

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3 PRIMROSE STREET, NEWTOWN, CT
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Jeffery Capeci, Michelle Embree Ku, Tom Long, Chris Gardner, Phil Carrol, Dan Honan, Derek Pisani, William DeRosa, Ryan Knapp (7:39).

ABSENT: Charles Gardner, Lisa Kessler, Matthew Mihalcik

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Bob Tait, First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Director of Land Use Rob Sibley, Town Attorney Jason Buchsbaum and 5 members of the public

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Capeci called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:35 pm.

VOTER COMMENT: None

MINUTES: Phil Carrol moved to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting. Chris Gardener seconded, all in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS: Jeff Capeci reported that the Administrators contract has come to a tentative agreement (att.).

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT: First Selectman Rosenthal reported that the radio upgrades should be complete in the next couple of weeks. The project went well but took a while because of supply chain issues. Ryan Knapp asked about the High School back field. First Selectman Rosenthal explained that last spring they appropriated money to turf the field. The sports leagues raised \$200,000 and P&R put in \$100,000 from their surcharge fund and the tax payers paid \$450,000 for a turf field. There is some confusion about the scope of work. The town's scope is to get the field turfed. To accommodate adding bleachers and a press box is approximately \$117,000 to \$135,000. There is a disconnect of what people who donated thought they were getting. Robert Tait provided the Capital & Non-Recurring Fund Detail (att.).

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Acceptance – Dan Honan moved to approve the grant from Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging in the amount of \$5,000 (att.). Chris Gardner seconded, all in favor.

Grant Acceptance – Dan Honan moved to accept the grant for Summer Mental Health Program for the Community Center in the amount of \$115,020 (att.). Phil Carrol seconded, all in favor.

Executive Session – Dan Honan moved to go into executive session at 7:58pm for legal matters regarding 2 Button Shop Road and invited Land Use Director Rob Sibley and Town Attorney Jason Buchsbaum to attend. Michelle Embree Ku seconded, all in favor. Executive session ended at 8:52pm.

Voter Comment – None

Announcements - None

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Miles, Clerk

Attachment: email relative to Administrators contract, Capital & Non-Recurring Fund Detail, Grants



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

Fw: Tentative Agreement

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Arlene Miles <arlene.miles@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Oct 4, 2023 at 5:48 PM

FYI,

Jeff

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: D'Eramo, Suzanne <deramos@newtown.k12.ct.us>
To: Melillo, Christopher <melilloc@newtown.k12.ct.us>
Cc: Steven Goodridge <sbgoodridge14@gmail.com>; Jeff@theCapecis.com <jeff@thecapecis.com>; Plante, Alison <plantea_boe@newtown.k12.ct.us>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2023 at 04:42:12 PM EDT
Subject: Re: Tentative Agreement

We now have signed TA documents so feel free to remove September 29 from your calendars!
So pleased to be moving this process forward toward ratification and I thank you all for your assistance/input.
Appreciatively ~ Suzanne

On Tue, Sep 19, 2023 at 12:17 PM Melillo, Christopher <melilloc@newtown.k12.ct.us> wrote:
Hello Alison, Jeff, and Steve,

When we left off Admin negotiations, we were looking to move to mediation. Fortunately, we have been able to have an off-the-record conversation with the Admin group and currently have an agreement, pending their bargaining unit approval. The Admin has agreed to the following terms:

- 2.75% increase per year, for all 3 years
- insurance premium contribution rates of 25% for years 1 and 2 and 25.5% for year 3
- increase life insurance from \$300,000 to \$400,000
- they withdraw proposal #7 to delete the excise tax language in Article 16H

We believe this is a fair deal and is in line with our discussions as a negotiations team.

Sincerely,
Chris



**Christopher
Melillo**

Superintendent
Newtown Public Schools
3 Primrose Street,
Newtown, CT 06470
p: (203) 426-7621
w: www.newtown.k12.ct.us
e: melilloc@newtown.k12.ct.us



CAPITAL & NON-RECURRING FUND DETAIL

9/19/2023

ACCOUNTS:	BUDGET	EXPEND	BALANCE	OPEN PO
7000 - UNDESIGNATED	3,626,606		3,626,606	
7190 - ASSESSOR REVALUATION	15,950	-	15,950	
7205 - IT EQUIPMENT				
Technology- New VM Equipment	125,000	-	125,000	
New UPS for EOC building	28,000	14,993	13,007	
	153,000	14,993	138,007	
7310 - POLICE EQUIPMENT				
New Impound	26,000		26,000	
Cloud Storage	120,003	51,468	68,535	
	146,003	51,468	94,535	
7320 - FIRE EQUIPMENT				
Fire- Air Packs/Turnout Gear	100,000	18,017	81,983	
Truck Mounted Traffic Flow Board	14,800	-	14,800	
Light Tower Upgrade	9,000	-	9,000	
Edraulic RAM	11,380	11,380	-	
	135,180	29,397	105,783	
7500 - PW EQUIPMENT				
Frame rail replacement	60,000	43,582	16,418	
Replace one 11 ft snow plow	15,000	-	15,000	
All Season Body Replacement six Wheel Dump	85,000	-	85,000	
Frame rail replacement - 10 Wheel Dump	60,000	19,002	40,998	
(2) Printer / Scanners	16,000		16,000	
First Selectman Vehicle Replacement	40,000	-	40,000	
Replace one 11 ft snow plow	15,000	-	15,000	
	291,000	62,584	228,416	
7501 - CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT				
Alpine paving allotment	586,621	152,000	434,621	
	586,621	152,000	434,621	
7550 - P & R EQUIPMENT				
Treadwell pool cover	22,500	-	22,500	
Court Recoating	15,000	-	15,000	
Replace Totaled Truck (net of insurance)	60,000		60,000	
Replace Stolen Trailer	15,000		15,000	
New Property Screening at Memorial	25,000		25,000	
Graco 5900 Line Painter	25,000	-	25,000	
	162,500	-	162,500	

CAPITAL & NON-RECURRING FUND DETAIL					
9/19/2023					
ACCOUNTS:		BUDGET	EXPEND	BALANCE	OPEN PO
7650 - PW BLDG MAINT					
	Continue window abatement and refurbish	34,000	-	34,000	
	Security Cameras at Municipal Center	15,000		15,000	
	Sidewalk Repair & Replacement at Muni-Ctr	30,000	-	30,000	
	Cupola (3) Maintenance at the Muni-Ctr	80,000	-	80,000	
	Low Voltage Lighting at the Muni-Ctr	55,000	-	55,000	
		214,000	-	214,000	
7740 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
	Banner System	5,000	-	5,000	
	Glen Road- Town Match	9,000	605	8,395	
		14,000	605	13,395	
7870 - FAIRFIELD HILLS IMPROVEMENTS					
	Monitoring Wells	48,000	31,259	16,741	
	High Meadow Evaluation	7,000	-	7,000	
		55,000	31,259	23,741	
7900 - BOE CAPITAL					
			per BOE 144		
	Prior Year Capital items	109,112	52,652	56,460	
	2023-24 Capital items	411,000	-	411,000	
		520,112	52,652	467,460	
7999 - OTHER					
	Fix street lighting at municipal center	25,000	114	24,886	
	SHOP	8,600	-	8,600	
		33,600	114	33,486	
7490 - LAND USE					
	POCD PLAN	60,000	-	60,000	
7432 - AMBULANCE - Paramedic Contract		130,000	-	130,000	
7433 - Y & FS - Summer Youth Program		15,000	-	15,000	
		6,158,572	395,072	5,763,501	< FUND BALANCE
				0	>>> new revenue
					(not added to
			342,420		undesignated yet)
				5,763,501	>>> ties to T/B
			0.09		

Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

84 Progress Lane • 2nd Floor • Waterbury, CT 06705
203/757-5449 or 800-994-9422 • Fax: 203/757-4081 • Email: info@wcaaa.org
WCAAA CHCP • Tel: 203/465-1000 • Fax 203/465-1030

September 8, 2023

Natalie Jackson
Newtown Senior Center
8 Simpson Street,
Newtown, CT 06470

Dear Natalie Jackson,

RE: Newtown SC Physical Activity

The Western CT. Area Agency on Aging, Inc. (WCAAA) Board of Directors recently approved awards for State Fiscal Year (SFY) and Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 Older Americans Act (OAA) and State Funds. The Board worked very hard to ensure that awards reflected an appropriate geographic split, meet the priorities of In Home, Transportation and I & A Services while staying within potential reductions in federal funds. We will not be certain as to our SFY and/or FFY 2024 funding amounts until Congressional action. Based on this uncertainty, most awards reflect a reduction from past years. Proposed new services were carefully considered in view of funding reductions.

It is our pleasure to inform you that the Board approved the project submitted by your organization as follows.

\$5,000 towards senior physical activities (non-evidence based). Physical activity programs focus on key areas important to the health and fitness of older adults such as stretching and flexibility, low-impact aerobics, strength training, and balance.

There are several issues that require attention prior to finalizing the award statement. Signing and returning the documents below will signify your acceptance of this award and the conditions outlined in this document. Funds will not be released if all documents below are not on file with WCAAA.

- a) Provide your organization's DUNS number, Tax ID and signature on page 2 of this letter.
- b) Sign and return the Project Performance Agreement.
- c) Sign and return the HIPPA Agreement.
- d) Provide a revised Project Budget if WCAAA awarded a different dollar figure than requested.
- e) Forward a copy of your latest Independent Audit if the documents were not submitted with the application. Audited financial statements may be substituted for grantees/contractors whose total dollar threshold does not meet federal/state audit guidelines.

The Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging, Inc. develops, manages and provides comprehensive services through person centered planning for seniors, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities in order to maintain their independence and quality of life. The WCAAA is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

**TOWN OF NEWTOWN
FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(Per Town Charter 6-35(b), 6-40 & 7-25)**

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT HUMAN SERVICES

PROJECT: NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER PHYSICAL ACTIVITY GRANT

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$ 5,000

PROPOSED FUNDING:

BONDING	\$	-
GRANT	\$	5,000
LOCAL MATCH	\$	-
OTHER	\$	-
CONTINGENCY	\$	-
IN KIND	\$	-
	\$	<u>5,000</u>

ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET (GENERAL FUND):

List any financial impact your request will have on the Town's annual operating budget.
Attach spreadsheet(s) showing your calculation of the estimated impact.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY:

**FOR BRACKETS USE NEGATIVE SIGN
BEFORE NUMBER**

(POSITIVE IMPACT) /
NEGATIVE IMPACT

Attachment
#

SALARIES & BENEFITS
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
CONTRACTED SERVICES
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE
UTILITIES
OTHER
DEBT SERVICE (average)

TOTAL IMPACT ON EXPENDITURES

\$ -
\$ -

REVENUE CATEGORY:

POSITIVE IMPACT /
(NEGATIVE IMPACT)

Attachment
#

PROPERTY TAXES
CHARGES FOR SERVICES (FEES)
OTHER

TOTAL IMPACT ON REVENUES

\$ -

TOTAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET

\$ -

EQUIVALENT MILL RATE OF TOTAL IMPACT

(using current year's information)

0.0000 mills

COMMENTS:

No impact on general fund\$5,000 grant towards senior physical activities. Physical activity programs focus on key areas important to the health and fitness of older adults such as stretching and flexibility, low impact aerobics, strength training and balance.

PREPARED BY: 

DATE: 9/18/2023

**TOWN OF NEWTOWN
FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT
(Per Town Charter 6-35(b), 6-40 & 7-25)**

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

PROJECT: SUMMER MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM STATE GRANT (ARPA)

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$ 115,020

PROPOSED FUNDING:

BONDING	\$	-
GRANT	\$	115,020
LOCAL MATCH	\$	-
OTHER	\$	-
CONTINGENCY	\$	-
IN KIND	\$	-
	\$	<u>115,020</u>

ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET (GENERAL FUND):

List any financial impact your request will have on the Town's annual operating budget.
Attach spreadsheet(s) showing your calculation of the estimated impact.

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY:	**FOR BRACKETS USE NEGATIVE SIGN BEFORE NUMBER**	(POSITIVE IMPACT) / NEGATIVE IMPACT	Attachment #
SALARIES & BENEFITS			
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
CONTRACTED SERVICES			
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE			
UTILITIES			
OTHER			
DEBT SERVICE (average)		\$ -	
TOTAL IMPACT ON EXPENDITURES		\$ -	

REVENUE CATEGORY:		POSITIVE IMPACT / (NEGATIVE IMPACT)	Attachment #
PROPERTY TAXES			
CHARGES FOR SERVICES (FEES)			
OTHER			
TOTAL IMPACT ON REVENUES		\$ -	

TOTAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET

EQUIVALENT MILL RATE OF TOTAL IMPACT
(using current year's information)

0.0000 mills

COMMENTS:

No impact on general fundThe Newtown grant is part of more than \$4.5 million in funding for 48 school districts and summer camp programs across Connecticut. The Newtown Community Center has been awarded \$115,020 by the state to be used to support the delivery of mental health services for students during the summer months over a three-year period. The competitive grant program is utilizing funding the state received from the federal American-Rescue Plan Act. Included in this grant is staffing salaries for a social worker and behavioral therapist and incorporation of social and emotional learning into camp curriculum (yoga, meditation etc.) and project adventure. This will include training from professionals for our camp counselors on mental health.

PREPARED BY:  DATE: 9/8/2023