Deputy Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room L-101.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL
Councilor Arace
Councilor Anest
Councilor Budrejko
Councilor DelBuono
Councilor Manke
Councilor Marocchini
Councilor Miner
Councilor Serra

Staff Attendees:
Tanya Lane, Town Manager
Chris Schroder, Fire Chief/Marshal
James E. Krupienski, Town Clerk
Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

Deputy Mayor DelBuono asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence in memory of Frank Aieta, who was very involved in with the Town throughout the years. He served on both the Democratic and Republican Town Committees and as Chairman of the TPZ.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda, as published, by Councilor Anest seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent).

IV. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Newington Teacher of the Year – Mrs. Stacey Michaud

Motion by Councilor Marocchini

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stacey Michaud, Special Education Teacher at John Paterson Elementary School, has been designated as Newington's 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud was selected based upon her exceptional skills and dedication to children and the teaching profession; and
WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud is intelligent, a strong communicator, an advocate for all students, and a strong believer that public education is the vehicle to prepare all children for participation in our society; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud is an individual who is poised and articulate, with an outgoing nature and she possesses the superior ability to inspire learning in all students; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education and a minor in Psychology. She also completed her Master of Science in Special Education at Central Connecticut State University; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud has been teaching in Newington for 26 years, and since 2017 has taught in a self-contained classroom, in which she designed the environment and implement the curriculum and procedures for the benefit of her students; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud has established an environment that has great variables and even greater rewards, by recognizing each students individual gifts and provides a safe and supported environment; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Michaud has a passion for her work, an ability that inspires learning within her students;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Newington Town Council hereby recognizes Mrs. Stacey Michaud as Newington's Teacher of the Year and extends its sincere congratulations and appreciation to her dedication and commitment to Newington’s children.

Dated in Newington, Connecticut, this 24TH day of September, 2019.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

- Ms. Michaud thanked the Mayor and members of the town council, Dr. Brummett and her colleagues for this honor. Thinks Newington has something special about its educational community; students coming back who are now teachers. My own children want to be teachers. Very grateful to be recognized.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that there are many excellent educators in Newington and being named best of the best is quite an achievement. Congratulations.
- Councilor Manke stated that his daughter is a teacher who went through the Newington School system and looking at this list and all your attributes, it doesn’t mention the one attribute you use the most is patience. Congratulation and thank you.
- Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that she is an educator as well and knows what it takes to be in that classroom and do what you do every day. Congratulations.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)
- None

VI. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- None

VII. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS (Action May Be Taken)
A. Town Hall Project Update
   - Marc Schweitzer of Collier’s International provided an update on the town hall project. He stated that he was last here at August 13th. Several things have occurred since then. The biggest being the MDC water line; work began on September 16th with an anticipated time of five weeks; looking to get the work done by Friday (Sep. 27th). The MDC work put Downes in a situation where they need to sequences things differently. The first
section of steel started being installed on September 16th and will be finished by October 8th. The town hall and will be done and the first and second story of the community center will be done and what won’t be done is the bump out for the gym and for where the crane needs to be to set the steel now foundations were left off; once the crane is offsite the concrete contractor will come out and complete the foundations. The mason will be starting on October 7th and will working on the stairwells and load bearing masonry for the gym. Once that is done the steel guys can come back and set the trusses on the gym. Downes provided an update and they are on schedule to complete the project within the allotted time. With the MDC line and rescheduling of steel, Downes is trying to minimize the impacts of winter conditions, trying to get as much done and get the building enclosed prior to winter. Everyday they gain on this end is a day they are not working in winter conditions where the town will be spending money for extreme measures to heat the building.

- Councilor Budrejko stated that there was an unexpected issue with the waterproofing; can you explain that.
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that the Geotech engineer was on site and was looking at the soils from his original plan and his concern is the water pressure from the exterior coming in to the building. He advised instead of damp proofing, waterproofing the first nine feet of the foundation walls to keep the water out of the first floor.
- Councilor Budrejko asked if there was a revised estimate on the cost.
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that is less than $30,000.
- Councilor Manke asked how they will waterproof.
- Mr. Schweitzer provided an explanation of what they will do to waterproof.

