THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION.

The Parks and Recreation Commission held a special meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 in the Conference Room, 3 Main Street in Newtown, CT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Marks at 6:00 pm.

Present: Edward Marks, Clinton DePaolo, Linda Hess, Warren Spencer, Vincent Yanni, Jr., Rance Thompson

Absent: Patrick Barczak

Staff Present: Amy Mangold, RoseAnn Reggiano, Carl Samuelson

Public: Vanessa Villamil, Newtown Environmental Action Group

Public Participation:

Ms. Vanessa Villamil is part of the Newtown Environmental Action Group and presented to the Commission the *Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance*, which is a reusable checkout bag initiative. (*See attachment #1*) Their goal is to improve the environment in Newtown and the health, safety, and welfare of its residents by reducing the use of plastic and paper bags and encouraging the use of reusable carryout bags. The ordinance would pertain to any retail businesses 1,500 sqft or larger and/or have 2 different locations with the same name or ownership within Newtown. Retail establishments are encouraged to make reusable carryout bags available for sale and the establishment of the Newtown Environmental Fund (NEF). The commission discussed possibilities of a camp project where the students could decorate their own cloth shopping bags and learn about the importance of reusing them and helping the community and the environment. Ms. Mangold stated that all Parks and Recreation Departments should be environmental stewards and refer to responsible use and protections of the natural environment through conservations and sustainable practices. This is a goal that Ms. Mangold would like to continue to grow through her department. The commission was very supportive of these goals and initiatives. The commission made a motion to show support of the *Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance*.

Motion

Commissioner Rance Thompson made a motion to support the *Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance*, as presented to the Commission by Vanessa Villamil. Commissioner Clinton DePaolo seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion

Commissioner Clinton DePaolo made a motion to accept the Minutes from the February 13, 2018 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Warren Spencer seconded the motion.

A correction was made under Old Business; Budget: The sentence "Mr. Marks refers to the handout that shows that in 2007/2008 the capital budget was \$339,883 and in 11 years it is now \$126,000" was changed to "Mr. Marks refers to the handout that shows that in 2007/2008 the capital budget was \$404,383 and in 11 years it is now \$126,000".

All voted in favor of the amended minutes.

Old Business:

Budaet:

Mr. Marks distributed a copy of the First Selectman Proposed 2018 – 2019 Annual Budget; Parks and Recreation Capital, to the commission. (see attachment #2) Mr. Marks stated that \$65,000 was put back into the P&R capital budget by the BOF, for the purchase of a heavy duty truck with plow. Mr. Marks shared with the commission that he had presented to the BOF a chart, Newtown Parks & Recreation Capital Budgets 2006-07 thru 2018-19* Budget Years, to show how P&R has been operating over the years with less and less each year and how it is becoming more difficult with increased responsibilities and aging fleet.

CIP:

Mr. Samuelson attended the BOS meeting. The BOS passed a motion to bond the money for the Treadwell Pool deck. The money had been appropriated for this CIP.

• Community Center:

Tabled until next commission meeting.

Chairman's Report:

Director's Report:

Amy Mangold, Director of Parks and Recreation:

- During a meeting Ms. Mangold had with First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, there was discussion on the
 possibility of having tobacco free parks. Ms. Mangold shared with the commission a tool kit that gives an
 organization and municipalities a step by step process to initiate a tobacco free environment. Ms.
 Mangold will put together a policy on making the parks tobacco free and will discuss with the commission
 at April 10, 2018 meeting.
- Ms. Mangold, Mr. Samuelson and Rob Sibley met with constituents regarding trails in Newtown. Parks & Recreation and Land Use are good stewards in helping initiate trail initiatives and projects. There is a meeting on April 22, 2018 for anyone that is involved in trails in Newtown, to discuss combining efforts.
- Ms. Mangold and Mr. Samuelson met with the First Selectman of Brookfield to discuss the possibilities of regionalizing resources with surrounding towns.
- Ms. Mangold and Mr. Samuelson attended a projects meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, where Ms.
 Mangold inquired about the Batchelder project. Mr. Samuelson explained that they are waiting on an
 engineering study to find out the extent of contamination on the property, so they can put an actual price
 on the process to clean. Mr. Marks explained to the commission that Batchelder could potentially be a
 good location for bike trail/mountain bike track and could also serve as a trail head to rails to trail if it was
 extended
- Ms. Mangold explained to the commission that Ms. Reggiano and office staff continue to work and learn the new upgraded RecTrac software program.

RoseAnn Reggiano, Assistant Director of Recreation:

- Ms. Reggiano stated that the Spring/Summer Preview 2018 came out. The newspaper insert was sent home with Newtown students and was also sent out with the Bee Extra. Residents can also view the brochure online by visiting online: Parks.Newtown-ct.gov
- Ms. Reggiano explained to the commission that the summer job applications submissions have closed and she is in the process of setting up interviews. Ms. Reggiano is excited that most of the camp site directors are returning for summer 2018.
- The Parks and Recreation Torpedoes Swim Team placed 6th at the Yankee League Swimming Championships. The Newtown Bee did a write-up on the Torpedoes, which Ms. Reggiano shared with the commission. Ms. Reggiano mentioned that they are looking for an additional swim coach for next year.
- Parks and Recreation will be holding its annual *Flashlight Egg Hunt* on Friday, March 23, 2018 at Dickinson Park.
- The annual Egg Hunt for 8 year olds and younger will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at Dickinson
- The Annual Strutt Your Mutt will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018.
- Ms. Reggiano stated that the Garden Party is scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2018. There is a new Victory Garden Committee this year.
- The Rooster Run is scheduled for Saturday, June 23, 2018 and the Mad Dash will be on Saturday, June 30, 2018.

- There is a preliminary date for the Food Truck Event of July 28, 2018. Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Newtown Chamber for this event.
- Ms. Reggiano is also working hard on the 2nd Parks and Recreation Fall Festival/Carnival, which is scheduled for October 19th, 20th, 21st 2018.

Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director of Parks:

(please see attachment #3)

- Mr. Samuelson distributed a copy of the preliminary dock design for Eichler's Cove that will meet ADA
 compliance. The dock estimates came in where Mr. Samuelson anticipated. He is still waiting on paving
 estimates.
- Mr. Samuelson attended a Deep Brook Meeting on February 27, 2018, where they discussed the health of
 the trout in the brook. There has been past concerns that pollutants from Fairfield Hills was running into
 the stream. Studies are now showing evidence that the health of the fish is improving.

Correspondence: None

Commissioners out and about:

Commissioner Vincent Yanni, Jr. has been doing some research on fees at other lake marinas and has found that Eichler's Cove fees are very comparable.

Motion:

Commissioner Vincent Yanni, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Clinton DePaolo, which was carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room located at 3 Main Street, Newtown, CT.

Submitted by,

Gabriella Chernoff, clerk

Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance

Part II: General Ordinances - Health

Chapter XXX: Reusable Checkout Bag Initiative

Section 1: Purpose:

The purpose of this ordinance is to improve the environment in Newtown and the health, safety, and welfare of its residents by reducing the use of plastic and paper bags and encouraging the use of reusable carryout bags. Retail establishments are encouraged to make reusable carryout bags available for sale and the establishment of the Newtown Environmental Fund (NEF).

Section 2: Definitions:

- > "Checkout bag" means a carryout bag that is provided to a customer at the point of sale.
- > "Retail sales establishment" is any retail store that satisfies at least one of the following requirements:

 (A) a retail space of 1,500 square feet or larger or at least two (2) locations under the same name with the Town of Newtown that totals 1,500 square feet or more; or (b) retail pharmacy with at least two (2) locations under the same ownership within the Town of Newtown; or (c) a full-line self-service supermarket which sells a line of dry grocery, canned goods, or nonfood items and perishable items.
- "Recyclable paper bag" means a paper bag that should have the following characterizes:
 - 0 (1) One-hundred (100) percent recyclable overall and contains a minimum of forty (40) percent post-consumer recycled content; and
 - O (2) Displays the word "reusable" and "recyclable" on the outside of the bag.
- "Reusable bag" means a bag with handles that is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and is made of cloth or other fabric..

Section 3: Restriction on Checkout Bags

- A. Any retail sales establishment engaged in retail sale shall provide to customers:
 - a. Reusable bags; and/or,
 - b. Recyclable paper bags
 - i. Each paper bag shall be assessed a ten-cent (10¢) user fee
 - ii. The Town of Newtown shall keep seven-cents (7ϕ) and the retail sales establishment who sold the paper bag shall keep three-cents (3ϕ) .
- B. Any retail sales established is prohibited from distributing plastic bags.
- C. Nothing in this section shall preclude any establishment from making reusable checkout bags available for sale to customers or utilize recyclable paper bags as defined previously.
- D. Any customer who can provide evidence of being on a government assistance program is herby exempt from any user-fees.

Section 4: Newtown Environmental Fund

- A. There will be a Newtown Environment Fund (NEF) established. The Legislative Council and Board of Selectmen shall have joint control of the NEF.
- B. Any revenue raised by user-fees from recyclable paper bags shall be deposited into the NEF.
- C. Any appropriation of funds from the NEF, shall be solely for environmental sustainability and/or infrastructure purposes, and must attain a two-thirds (%) favorable recommendation of both the Legislative Council and Board of Selectmen.
- D. The Legislative Council and Board of Selectmen may obtain a recommendation from the Conservation Commission and/or the Economic Development Commission on how to appropriate NEF funds.

