest last week, taking care of personal business. Several members of the council were there, will not speak for them. We are all concerned about what is going on in our town and are listening to what the people earlier have to say. Cannot comment until we do further research. We are taking this matter seriously and looking to see where we need to go from here. Rest assured concerns aren't being taken lightly.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Anest to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon  
Council Clerk