B. Discussion- Public Facilities Review

- Town Manager Lane stated that at the last meeting she mentioned she was meeting with OR&L to talk with them to let them know our needs to have someone come in and look at our public buildings, assess them for maintenance with an eye for capital improvements down the road and formulate a schedule for that work. Was also looking to have this same team fill in some of the gaps in our facility director’s office. Met with them on September 13th. Waiting to hear back from them, and they will have a proposal for us by this Friday.
- Councilor Manke asked if any other companies have been contacted.
- Town Manager Lane stated that she is just looking at this one right now, waiting to hear back from them to see what their proposal is and what the price will be.
- Councilor Manke asked if this was something that needed to be sent out to RFP
- Town Manager Lane stated that she didn’t think so, because primarily it is filling in a vacancy for a position in town.
- Councilor Manke asked if the review of the facilities will be above and beyond the position.
- Town Manager Lane stated that it depends on how the proposal comes through. I suggested having a proposal for the person filling in and a separate proposal for the review of the buildings. However it is sorted out, I am well aware of the threshold for fees.
- Councilor Manke stated that it is two separate things, not the same person.
- Town Manager Lane stated that she won’t know until she gets the proposal.
- Deputy Mayor DelBuono asked Town Manager Lane if she was looking at any other companies.
- Town Manager Lane stated that she is waiting to hear back from them. They were recommended to her. They were very nice people and easy to deal with. Very professional. Would like to wait and see what their proposal is.
• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that it might be nice to get a cost estimate to compare. Don’t know what the cost typically is. My suggestion is to get another quote.
• Councilor Manke stated that just to be clear, we are holding off on the discussion of a committee until we get this approved. Don’t want to lose site of it.
• Councilor Anest stated yes, that is what we discussed.
• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that we will keep this on the agenda for our next meeting.

C. Amended Resolution for 2003 Fiscal Year Uncollectable Balance

• Town Manager Lane stated that this was a Scribner’s error and we are here to correct that tonight.

Motion by Councilor Anest

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby moves to amend Resolution #2019-59, adopted on June 25, 2019, to correct the outstanding uncollectible balance as approved;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby authorizes the amended outstanding balance amount from the 2003 Grand List, in the amount of $39,698.54, be removed from the Town’s receivable assets as of June 30, 2019, per the recommendation of Corinne Aldinger, Revenue Collector.

• Councilor Serra stated that for clarification we are now approving an additional $30,000 because we already approved $9,698.54 on June 25th.
• Deputy Mayor DelBuono asked the Town Clerk if this was an amended motion, how that works.
• James Krupienski, Town Clerk stated that he showed this to the Finance Director, and she was fine with this for her auditors. What you are saying is the June 25th resolution is no longer valid and this is your new motion and it will be supplied to them that way so they will have it for their next audit series.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

D. §8-24 TPZ Report on Cedar Mountain Parcel

• Town Manager Lane stated that this is the 10 acre Cedarcrest parcel and at the September 11th meeting, TPZ voted to issue a favorable recommendation in compliance with the 2020 POCD vision statement to protect the wetlands and natural resources, especially Cedar Mountain.

Motion by Councilor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby moves to accept an Open Space Parcel located on Mountain Road, known as Parcel B, from the State of Connecticut, as shown on a map entitled, “Compilation Plan of Land to be Released to the Town of Newington, Mountain Road and Russell Road (CT Ret. 424), Prepared for the Town of Newington, 131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT 06111”, scale 1”=100’, dated: 2/12/2019, revised 06/07/2019, Sheet No. 1 of 1.

Seconded by Councilor Anest. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

E. Ordinance Amendment- Chapter 415, Vehicles, Recreational
Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that we will introduce the ordinance, with language provided to us by the Town Attorney and set a public hearing date for the same. The process to amend an ordinance is subject to the Town Charter Section 405 and 406.

Town Manager Lane stated that our meeting of October 8th, which is Yom Kippur, has been changed to October 10th. When you read that in the resolution it should reflect that.

1. Introduce Ordinance & Set Public Hearing Date

Motion by Councilor Manke

INTRODUCTION,

I hereby introduce for the Town Council's consideration the proposed ordinance amendment to Chapter 415, Vehicles, Recreational, a copy of which has been filed with the Clerk of the Council.

Introduced by: Councilor Manke

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby schedules a Public Hearing on October 10, 2019 at 6:50 PM to consider the proposed ordinance amendment, Chapter 415, Vehicles, Recreational, a copy of which is attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Marocchini. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

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

A. Emergency Preparedness Overview

- Chris Schroder, Fire Chief/Marshal stated that one of the items tonight is that FEMA reimburses companies for their programs. We receive funds annually and it helps offset the costs of the Emergency Management program and salaries. This program coordinates training for the emergency management committee. We coordinate CERT activities, have 45 active members to assist in major events. They have had a busy year, they worked at the Extravaganza, Motorcycle Madness, they staffed the flu shot clinic, they worked at the Memorial Day parade, they coordinate the safety and emergency aspect of the parade. We are lucky, we haven't had to open our EOC since 2010. The CERT team and fire personnel are all very familiar with emergency operations.
- Councilor Manke asked how prepared are we was a town to handle any emergencies.
- Chief Schroder stated that he believes we are ready. In the case of storms, we normally have advanced warning. They key is planning and we do meet quarterly. The key is not waiting until the last minutes. We look at our fuel storage, equipment that is available, employee vacations, etc. We have been lucky, storms that have hit Connecticut haven't really affected Newington.
- Councilor Manke asked if there is anything that the public can do to prepare themselves.
- Chief Schroder stated that there is a lot of information on our website. Our Fire Prevention open house is on October 9th. We have been handing out information at the waterfall festival, and other town events. It is available in the lobby of the town hall. Training, education and getting the word out to the public is key.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that since this is a grant, is this something that is guaranteed?
- Chief Schroder stated that this is guaranteed. Our matching fund is $15,000, is offsets our program. We fill out the forms quarterly and submit them. We have been doing this for many years. It is a federal grant.
- Councilor Serra asked if there is an evacuation and if someone is homebound, what is the process?
• Chief Schroder stated that information would be made available in that instance. We do have a phone line that would be activated in the case of an emergency. We would make public announcements on who to contact. We would get that information out on Channel 14, the media, we have a system that we can alert neighborhoods or a large section of town with. Our school buses, and human services buses are available is we need to evacuate a neighborhood. If we needed to evacuate a neighborhood, we would go door to door and that would be face to face, and we would base our needs based on our discussion then.

• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that this was technically a discussion on emergency preparedness overview. If you could just touch on that again and the need for a waiver.

B. Emergency Management Performance Grant (Waiver Requested)

• Chief Schroder stated that the need for the waiver is that deadline for the grant is the 30th of September. It is a simple decision to make tonight and it is something that we have been involved in. Our budget is very low, only at a couple thousand dollars. We use it for training and dues, so any money that comes in helps. We do take advantage of every opportunity for free grant equipment, even something as simple as t-shirts and hats. We have a robust program in Newington.

• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that the grant is for $15,211 and it is a local match grant.

Motion by Councilor Marocchini.

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council, in accordance with §12 of the Town Council, Rules of Procedure, adopted May 10, 2016, hereby moves to allow action on Agenda Item VIII.B to execute the FFY 2019 Emergency Management Performance Grant Application.

Seconded by Councilor Serra. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

Public Participation
• None

Motion by Councilor Marocchini

RESOLVED:

That the Town of Newington, Town Council may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That Tanya D. Lane, as Town Manager of the Town of Newington, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Newington and to do and perform all acts and things which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

Be it further certified that Tanya D. Lane now holds the office of Town Manager and that she has held that office since June 15, 2016.

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

IX. TAX REFUNDS (Action Requested)

A. Approval of September 24, 2019 Refund for an Overpayment of Taxes

Motion by Councilor Budrejko
RESOLVED:

That property tax refunds in the amount of $5,793.16 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 Marocchini. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent)

X. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. September 10, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
B. September 10, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes of the above meetings by Councilor Manke. Seconded by Councilor Marocchini. Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent).

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

• Town Manager Lane stated that on Thursday, September 12th she and the mayor attended a kick-off celebration in honor of the 100th Anniversary Women’s Suffrage. The First Lady, the Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State are all co-chairing a Connecticut Women’s Suffrage commission and are partnering with 30 other organizations in observance of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Yesterday, at the high school, there was an anti-vaping assembly; they had a research assistant from Yale provide an overview of e-cigarettes, which was very alarming. Really taken aback of how extremely dangerous these chemicals are and how quickly they become addictive. Last night there was a Korean War Veterans Ceremony that was held at the high school. It is something that was put together by the Lieutenant Governor with help from Heather Shonty, of my office, as well as the assessor and town clerk. About 40 veterans were honored and recognized last night. The library parking lot is moving along very well; drainage is in place and grading and topsoil replacement is taking place in that same area. The arborvitaes are scheduled to be delivered this week and planted next week. Bollards, tactile pads and concrete sidewalk are all going to be installed this week. We had a tax sale on September 4th and received a check for $143,000; initially there were 27 taxpayers that were in arrears and all but five properties became current, so five properties were put up for sale and that is what brought in the revenue.

• Deputy Mayor DelBuono asked the Town Manager what it left outstanding in terms of the library parking lot, is there much left.

• Town Manager Lane stated that as far as she knows, that with the installation of the bollards, tactile pads and the planting of the arborvitaes, that pretty much takes care of everything. There is some irrigation that will be put in, as well as some seeding so the grass will germinate.

• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that the town engineer has done a phenomenal job with this.

• Councilor Budrejko stated that she, along with a couple of other councilors, repeatedly asked about getting that (television) screen fixed, particularly with land use meetings. Is there any update on that?

• Town Manager Lane stated that she did speak with the IT Department and because of the cost and how long we are going to be here, I suggested we leave it. If it is becoming a real issue and inconvenience, I will be happy to revisit it with him.

• Councilor Budrejko asked to have a cost estimate at the next meeting or if there is cheap alternative. It is difficult to see the one screen at the front of the room.

• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that she was at the Korean War Ceremony and it was a wonderful event. It was meant a lot to see them recognized.

XII. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS
• Councilor Miner stated that Colin Whelan is our newest Fire Marshal.
• Councilor Manke stated that he wanted to congratulate the Waterfall Committee, it was a
great event and the weather was perfect.
• Deputy Mayor DelBuono stated that is was a great event and the chalk work was amazing.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)
• None.

XIV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS
• None

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Marocchini to adjourn meeting at 7:49 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Serra.
Motion passed 8-0 (Mayor Zartarian absent).

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk