

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE**

The Board of Finance held a regular on Thursday, May 26, 2016 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT. Chairman James Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Present:** James Gaston, John Godin, Kelley Johnson, Sandy Roussas, Mark Boland

**Absent:** Aaron Carlson

**Also Present:** First Selectman Pat Llodra, Finance Director Bob Tait, Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, Commission on Aging Chairman Curt Symes and one member of the press

**VOTER COMMENT** – None

**COMMUNICATIONS** – Mr. Gaston received a letter from Dr. Erardi regarding upcoming Administrators contract (Attachment A). Mark Boland volunteered to be the BOF representative.

**MINUTES** – Mr. Godin moved to approve the minutes from the 5/9/16 meeting. Ms. Johnson seconded, motion unanimously approved.

**FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT** – Mrs. Llodra presented a status of the state and town budget (Attachment B). At the last hour legislatures did not apply cap the motor vehicle mill rate at 32.00 which increases revenues over \$400,000. The Legislative Council also made some additional changes to the budget before it was sent to referendum. The attachment shows where the deductions were taken from.

Mrs. Llodra also provided a notification that they are starting the process for the revaluation (Attachment C) that went out in news and announcement. Mrs. Llodra expressed the importance of news and announcements and encouraged everyone to subscribe so they can kept up to date.

**FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT** – Mr. Tait referred to the article regarding the Town of Brookfield (Attachment D). It relates to bonding. Upon reviewing their accounting records, there were projects that were authorized to be bonded but never were. Also included in Attachment D is how Newtown accounts for their projects. When an authorized capital project has been approved, Mr. Tait puts it in the budget in the bond revenue and expense. For example, FFH demolition, the budget was approved for \$5 million, you can see that \$3.2 million was bonded and \$1.8 million still needs to be bonded.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Transfers:* Fred Hurley explained that these are essentially year end transfers (Attachment E).

Mr. Godin moved the transfer of \$36,000 from Winter Salt and Salaries & Wages-Overtime to \$5,000 Salaries & Wages-Overtime (1-101-13-500-5130-0000), \$20,000 Repair and Maintenance (1-101-13-500-5430-0000), \$8,000 Contractual Services (1-101-13-500-5505-

0000) and \$3,000 Street Lights (1-101-13-500-5626-0000). Ms. Johnson seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Ms. Johnson moved the transfer of \$14,000 from Energy-Oil (1-101-13-650-5624-0000) to \$2,000 Salaries & Wages-Overtime (1-101-13-650-5130-0000), \$2,000 Water/Sewerage (1-101-13-650-5411-0000) and \$10,000 to Energy-Electricity (1-101-13-6500-5622-0000). Ms. Roussas seconded, motion unanimously approved.

*Discussion of the present and future needs of the Commission on Aging and Newtown's Seniors*  
– Chairman of the Commission on Aging, Curt Symes presented an update (Attachment F). Mr. Symes explained that they basically need a box for a new Senior Center. Ideally they would ask the town for support to build the shell but they only furnish a subset of that because they know they are not going to fill it at ribbon cutting.

Mr. Symes also discussed the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Attachment G).

The seniors see the medical mile as a positive asset to the town. Financially, it is spreading the tax burden but it is also a good alternative than going out of town for services.

**VOTER COMMENT – None**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – None**

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Arlene Miles, Clerk



Attachment A

Arlene Miles <arlene.miles@newtown-ct.gov>

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**Fwd: Statutory Review - Board of Finance - Administrative Bargaining Group**

1 message

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okjt@aol.com <okjt@aol.com>

Tue, May 31, 2016 at 7:47 AM

To: arlene.miles@newtown-ct.gov

Hi Arlene,

Below is a copy of the email from Dr. Erardi.

Thanks!

Regards,

Jim G

-----Original Message-----

From: Erardi, Joe <erardij@newtown.k12.ct.us>

To: Gaston James <okjt@aol.com>; Mills, Richard <RMills@goodwin.com>; David Abbey <abbeyd@newtown.k12.ct.us>; Suzanne Deramo <deramos@newtown.k12.ct.us>

Sent: Thu, May 26, 2016 12:15 pm

Subject: Statutory Review - Board of Finance - Administrative Bargaining Group

Jim

I hope all is well....

We will begin to negotiate a new three year contract with our administrators in the immediate future. By statute, we will hold our first meeting with administration on or before July 19th. Also by statute two things should take place in the near future. You and your entire board should have the opportunity to weigh in on negotiations with opinion before the onset of deliberations. Typically, this takes place in a non-meeting and runs for about 45 minutes. In addition, through the BOF Chair you will need to assign a finance member to be advisory to the process and attend the negotiating sessions.

I checked your meeting dates and what may make some sense is for us to have a non-meeting with you and the entire BOF starting at 6:30 p.m. on June 23rd.

Let me know if this works for you as I have asked Rich Mills, our attorney, to hold this date as his presence and presentation is key to the conversation.

Thanks

JE

Dr. Joseph V. Erardi, Jr.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Newtown Public Schools

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*Please notify the sender immediately if you have received this email by mistake and delete this email from your system.*

*Note that any views or opinions presented in this email are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Newtown Public Schools.*

Attachment B

**TOWN OF NEWTOWN**

	NEWTOWN 2016 - 2017	STATE 2016 - 2017	General Assembly Final State Budget	Difference	Comment
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**REVENUE ESTIMATES AFFECTED BY THE STATE BUDGET:**

INTERGOVERNMENTAL

IN LIEU OF TAX-ST OWNED PROP	738,994	733,247	(5,747)		
TOWN AID FOR ROADS	469,996	469,996	-		
MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT	913,492	911,124	(2,368)		
LOCIP GRANTS	207,668	207,668	-		
MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING (ADD'L SALES TAX)	824,747	572,949	(251,798)		
MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAX GRANTS	335,300	-	(335,300)		No grant due to change in CAP (to 37.00)
EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT	4,757,982	5,080,129	322,147		
PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORT	82,318	-	(82,318)		
NON-PUB SCHOOL TRANSPORT	20,255	-	(20,255)		

funding is expected to be allocated by the State Bond Commission at its May 27 meeting

GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	235,371	235,371	-	
<b>TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>	<b>8,586,123</b>	<b>8,210,484</b>	<b>(375,639)</b>	

	2016 - 2017 ADOPTED REVENUE ESTIMATES	2016 - 2017 ADJUSTED REVENUE ESTIMATES		
<u>PROPERTY TAXES</u>	7,514,383	7,918,281	403,898	Estimate was calculated on 32.00 CAP. CAP changed to 37.00 - there is no tax revenue loss.
CURRENT YEAR TAXES - MOTOR VEHICLE				

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>16,100,506</b>	<b>16,128,765</b>	<b>28,259</b>	
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**TOWN OF NEWTOWN**

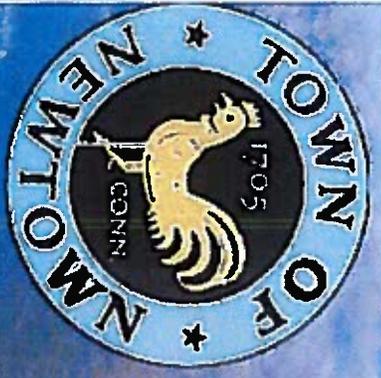
STATE OF CONNECTICUT BUDGET PROCESS

**NEWTOWN**

	2016 - 2017 ADOPTED REVENUE ESTIMATES	2016 - 2017 Gov. Proposed Feb-16	2016 - 2017 Gov. Revised Apr-16	2016 - 2017 General Assembly Final State Budget
IN LIEU OF TAX-ST OWNED PROP	738,994	738,994	738,994	733,247
TOWN AID FOR ROADS	469,996	469,996	469,996	469,996
MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT	913,492	913,492	913,492	911,124
LOCIP GRANTS	207,668	207,668	207,688	207,668
GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	235,371	235,371	235,371	235,371
MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING (ADD'L SALES TAX)	824,747	824,747	135,108	572,949
MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAX GRANTS	335,300	335,300	335,300	-
EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT	4,757,982	4,757,982	4,352,832	5,080,129
PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORT	82,318	82,318	82,318	-
NON-PUB SCHOOL TRANSPORT	20,255	20,255	20,255	-
M.V. TAX CAP CHANGE FROM 32.00 TO 37.00				403,898
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,586,123</b>	<b>8,586,123</b>	<b>7,491,354</b>	<b>8,614,382</b>

TOWN OF NEWTOWN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN PROPOSED BUDGET REDUCTION  
2016 - 2017

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
SELECTMEN - OTHER	OFFICE SUPPLIES - TAX COLL	500	Reduce from \$60,000 to \$59,500
TOWN CLERK	DUES, TRAVEL & EDUCATION	500	Reduce from \$3,000 to \$2,500
ASSESSOR	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	500	Reduce from \$4,000 to \$3,500
FINANCE	DUES, TRAVEL & EDUCATION	500	Reduce from \$3,375 to \$2,875
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	CAPITAL	5,000	Reduce from \$37,000 to \$32,000
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS	RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT	3,000	Reduce from \$198,541 to \$195,541
	DUES, TRAVEL & EDUCATION	2,000	Reduce from \$9,000 to \$7,000; use grant
	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	500	Reduce from \$3,500 to \$3,000
POLICE	DUES, TRAVEL & EDUCATION	2,500	Use asset seizure fund
	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	10,000	Fairfield Hills Campus
FIRE	ENERGY - OIL	3,000	Energy savings
EMERGENCY MGT	CAPITAL	2,515	Safety equipment
BUILDING OFFICIAL	DUES, TRAVEL & EDUCATION	169	Reduce from \$1,750 to \$1,581
PARKS & RECREATION	CAPITAL	8,000	Recycling containers
LAND USE	INDEXING	2,500	Reduce from \$22,500 to \$20,000
	CONTRACTED SERVICES	1,000	Reduce from \$45,000 to \$44,000
LIBRARY	CONTRIBUTIONS	1,900	Reduce from \$1,274,000 to \$1,272,100
NEWTOWN HEALTH DISTRICT	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	1,000	Reduce from \$273,828 to \$272,828
HIGHWAY	STREET SIGNS	1,000	Reduce from \$15,000 to \$14,000
	REPAIR & MAINT SERVICES	15,000	Reduce from \$497,750 to \$482,750
		61,084	



# Newtown CONNECTICUT



- RESIDENTS
- BUSINESSES
- VISITORS
- FORMS
- I WANT TO...



## Full Revaluation for October 1, 2017. Property Q & A Meeting

### June 14th

[Printer-Friendly Version](#)

[We Can't Alert You If We Can't Reach You. Register Here.](#)

#### News & Announcements

The Town of Newtown will be conducting a full Revaluation for October 1, 2017. An Informal Meeting for question and answers will be held on **June 14, 2016** at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT. 06470.

Please [click here](#) for details.

Thank you,

E. Patricia Llodra, First Selectman

[www.newtown-ct.gov](http://www.newtown-ct.gov)

- Home
- About Newtown
- Economic Development
- Town Departments
- Boards & Commissions
- Community Links
- Local, State & Federal Links
- Parks & Recreation
- Town Charter
- Code Book
- Purchase a Transfer Station Permit
- Recycling Information
- Town Budget

# Attachment D

## John Lucas: How Brookfield 'lost' \$3.3 million

Published 12:00 am, Friday, March 4, 2016

Recently Brookfield residents became aware of a significant problem with how we've bonded — or not bonded — projects since 2002. This is an attempt to explain the process and the facts to clarify this complex issue. Let's start with the process.

Just as when you buy a house or a car, the town often uses long-term borrowing to pay for projects or to purchase property. These projects are typically too expensive to pay for out of our operating budget — or they'll have a long useful life, so it makes more sense to pay them off over time.

The process works like this: Through a referendum or town meeting, the public authorizes the town to borrow funds to finance a project. The town then issues short term debt — referred to as "Bond Anticipation Notes" or BANs, to get the project going. Once the project nears completion and the final costs are known, the town will often bundle multiple completed projects together and then issue long-term debt, using those proceeds to retire the BANs. For example, the **Kids Kingdom** project was authorized for borrowing of \$250,000, the Nabby Road / Ericson Property project was authorized for \$400,000, and so on. On their own they'd be too small for bonding, but packaged together with other projects they become a more appropriately sized long-term bond issue.

The town's books show about \$10 million of outstanding projects that are pending long-term funding. However, because of frequent turnover in the finance department, transition of administrations, and simply the passage of time, some of these projects that have been finished for years and were authorized for long-term borrowing were never bundled with other projects for a long-term debt issue. The total amount that has been identified as current is around \$6.7 million, leaving \$3.3 million to be reconciled.

I think it makes the most sense to divide the \$3.3 million into several categories.

First, there are projects that were paid for with BANs, but instead of being rolled into long-term debt, they were paid down with cash from the general fund. According to Brookfield's bond counsel, we can, with new authorizations, borrow long term as the voters originally intended for these projects, and repay the general fund. These projects account for about \$1.8 million of the \$3.3 million. Both the **Board of Selectmen** and the **Board of Finance** have unanimously approved this approach.

Of the projects that make up the remaining \$1.5 million, there is some confusion as to whether these are rightfully in the **Bonded Projects Fund**. One example is the \$400,000 listed for the purchase of the Nabby Road / Ericson Property project. Research shows that this may have been included in a prior bond offering, and deducting this amount could further reduce the deficit. There also appear to be revenue sources that may not have been properly accounted for.

For example, we need to ensure that fund transfers from the WPCA to the town on the **Brookfield High School** project were booked accurately. Lastly, there are costs on projects that exceeded their authorized appropriations. While no one likes cost overruns, it happened — the largest of these appears to be \$60,000 for the **Senior Center** Project.

As town treasurer, I believe the \$1.8 million bonding resolution is a first step toward setting us on solid footing going forward, and moving us toward more accurate and transparent financial disclosures. When it comes before the town for approval, I encourage the town to support this action. It is the best way to ensure that Brookfield retains its AAA bond rating, which will undoubtedly save hundreds of thousands of dollars (if not millions) over the next 20 years.

Our next step will be to do the required research to determine exactly what the \$1.5 million really consists of and the best way to resolve the outstanding issues. Most important, we must implement proper processes and controls to avoid similar problems in the future. This will take some time, but through cooperative effort, calm heads and transparency, our town will end up on much better financial ground, with solid procedures and controls that will ensure that we do not face these issues again.

**John Lucas**, a Brookfield resident, was elected town treasurer in November.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT**

Newtown  
As of 5/26/2016 10:09:40 AM

Account Key	Description	Orig Budget	ADJ BUDGET	MTD	YTD	YTD Enc	YTD Inv	Balance	%
1-155-16-550-5749-1027	CAPITAL OUTLAY - DICKINSON P APK	\$620,000.00	\$620,000.00	\$0.00	\$577,651.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,348.99	6.83%
1-155-25-550-5870-1027	TRANSFER OUT - DICKINSON PA PK DEMOLITION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
2-155-06-550-4580-1027	Expenses: BOND PROCEEDS DICKINSON P APK	\$620,000.00	\$620,000.00	\$0.00	\$577,651.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,348.99	193.17%
	Revenue: Net of <del>DICKINSON PARK RENOVATIONS</del>	\$620,000.00	\$620,000.00	\$0.00	\$620,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1027	Net of <del>DICKINSON PARK RENOVATIONS</del>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$42,348.99)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,348.99	#DIV/0!
1-155-16-550-5749-1030	CAPITAL OUTLAY - P&R MAINT FA CITY II	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$349,915.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84.92	0.02%
1-155-25-550-5870-1030	TRANSFER OUT - P&R MAINT FA CITY II	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$84.92)	-
2-155-06-550-4580-1030	Expenses: BOND PROCEEDS - P&R MAINT F ACTIVITY II	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	200.00%
	Revenue: Net of <del>P&amp;R MAINTENANCE FACILITY II</del>	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1030	Net of <del>P&amp;R MAINTENANCE FACILITY II</del>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!
1-155-11-740-5749-1032	CAPITAL OUTLAY - SH STREETS C&B	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1-155-25-740-5870-1032	TRANSFER OUT - SH STREETSC APC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
2-155-06-740-4580-1032	Expenses: BOND PROCEEDS - SH STREETS C&B	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	200.00%
	Revenue: Net of <del>SH STREETS C&amp;B</del>	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1032	Net of <del>SH STREETS C&amp;B</del>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!
1-155-11-740-5749-1033	DEMOLITION & ABATEMENT - FFH	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$895,628.30	\$2,106,671.76	\$1,370,976.66	\$0.00	\$1,522,351.58	30.45%
2-155-06-740-4580-1033	Expenses: BOND PROCEEDS - FFH DEMOLIT ION	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$895,628.30	\$2,106,671.76	\$1,370,976.66	\$0.00	\$1,522,351.58	169.55%
	Revenue: Net of <del>FFH DEMOLITION</del>	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800,000.00	36.00%
1033	Net of <del>FFH DEMOLITION</del>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$895,628.30	(\$1,093,328.24)	\$1,370,976.66	\$0.00	(\$277,648.42)	#DIV/0!

\*\* Fairfield Hills Demolition project authorized for \$5,000,000. Bonded to date = \$3,200,000. Amount still to be bonded = \$1,800,000.  
KEY TO TRACKING BONDED PROJECTS IS PROPER ACCOUNTING

# Attachment E

## TOWN OF NEWTOWN APPROPRIATION (BUDGET) TRANSFER REQUEST

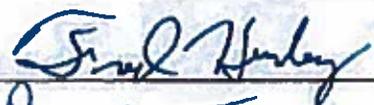
FISCAL YEAR   DEPARTMENT Public Works DATE 5/11/16

	Account	Amount	
FROM:	1-101-13-510-5661-0000SALT	(23,650.00)	USE NEGATIVE AMOUNT ↓
	1-101-13-510-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	(12,350.00)	
	•		
	•		
	•		
	•		
	•		
TO:	1-101-13-500-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	5,000.00	USE POSITIVE AMOUNT ↓
	1-101-13-500-5430-0000REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SERVICES	20,000.00	
	1-101-13-500-5505-0000CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	8,000.00	
	1-101-13-500-5626-0000STREET LIGHTS	3,000.00	
	•		

**REASON:** Source accounts have surpluses due to the mild winter. All contractual obligations have been met.

The "OT, Contractual and Street Light" accounts are receiving relatively small year- end adjustments. We do not anticipate any inherent problem with these accounts at the approved funding in the next budget. The funding for the "Repair" account is reflected in the increase in the next budget and it continues planned maintenance rather than deferred maintenance for all service and emergency response vehicles.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

<input type="checkbox"/> (1) DEPARTMENT HEAD		date: 5/12/16
<input type="checkbox"/> (2) FINANCE DIRECTOR		5/12/16
<input type="checkbox"/> (3) SELECTMAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> (4) BOARD OF SELECTMEN		
<input type="checkbox"/> (5) BOARD OF FINANCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> (6) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL		

**AUTHORIZATION SIGN OFF**

FIRST 335 DAYS >>>>WITH IN A DEPT.>>>>LESS THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2) & (3) SIGNS OFF; MORE THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2), (3) & (5)  
>>>>ONE DEPT TO ANOTHER>>>>LESS THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL EXCEPT (6); MORE THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL SIGN OFF

AFTER 335 DAYS >>>>(1), (2), (3), (5) & (6) ANY AMOUNT FROM CONTINGENCY>>>> ALL SIGN OFF

**TOWN OF NEWTOWN  
APPROPRIATION (BUDGET) TRANSFER REQUEST**

FISCAL YEAR  DEPARTMENT **Public Works** DATE **5/11/16**

	Account	Amount	
FROM:	1-101-13-650-5624-0000ENERGY - OIL	(14,000.00)	USE NEGATIVE AMOUNT
TO:	1-101-13-650-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	2,000.00	USE POSITIVE AMOUNT
	1-101-13-650-5411-0000WATER / SEWERAGE	2,000.00	
	1-101-13-650-5622-0000ENERGY - ELECTRICITY	10,000.00	

**REASON:**

The source account which reads "Energy-Oil" is actually heat. We fortunately had a very mild winter leaving a surplus in the account.

The receiver accounts are all essentially year-end reconciliations. The additions to "overtime" and "Water and Sewer" are minor adjustments to cover any unanticipated costs. The "Electricity" account has funded slightly higher than previous usage. We are anticipating some relief in pricing due to the landfill solar project and lower natural gas prices impacting our procurement in the next budget that should cover the increase in this year end.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

(1) DEPARTMENT HEAD		date: 5/12/16
(2) FINANCE DIRECTOR		5/12/16
(3) SELECTMAN		
(4) BOARD OF SELECTMEN		
(5) BOARD OF FINANCE		
(6) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL		

**AUTHORIZATION SIGN OFF**

FIRST 335 DAYS >>>>WITH IN A DEPT.>>>>LESS THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2) & (3) SIGNS OFF; MORE THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2), (3) & (5)

AFTER 335 DAYS >>>>ONE DEPT TO ANOTHER>>>>LESS THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL EXCEPT (6); MORE THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL SIGN OFF

>>>>(1), (2), (3), (5) & (6) ANY AMOUNT FROM CONTINGENCY>>>> ALL SIGN OFF

Attachment F

# Commission on Aging (COA) & Newtown's Seniors Update to the Board of Finance

Sponsored by the Newtown COA

Advocating for Senior-Boomer Present & Future Needs

Curt Symes, Chairman + 11 Commissioners

May 26, 2016

# COA Chair

- Appointed to the COA in 2011
- Elected Co-Vice-Chair in 2012
- Elected COA Chair & Chief Advocate in December 2012
- Proceeded to Help Heal the Seniors of Newtown, Advocate for Senior Needs & Transformed the COA - a Great Team of Senior, Boomer & Gen X - Newtown Volunteers
- Background – Newtown Resident 45 years, Senior, Grandparent, Professional CSA (Certified Senior Advisor) in CT & NY for past 15 years
- Worked with Most Senior Centers/Services in SW CT, WCAAAA, Newtown Continuing Education, Charter CTV-21/192 & the Episcopal Church in CT

# Topics

- **The Way Forward → It is Now Our (Newtown Seniors) Time !**
- **Newtown “Senior-Boomer” Population of 5,000+ over age 60**
- **Newtown Senior-Boomer Demographics/Profiles**
- **Newtown Senior Services Needs & History**
- **Other Town Senior Services**
- **Evolution of the Elusive Newtown Senior Center & Programs**
- **Next Steps & Questions**

# Newtown Senior Demographics

- Based on Newtown Voter Registration Records provided by both the Democratic & Republican Registrars of Voters on 2013 & 2015, there were approximately 5,000+ Seniors & Boomers over age 60
- Newtown is a Population of approximately 28,000
- There are about 10,000+ children/youth
- Thus, the Aging Population is almost 20% of the total and almost 30% of the adults
- There are some 8,000+ Residences in Newtown
- Seniors & Boomers are the fastest growing segment of both the Newtown & CT Populations and we have one of the greatest Senior-Boomer Populations in the US

# Demographic Characteristics

- The 5,000+ decompose into 3 distinct sub-groups
- Age 60 to 69 – Boomers & Young Seniors somewhat in denial – about 2,700
- Age 70 to 79 – Traditional Seniors now seeking their place & services – about 1,500
- Age 80 to 100+ – Mature Seniors now Aging in Place – about 900

# Demographic Profiles

- Age 60 to 69 – 2700 Boomers & Young Seniors not currently engaged but watching
- Age 70 to 79 – 1500 Traditional Seniors now reaching retirement & seeking Senior Services
- Age 80 to 100+ – 900 Mature Seniors now seeking what other towns offer
- COA Senior Survey – 2013/2014 – 1200+ Resp.
- CCC Town Survey – 2015/2016 – 300+ Resp.

# Emerging Senior Profile

- Moved to Newtown 10, 20, 40 years ago
- Raised our children
- Paid taxes & voted for schools & youth programs
- Now reaching retirement & looking for Senior Programs, Facilities & Services
- Assess Newtown as being deficient
- Going elsewhere for Senior Needs

# Newtown Senior-Boomer Needs

- A Place to Congregate & call their own - a Community & Senior Center Complex - as well as - an Intergenerational Facility
- Exercise - Exercise incl. Yoga, Pilates, Zumba, Stretching, Strength, Balance, Sports Center (NYA), Trails, etc.
- Senior Aquacize & Pickle Ball
- Health & Wellness Programs
- Educational, Informational & Motivational Sessions
- Training Seminars
- A Kitchen, Library & Computer Facilities
- Controlled Access & Generous Parking

# Newtown Senior Services/Center

## History

- NSS started out in the Alexandria Room of ETH prior to the Elevator in mid-70s
- Multi-Purpose Building was constructed in later-70s to house the CAC & Seniors, as a throw-in
- Growth was slow & steady with ups & downs addressed via (cost-effective) Additions vs. a New Senior Center
- Major initiatives were launched/conducted in 2003, 2007, 2013-2015 & now (yet again) 2016 with Projected 2017 CIP Funding

## Other Town Senior Services

- I am not going to address Senior Tax Relief, Senior Discounts, etc. here
- The Focus will be on Daily Services, like Community & Senior Centers, Expanded & Parallel Senior Programs, etc.
- Also, the Organization of both the Senior Services Director & Municipal Agent need rethinking
- Newtown is a “laggard” in stepping-up to & responding to evolving/growing Senior Needs
- The surrounding towns have moved forward 2, 3, 5 and some even 7+ years ago

# Evolution of the Elusive Newtown

## Senior Center & Programs

- During the course of the 12 Forums that were conducted by the Advisory/Study Group (2013-2015) & the Community Center Commission (2015-2016) – over 28+ months – a single theme resonated by the Seniors:
- I moved to Newtown 10, 20, 30, 40+ years ago, raised my children, supported the schools, paid my taxes and now have or plan to retire & want/expect modern Senior Services - Center, Facilities & Programs similar to what other comparable towns offer
- I plan/hope to stay because I am a Newtown'er and/or my Children & Grand-children are here

# Perspectives on the Senior Center

- A large portion of the “quiet - silent majority” Senior Population has dismissed the idea of ever getting a New Senior Center
- During the workings of the NCCC a number of Commission Members said they absolutely would not go down to the existing Senior Center on Riverside in Sandy Hook
- The existing Senior Center has Issues with Traffic Flow, Parking Area Paving, HVAC, Drains & future Roofing Problems

## Next Steps !

- The (shared) Community Center can be a cornerstone for a new (dedicated) Senior Center
- Move expeditiously through the Architecture, Design & Construction Phases and apply the 2017 CIP \$500,000 Senior Center Design Funding
- Pursue Funding for the New Senior Center from the \$2.5M in the 2017 CIP

