



Keith Chapman
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 GARFIELD STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR BETH DELBUONO

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 25, 2022

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

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

- Councilor Braverman
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko
- Councilor Camillo
- Councilor Donahue
- Councilor Manke
- Councilor Nagel
- Councilor Page
- Councilor Radda
- Mayor DelBuono

Staff Attendees:

- Keith Chapman, Town Manager *(via Zoom)*
- Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer
- Robert Hillman, Superintendent of Highways
- John Kubachka, Acting Director of Facilities Management
- Joseph Salamone, Assistant Town Manager (formerly Director of Facilities Management)
- James E. Krupinski, Town Clerk
- Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk *(via Zoom)*

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Manke to amend the agenda to go past 10:30 p.m., add Item 8E, add 11E – Mobile Radio Network. Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0.

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council hereby move to waive its Rules of Procedure, Section 12, Time Limitation, adopted February 22, 2022, to allow for action on Agenda Items after 10:30 PM

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Great Blue Research, Inc. – Community Assessment Survey

- Brady Lee, VP, Business Development & Marketing for Great Blue Research, Inc. was in attendance to discuss the data collection process for the Town of Newington in conducting a community assessment survey.

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TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT
2022 NOV 21 AM 9:44
Town Clerk

- Councilor Manke stated his concern is that everyone has only one opportunity to participate in the survey. How do people get chosen to participate in the survey?
- Mr. Lee stated they can do it a couple of ways.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that when this survey was done in the past it was mailed to people.
- Mr. Lee stated it would be best to have the survey done online. Don't recommend doing it by mail.
- Councilor Radda stated her concern is that some people don't have access to the internet and are unable to participate. Can we do a phone survey as well?
- Mr. Lee stated yes, a portion can be done by telephone and we can target an age range. Can have people take a paper survey.
- Councilor Radda stated that there are many reasons why internet access is limited. Maybe work with Senior Center and Library where computers are available.
- Mr. Lee stated that they can do that as well – we are flexible to provide as many options that are needed.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that surveys are only as good as the data. Want to make sure certain demographics are represented equally. Only one per household.
- Mr. Lee stated that on the demographic piece we would look at how the demographics flushed out once the survey is received. We can then reach out further.
- Councilor Page asked if the survey would be done in other languages other than English.
- Mr. Lee stated it can be done in as many languages as needed.
- Mayor DelBouno stated she feels more comfortable with the process now. Thank you for coming back in and answering our questions.

B. Town Facilities Update

- John Kubachka, Acting Director of Facilities Management and Joseph Salamone, Assistant Town Manager (formerly Director of Facilities Management) discussed the projects and improvements to the existing town buildings and infrastructure. A PowerPoint presentation and photo slideshow were shown during the meeting.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko asked about the electrical upgrades for Market Square and Main Street.
- Mr. Kubachka stated that they are evaluating the electrical boxes and infrastructure.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko thanked them for their efforts and coming in under budget.
- Councilor Page stated it's great to see the changes/upgrades to the facilities.
- Councilor Manke thanked them for all their hard work. Refreshing to see the facilities as a whole.
- Councilor Nagel thanked them for their hard work. Regarding the stairwell in the town hall, are there any plans to do anything else to fix the exit?
- Mr. Kubachka stated that they ideally would like to put a canopy over that area.
- Councilor Nagel asked what's next?
- Mr. Kubachka stated that they would like to replace units on the police station.
- Councilor Braverman asked what we need to watch.
- Mr. Kubachka stated that the town garage and the parks garage are going to need the most attention as larger projects go.
- Councilor Manke stated you should look to add a canopy at human services as well.
- Mr. Kubachka stated it is on our radar.
- Town Manager Chapman asked Joe to explain where the solar is being installed.
- Mr. Salamone stated that we have a go live date as of the end of January on the town hall building. The next building slated to be done is John Paterson. Need to coordinate with BOE about next school buildings.

C. Town-wide Infrastructure Update

- Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer and Robert Hillman, Superintendent of Highways discussed the projects and improvement to the existing town-wide infrastructure. A PowerPoint presentation was shown during the meeting.
- Councilor Camillo stated that you are proactive not reactive. Thank you.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that it's nice to drive into Newington and see the work getting done. Wasn't the Garfield Street parking lot just done?
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated no, it's the lower parking lot.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko thanked them for picking up the leaves. It's an incredible service you offer to the town.
- Councilor Manke thanked them for their work; impressed at the amount of sidewalk repair done; also impressed how you fill in the gaps. Also happy that you are tying in bike lanes. Who do we tell about the leaning phone/utility poles?
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated that you can tell me, but we don't repair them.
- Councilor Manke thanked them for their efforts and all that they do – leaf pick up; plowing, etc.
- Mr. Hillman stated that we pick up continuously.
- Councilor Donahue stated that the leaf pick up and snow plowing is extraordinary. How are you selling sidewalks to the residents who never had them?
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated it's a lot of personal conversations with the residents. Most don't have an issue with shoveling the snow.
- Councilor Page stated it says a lot that you take the time to do that. Pleased at how you are doing the work – pedestrian safety, bike lanes. Would love to see a pedestrian/bike bridges on some of the town roads. Appreciate your discussing Robbins & Main; thank you for doing what you are to fix that.
- Councilor Nagel wanted to extend his appreciation for all you are doing. In terms of not only water drainage, but people walking on roads; hope that Maple Hill gets done. Realize state roads in town effect what you can or cannot do. What is the status of the LOTCIP projects?
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated that some of the LOTCIP projects are in our court and have been on the books for a long time. Want to be sure there is local support for the projects.
- Councilor Nagel asked to address the water issues on Main and Highland.
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated he was out there discussing the issues with the residents over the summer. Have discussed curbs, driveway lifts, extending drainage into the neighborhoods. Some areas don't have great drainage. There are many, many drainage projects that are needed in town.
- Councilor Nagel stated that there is not always a simple fix.
- Mr. Fuerstenberg stated that MDC disconnected a sump pump, so that is contributing to the issue.
- Mayor DelBuono thanked Gary and Rob for all their efforts. It's awesome to hear how much you enjoy your work. Please let your staff know we appreciate them as well.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (Via Zoom Application or Phone) (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ITEMS IN GENERAL)

A. Public Comments

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive stated there is a lag and lapse in time from NCTV. Thank you for these updates. Very informative. Appreciate it. Know that the pathway on Vivian Street is being taken care of and if they are going to be used they should be maintained. I listened to the presentation regarding the drainage issues; areas along Main Street need to be dredged. Would appreciate if you have any comments about public participation, make them not at the end of the meeting.

B. Email Correspondence

- None

6. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

7. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Great Blue Research, Inc. – Community Assessment Survey

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby endorses the preparation of a Community Assessment Survey, and authorizes Keith Chapman, Town Manager to execute the necessary paperwork with Great Blue Research, Inc. A copy of the executed contract shall be attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Braverman. Motion passed 9-0

- Councilor Manke thanked Great Blue for coming back tonight and answering our questions.
- Councilor Page thanked Town Manager Chapman for suggesting this.
- Town Manger Chapman stated that he would like to see this done prior to budget season.

B. Resignation – Keith Chapman, Town Manager

- Mayor DelBuono stated that she is accepting this with a heavy heart. Think you have done an amazing job for the town of Newington. Thankful for your out of the box thinking. Funding is in place because of your efforts. Appreciate you being proactive instead of reactive. The things you have done have not gone unnoticed.

Motion by Councilor Radda

RESOLVED,

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of Keith Chapman as Town Manager, effective at the end of the day on December 2, 2022, as submitted in an email on September 30, 2022. A copy of which shall be attached to this resolution.

Seconded by Councilor Braverman. Motion passed 8-1.

- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated it is with regret she will vote to accept this. Need to support Mr. Chapman's wishes.
- Councilor Manke stated that too will vote to accept, regretfully. During COVID you considered the safety of citizens and staff and still provided town services and kept us moving forward and functioning.
- Councilor Page thanked Mr. Chapman for serving Newington and thanked him for all he's done for the town.
- Councilor Nagel stated that Mr. Chapman has done incredible work; left an indelible mark on the town. With regret I will accept your resignation.
- Councilor Camillo thanked Mr. Chapman; gotten more done in three years. Thank you, but I can't accept your resignation. Good luck.
- Councilor Braverman stated she is happy to have worked with you all this time. We will miss you. Thank you for all you have done.
- Town Manger Chapman thanked everyone for their comments. It's been a challenging three years. Working as a team we've gotten amazing results. Maybe I'll be back again. Wish you all luck.

8. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

A. Resignation – Environmental Quality Commission

Motion by Councilor Page

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of Jean Kappes, as a member of the Environmental Quality Commission, in accordance with email correspondence dated October 13, 2022, and effective on that date.

