

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3 PRIMROSE STREET, NEWTOWN, CT  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Jordana Bloom, Laura Miller, Steve Hinden, Keith Alexander, Tom Long, Ben Rubin, Derek Pisani, Jennifer Nicoletti, John Zachos, Chris Gardner, Heather Dean

**ABSENT:** Eric Paradis

**ALSO PRESENT:** First Selectman Jeff Capeci and two members of the public

**CALL TO ORDER:** K. Alexander called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30pm.

**VOTER COMMENT:** None

**MINUTES:** J. Bloom moved to approve the minutes of the 12/6/23 meeting. Derek Pisani seconded, all in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** K. Alexander explained to the emails the commission receives from the town website go to all the members. It is best that any replies from members filter through the chair so that the person emailing will get one response. At the last meeting it was questioned why the Board of Education was not present for their transfer and K. Alexander explained it was an oversight with the new BOE Chair. In the future they will be at any meeting they are requested to be at. Newtown POCD met with a number of people, last Friday, who discussed the POCD which is a 10 year plan. In April of 2024 they would like to have a plan. They have sent a questionnaire out that they would like everyone to fill out by 12/31/23. T. Long expressed concern that with a short time frame, they will push it through for approval without much time to review.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** K. Alexander provided committee assignments (att.).

**FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:** First Selectman Capeci reported that the Finance Director is starting to compile the 24/25 budgets from departments. Public Building and Site is finishing up two major projects, Hawley School and Sandy Hook Permeant Memorial and beginning work on CH Booth Library. He met with DOT about the paving on Route 34. They replaced the storm drains and resurfaced the road to give it another 10 years of life. The radio digital migration continues with bi-weekly meetings and a punch list of items that still needs to be addressed. They are looking to sell the old Police Department, 3 Main Street and he has requested an appraisal. Sunday night's storm was very disruptive. There was over 6300 homes without power. 5700 were restored in 12 hours. A large number of roads were impacted by the storm as well.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*2024-25 to 2028-28 CIP* – Ross Carley, Chair of the FFH Authority explained that the CIP is a backup plan should they not get on the historic designation they applied for. In January they will get their notification about historic designation for the campus which would create a 30% tax credit for any development. They have a developer, who is very familiar with the processes, guiding the FFH Authority through it. If they receive the historic designation they cannot demolish a building for 8 years

unless there is a safety issue. In that time the idea is that a developer will be attracted to the 30% tax credit and develop rather than demolish.

2024 Meeting Calendar – J. Bloom moved to approve the 2024 meeting calendar, L. Miller seconded. It was discussed to change the June 19 meeting to June 26, the October 2 meeting to October 9 and the October 16 meeting to October 23. J. Bloom moved to amend the motion with corrections. H. Dean seconded, all in favor of the amended motion.

**Voter Comment** – None

**Announcements** – None

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Arlene Miles, Clerk*

*Attachment: Committee assignments, 2024 Meeting Schedule*

## 2023-2025 Legislative Council Standing Committee Assignments

[Town of Newtown, Regulations, Chapter 355 Rules of the Legislative Council, 335-3 Committees](#)

(1) Finance and Administration – second half of budget book, debt service, tax collection

**Heather Dean**  
**Chris Gardner**  
**Eric Paradis**  
**Tom Long**  
**Derek Pisani**

(2) Ordinance – in depth research on new, updating, or repeal of existing ordinances (“legislative” stuff)

**Jordana Bloom**  
**Laura Miller**  
**Steve Hinden**  
**Tom Long**  
**Ben Ruben**

(3) Education – Board of Education budget

**Eric Paradis**  
**Jordana Bloom**  
**Steve Hinden**  
**Jennifer Nicoletti**  
**Ben Ruben**

(4) Municipal Operations. – first half of budget book, departments

**Laura Miller**  
**Chris Gardner**  
**Heather Dean**  
**Derek Pisani**  
**John Zachos**

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## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 2024 CALENDAR

The Newtown Legislative Council will hold meetings at 7:30pm in the Council Chamber at the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT as follows:

Wednesday	January 3	
Wednesday	January 17	
Wednesday	February 7	
Wednesday	February 28	
Wednesday	March 13	Public Hearing beginning at 7pm followed by regular meeting at 7:30pm
Wednesday	March 20	
Monday	March 25	
Wednesday	March 27	
Wednesday	April 3	Legislative Council adopts budget
Wednesday	April 17	
Wednesday	May 1	
Wednesday	May 15	
Wednesday	June 5	
Wednesday	June 26 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	
Wednesday	July 3	
Wednesday	July 17	
Wednesday	August 7	
Wednesday	August 21	
Wednesday	September 4	
Wednesday	September 18	
Wednesday	October 9 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	
Wednesday	October 23 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	
Wednesday	November 6	
Wednesday	November 20	
Wednesday	December 4	
Wednesday	December 18	