# Questions ?

- The COA & Seniors of Newtown will listen to and potentially support any/all timely, credible & rational Senior Center Proposal(s)
- There has been no major Newtown progress on meeting major Senior Needs for almost 15 years now
- It is NOW “Our Time” for the Seniors-Boomers of Newtown & “Friends of Newtown Seniors” is being formed

**S.192 - Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016**114th Congress (2015-2016) | [Get alerts](#)

Attachment G

LAW [Hide Overview](#)

<p><b>Sponsor:</b> <a href="#">Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]</a> (Introduced 01/20/2015)</p> <p><b>Committees:</b> Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions   House - Education and the Workforce</p> <p><b>Latest Action:</b> 04/19/2016 Became Public Law No: 114-144. (<a href="#">All Actions</a>)</p> <p><b>Tracker:</b></p> <p>Introduced   Passed Senate   Passed House   Resolving Differences   To President   <u>Became Law</u></p>
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**More on This Bill**[CBO Cost Estimates \(1\)](#)**Subject — Policy Area:**

Health

[View subjects](#)

<b>Summary (5)</b>	<a href="#">Text (7)</a>	<a href="#">Actions (20)</a>	<a href="#">Titles (6)</a>	<a href="#">Amendments (0)</a>	<a href="#">Cosponsors (27)</a>	<a href="#">Committees (2)</a>	<a href="#">Related Bills (0)</a>
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**Summary: S.192 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)**[All Bill Information](#) (Except Text)

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There are 5 summaries for S.192.   [Bill summaries](#) are authored by [CRS](#).**Shown Here:**

Public Law No: 114-144 (04/19/2016)

**Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016**

(Sec. 3) This bill amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA), with respect to the Administration on Aging, to require the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs to collect and analyze best practices related to responding to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in long-term care facilities, and publish a report on them.

The Administration shall have a duty and function to:

- provide information and technical assistance to states, area agencies on aging, and service providers, in collaboration with relevant federal agencies, on delivering efficient person-centered transportation services, including across geographic boundaries;
- identify model programs and provide information and technical assistance to the same entities to support modernization of multipurpose senior centers; and
- provide technical assistance to and share best practices with states, area agencies on aging, and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) on how to collaborate and coordinate services with health care entities in order to improve care coordination for individuals with multiple chronic illnesses.

The Administration shall also

- develop, when feasible, a consumer-friendly tool to assist older individuals and their families in choosing home and community-based long-term care services, with a particular focus on ways for consumers to assess how providers protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of older individuals, and
- ensure that programs authorized under the OAA include training in the prevention of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and provision of services that address elder justice and exploitation of older individuals.

ADRCs shall provide information and referrals regarding available home and community-based services for individuals who are at risk for residing in, or who reside in, institutional settings, so that the individuals have the choice to remain in or to return to the community.

The bill repeals the permanent authorization of appropriations to the Administration for the provision of consultative services, technical assistance to public or nonprofit private agencies and organizations, short-term training, technical instruction, and research and demonstrations.

The bill also:

- reauthorizes the Administration generally through FY2019, including the National Eldercare Locator Service and pension counseling and information programs; and
- authorizes through FY2019 Elder Rights Support Activities and ADRCs.

(Sec. 4) The bill reauthorizes through FY2019: (1) specified supportive services, (2) congregate nutrition services, (3) home delivered nutrition services, (4) disease prevention and health promotion services, (5) family caregiver support, and (6) the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

No state shall be allotted less than: (1) 99% of the allotment for the previous year for each of FY2017-FY2019; or (2) 100% of the FY2019 allotment for FY2020 and each subsequent fiscal year.

An area agency on aging plan shall: (1) support modernization of multipurpose senior centers (including a plan to use the skills and services of older individuals in paid and unpaid work, including multigenerational and older individual to older individual work); and (2) arrange to increase public awareness of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and remove barriers to education, prevention, investigation, and treatment of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.