



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
Fairfield Hills Authority
MEETING MINUTES

**The Fairfield Hills Authority held a Meeting on March 27, 2023
in Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT 06470**

These minutes are subject to the approval of the FHA at their next meeting.

Present: Ross Carley, Brook Clark, Andrew Philbin, Michael Holmes, Terry Sagedy, Jim Landy

Absent: Renata Adler, Melissa Beylouni

Public Attendance: None

Also Present: Matt Ariniello – Newtown Community Center Director, Christal Preszler - Deputy Director of Economic and Community Development, Kim Chiappetta (clerk)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Public Participation:

None

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Ross Carley asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2023. Mike Holmes entertained. Terry Sagedy seconded and all were in favor.

Chairman's Report

None

New Business

Newtown Community Center – Temporary Storage:

Ross began by welcoming the Director of the Newtown Community Center, Matt Ariniello, who was in attendance to present a temporary storage solution.

Matt explained that the Community Center is not permitted to store certain chemicals including pool and facilities supplies. Currently, these supplies are stored at other town owned buildings including Public Works. This means that the Community Center is reliant on other departments to deliver these frequently needed supplies. Prior to 2020, there was a plan to build a 900 square foot storage shed, but with the increase in building costs the price for this project has increased substantially, so the project has been put on hold. The temporary storage solution is to put a 40-foot storage container behind the Newtown Community Center. (See Attachment A.) The plan for the storage container has already been shared with the Building Department and Fire Marshal. Ross asked where power would be drawn from for the ventilation system. Matt explained that the storage container has built in vents that do not require power. Terry asked if any paving or foundation was required. Matt replied that the container will go on the existing paved surface. Terry then asked if the storage container would be rented. Matt said the Community Center will be purchasing the unit for around \$6,000. Terry complimented the new patio installed at the Community Center. Ross asked how the container will be secured. Matt explained that there are plans in place to ensure the container is secured. Ross asked if a building permit was required. Christal recommended that Matt work with the Building dept.

With no further questions Ross asked for a motion from the Authority.

Jim Landy noted that the temporary storage is appropriate and needed and motioned to approve. Terry seconded. Ross added for the record that the approval is for the use of a temporary storage container on the campus property behind the Newtown Community Center until 2026. All in favor.

Matt closed by explaining to the Authority that the ultimate goal is to build a permanent structure which would meet campus standards including a brick façade to match the rest of the buildings on the campus.

Member Updates:

Chair Ross Carley reported that Andrew Philbin resigned from the Fairfield Hills Authority and wished him well and expressed that the Authority was sorry to lose him. Ross asked members to have anyone interested in serving on the FHA to apply with the First Selectman's office.

Staff Update:

Ross announced that it was Christal Preszler's last meeting. He expressed that he could not imagine how she could be replaced. He continued to recognize her excellent work with grants, support on campus projects, and her willingness to freely communicate what was not fit for the campus which was always agreed upon by the Authority. Ross thanked Christal for her time with the Authority and expressed how much she will be missed.

Christal thanked the group and recognized the long-term members and everyone's continued support of the campus. She encouraged everyone to continue their support.

Kim Chiappetta explained that she and Christal worked very closely daily on all department work, and that she will be greatly missed. She expressed that she does not know what she will do without Christal's knowledge and friendship.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Terry motioned to adjourn, Mike seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Chiappetta, Clerk.

A recording of the meeting is available by contacting Kimberly.Chiappetta@newtown-ct.gov.

Attachment A



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