Seconded by Councilor Radda. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Camillo not in room)

B. Appointment – Permanent Municipal Building Commission

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council here by makes the following appointment(s):

5 members: 3 Public Trades members; 1 Member from each Party
 Ex-Officio – Mayor, Town Manager or Designee; Building Official, Facilities Director, Fire Marshal, Town Engineer and Chief Information Officer, as determined by Town Manager; Chairperson of BOE and Superintendent for School Projects; Fire Chief and BOFC Chairperson for VFD Projects; Agency Requesting Project
 3-year terms after initial appt

Name	Address	Party	Term
Joe Harpie Party Member		R	12/1/2022 – 11/30/2023
Party Member		D	12/1/2022 – 11/30/2023
Public Trades Member			12/1/2022 – 11/30/2023
Public Trades Member			12/1/2022 – 11/30/2024
Public Trades Member			12/1/2022 – 11/30/2025
Beth DelBuono Mayor, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
Keith Chapman Town Manager, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
Douglas Jordan Building Official, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
John Kubachka Facilities Director, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
DJ Zordan Fire Marshal, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
Gary Fuerstenberg Town Engineer, Ex-Officio			Indefinite
Scott Sharlow Chief Information Officer, Ex-Officio			Indefinite

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Camillo not in room)

C. Appointment – Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD)

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointment:

CENTRAL CT HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4 members, 3-year term

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Kevin Borrup	16 Broadview Street Newington, CT 06111	R	10/25/2022 – 6/30/2025	Vacancy Reappointment

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 9-0.

D. Appointment – Commission on Aging and Disabled (CCHD)

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council here by makes the following appointment:

Commission on Aging and Disabled

9 Members – three-year terms
Party Max: 6

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Elaina Starr Member	44 Windmill Lane	R	10/25/2022 – 11/30/2023	Vacancy of M Udice

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0

E. Appointments – Town Manager Search Subcommittee

Motion by Councilor Manke

RESOLVED,

The Newington Town Council, pursuant to Resolution 2016-29, hereby accepts the recommendations of the Mayor, for appointment to the Town Manager Search Subcommittee, to provide oversight in the recruitment process for a new Town Manager.

Town Manager Search Subcommittee

3 Town Councilors, Mayor, Ex-Officio

Name	Address	Party	Term
Tim Manke Majority Leader/Councilor	65 Rosewood Drive	R	10/25/2022 – 11/15/2023
Gail Budrejko Deputy Mayor/Councilor	21 Isabelle Terrace	R	10/25/2022 – 11/15/2023
Mitch Page Minority Leader/Councilor	46 Olive Street	D	10/25/2022 – 11/15/2023
Beth DelBuono Mayor, Ex-officio	327 Walsh Avenue	R	10/25/2022 – 11/15/2023

The committee shall work with a consultant, selected by the Town Council, to propose a scope of professional recruitment services and a selection process for a new Town Manager, for approval by the Town Council.

Seconded by Councilor Radda. Motion passed 9-0

9. **REFUNDS (Action Requested)**

A. Approval of October 25, 2022 Refunds for an Overpayment of Taxes

Motion by Deputy Mayor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

That property tax refunds in the amount of \$7,490.87 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

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 13, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

- Motion by Councilor Nagel to accept the minutes. Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 9-0.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Job Description – Assistant Fire Marshal (A-7)

- Town Manager Chapman stated that Meghan Manke resigned; this new job description has been updated with more appropriate language.
- Mayor DelBuono asked about the paygrade and funding.
- Town Manager Chapman stated he believes it is in the budget.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that there was a part-time position not being filled that will cover part of the salary.
- Councilor Page asked if these duties include her role in safety.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he appointed her as the emergency management director. I’ve now appointed DJ to that position.

B. Amendment to Classification & Pay Plan – Salary Table

- Town Manager Chapman stated this is an annual event that you review and approve; adjusted yearly based on funding. This year it’s 2%.
- Mayor DelBuono stated as you explained this, it makes sense and adjusts the ranges.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that the maximum needs to increase with the yearly adjustments.

C. Appointment of Acting Town Manager

- Mayor DelBuono stated that this is part of the process that we need follow.

D. Town Manager Search Subcommittee

- Mayor DelBouno stated The Town Council has indicated that they would like to perform a nation-wide recruitment for the appointment of a new Town Manager. Several towns within the area have been actively recruiting for the replacement of their outgoing Town Manager’s. Each town has chosen to utilize a recruitment company to organize the application and interview process

E. DESSP CLRMN License Agreement

- Town Manager Chapman stated that we’ve been working on this for over a year. It was determined the best way to proceed was to work with the state of Connecticut. Price will be around \$4.5 million dollars. Were recently notified that the agreements were going to be amended. The State Attorney General will accept this agreement and we need to get onto the state system so we can purchase the equipment. Need to get this to the state as soon as possible. The license agreement will be amended by the state if necessary. We will provide to you the equipment we need to purchase sometime in November, early December. The town attorney has reviewed the agreement and we are good to go.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council, in accordance with §11 of the Town Council, Rules of Procedure, adopted February 22, 2022, hereby moves to allow action on Agenda Item 11.E, to authorize Keith Chapman, Town Manager to execute the DESSP CLRMN License Agreement with the State of Connecticut for the Public Safety Radio Project.

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 9-0

Motion by Deputy Mayor Budrejko

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby authorizes Keith Chapman, Town Manager to execute the DESSP CLRMN License Agreement with the State of Connecticut, for the Public Safety Radio Project.

Seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0

Public Participation.

- None
 - Town Manager Chapman stated that this is for the public safety radio system; not for the non-public radio system.
 - Councilor Page asked who uses the non-public radio system.
 - Town Manager Chapman stated that it's the schools; senior center.

- 12. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER
 - None

- 13. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - Councilor Nagel stated that the Senior & Disabled Center have been trying to have a meeting all month – hopefully they will have one tomorrow. CROG is also meets tomorrow.
 - Councilor Donahue stated that Robert Blank received an award for Kellogg Eddy House .
 - Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that the quarterly meeting of the public safety committee and they had guest speaker from the Berlin Land Trust, it was a very informative presentation on how it works. TPZ is having a public hearing tomorrow at 7 pm regarding the property at the top of Cedar Street and Russel Road. Proposing Electric Vehicle showroom with car wash, convenience store and fast-food restaurant.
 - Councilor Page thanked the EQC for keeping Newington clean. Didn't know the Berlin Land Trust around so long. Excited that people in town are talking to them.

- 14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (Via Zoom Application or Phone)
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ITEMS IN GENERAL)
 - Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive thanked everyone for their hard work.
 - Brian Whelan, 22 Pebble Drive wanted to thank you for your support with the radio system. It's been a long process and a lot of work. Appreciate you taking it up tonight and passing it along to the state.

- 15. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS
 - Councilor Camillo stated Newington Public Schools went to chamber of commerce to send a survey out from the office of equity and inclusion. What are they doing? This has to stop. Our town ratings are lower, they have no clue, they don't care. I text the chairman and the superintendent and they do nothing; they need to resign. Kids graduate with high honors and they can't read, write or

do arithmetic. The BOE is robbing the residents of Newington in the name of children. This has to stop.

- Mayor DelBuono urged Councilor Camillo to share his concerns with the BOE.
- Councilor Camillo stated that they don't listen and don't let people talk. They edit the meetings that are online.
- Councilor Page asked if Councilor Camillo has issues with the BOE, let's invite them to our meeting. Not fair to do in this way. Need to have respect for BOE and school staff.
- Councilor Manke stated that councilor comments are for individual comments and those are your views.

16. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

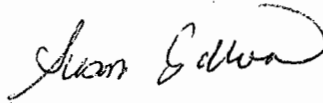
A. 2023 Youth Basketball Signup

- Councilor Manke stated that registration for Youth Basketball 2023 starts on November 3 and end on November 18. No late registration will be accepted. Please register early.
- Deputy Mayor Budrejko stated that tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. there is a ribbon cutting at the American Legion. On Thursday October 27th there is a trick or treat stroll on Main Street, Market Square. The library book sale is this weekend.
- Councilor Radda stated the book sale is Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Encourage all teachers to come at 3 p.m. on Sunday to take as many books as they can at no charge. Not just for Newington teachers.
- The Newington Kiwanis Flea Market is ending for the season this Sunday and they are having a craft fair from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's the 70th year of Kiwanis in Newington – they do a lot for the town – scholarships, library, and scouts. Need to do something to recognize their contribution to the town.
- Councilor Radda stated that the library will be holding it's Winterfest on Friday, January 20, 2023 from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Manke to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Braverman.
Motion passed 9-0.

Respectfully submitted



Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk