

Judit DeStefano, Chair
Jay Mattegat, Vice-Chair
Dan Honan
Bob Pickard
Chris Smith
Dan Wiedemann



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

MINUTES

The Municipal Operations Committee of the Legislative Council held a regular meeting on Monday, March 18 at 7:00pm in Meeting Room 1 of the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT.

Committee Chair Judit DeStefano calls the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Present: Judit DeStefano, Jay Mattegat, Chris Smith, Dan Wiedemann, Dan Honan (7:06). Also present, First Selectman Dan Rosenthal (to 7:30)

Absent: Bob Pickard

Dan Weideman moves to approve the minutes of the meeting on 3/25/2018. Dan Honan seconds. All in favor.

Discussion of Municipal Operations budget for 2018-2019, with compilation and review of consolidated list of questions to be submitted.

Per request, Dan Rosenthal shares some comments on business committee progress, economic development, vision for town.

Dan Weideman is impressed with how Dan R. has created and presented a thin budget.

Questions:

Who do I go to to review our insurance policies and to see what our claims have been? I get concerned with any program that has been with the same organization since 1980. And looking at the list of policies would have me concerned that we are missing some vital programs.

For Police, why is their benefits package so much higher than everyone else? Assume still Union negotiated, but the comment states that it is determined by the actuary. It would be nice to know more about this pension.

Mailing fee – postage – do we need that in this day and age? Answered: Many things still need to be mailed per statute, ie: tax bills

On the Town Clerk side similar question regarding printing/microfiche. In the description they comment on new technology allowing people to print from home, but the budget hasn't been adjusted.

Why \$45K for LC? Answered: that's audit fee.

Public vehicles – who takes them home, what type of vehicle? What is the rationale for each?

Fire Commissioner Request for daytime driver – What is the total request? Why is it necessary at *this* time? Will it resolve all coverage issues?

Grants administrator p. 14 on pamphlet – salary attribution – Is that partial of a F/T position? Are depts. able to utilize and access this service? Is it affiliated or does it work in collaboration with the purchasing agent? What results are we seeing? Does it warrant a F/T or more directed P/T position?

For Fred Hurley – Patch paving on Toddy Hill, New roads, chip seal, seems to have more wear than would be expected. With so much money being spent on this, how are we ensuring there is adequate oversight – both with contractors and internal department work? How did chip seal hold up over past winter? How are the contracts purchased? Is bulk purchasing an option that could be explored?

Next meeting of committee scheduled for next Tues, 3/26 7:30 pm.

Dan Weideman moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Seconded by Chris Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Judit DeStefano
Chairperson