1 Revised: 2/11/18

Section 5: Operative Date.

This ordinance shall become operative nine (9) months following its effective date to allow retail establishments to dispose of their existing inventory of non-compliant checkout bags and convert to alternative packaging materials.

Section 6: Enforcement:

- A. This ordinance shall be implemented, administered and enforced by the Newtown Town Health Department or any other Town department or division designated by the First Selectman.
- B. Upon being made aware of a potential violation of this ordinance, the Newtown Town Health Department or other designee shall investigate and determine whether a violation has occurred.
- C. If the investigation confirms that a violation has occurred, then the Newtown Town Health Department or other designee shall give written notice to the owner of the property, the owner's agent, or the person performing such violation that the violation is occurring and must stop.
- D. Such notice shall be in writing and may be served upon a person to whom it is directed, either by delivering it personally to him or her or by posting same upon a conspicuous portion of the property and sending a copy of same by certified mail to the person to whom the notice is directed.
- E. The owner, the owner's agent, or the person performing the violation is responsible for confirming, in writing, that the violation has ceased to the Newtown Town Health Department or other designee within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the notice.
- F. A second violation after the fourteen-day response period of the first violation and within one year of the receipt of the confirmation that the violation had ceased shall incur a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100).
- G. A third violation within one year of the second and any subsequent violations shall incur a penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500).
- H. Each occurrence of a violation after the first, and each day that such violation continues, shall constitute a separate violation and may be cited as such.
- I. If the Town of Newtown collects no monetary penalty within a thirty (30) day period, after such penalty shall be issue, there shall be a twenty-five (\$25.00) a day fine for noncompliance every thirty (30) days, until such penalty is paid.

Section 7: Non-Compliance

In the event that compliance with the effective date of this ordinance is not feasible for a retail service establishment because of either unavailability of alternative checkout bags or economic hardship, the First Selectman may grant a waiver of not more than six (6) months upon application of the owner or owner's representative. The waiver may be extended for one (1) additional six-month period upon showing of continue infeasibility as set forth above.

2 Revised: 2/11/18

Town of Newtown

01/16/2018

DEPARTMENT: PARKS & RECREATION

Capital:

EQUIPMENT:		
Toro 5910	24,500	24,500 Recurring annual lease payment (external lease)
Heavy duty 1.5 ton four wheel drive truck	17,500	17,500 Internal lease payment #4 of 5.
Heavy duty 1.5 ton four wheel drive truck	17,500	17,500 Internal lease payment #4 of 5.
Toro 4700	14,500	14,500 Internal lease payment #3 of 5.
Department van	7,000	7,000 Lease for program and office use. Second year (external lease)
Additional heavy duty pick up truck	65,000	Purchase F350 heavy duty 4x4 with plow (or similar)
Trailer for grooming equipment	9,000	Replacement for failing 14 year old trailer
Cut off saw/weed eaters with back pack blowers	5,000	5,000 Yearly replacements for old units beyond repair (daily use equipment)
Tractor rental	8,000	Seasonal tractor rental required to run town owned attachments.
	23,000	New snow plow to meet increased demands at FFH, including sidewalks
		and ambulance garage.
Total department request	191,000	
Reduced by First Selectman	(65,000)	
	126,000	
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PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND FIELDS REPORT

TO: Newtown Parks and Recreation Commission,

Amy Mangold, Director

FROM: Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director – Parks

DATE: March 20, 2018

RE: Monthly park update and field report

Our tasks had shifted towards spring items and preparations but the past few weeks have kept us busy plowing and moving snow, as well as picking up limbs and brush.

<u>Dickinson Park:</u> Spring cleanup had been completed here, the ice rink was removed and tables were put out for the season. Recent storms and tree damage will now require more cleanup work once the snow is gone.

Newtown Middle School: The new multipurpose field here over wintered very well. A few spots need to be seeded again however opening this are for fall will not be an issue. Police activity here created some extensive vehicle tracks on the 90ft baseball field which have been repaired as much as possible for now. We will need to finish repairs here later this spring.

Orchard Hill: Regular garbage patrol continues but otherwise no new news here.

Lake Lillinonah: Spring cleanup was completed here.

<u>Glander Fields</u>: All of the materials for the scoreboard are in stock, we are just waiting on good weather to install it.

<u>Liberty Fields</u>: Some spring cleanup was done here but weather has kept us from completing the ramp and pad for the shed.

Oakview: A spring wintergreen application was completed here.

<u>Tilson Field:</u> Snow and weather has hindered our progress in clearing the fence line and a couple of seams need repair this spring.

Treadwell Soccer/Softball: No new news here.

Walnut Tree: No new news here.

<u>Fairfield Hills</u>: Aside from daily trail checks and keeping the walks clear of snow we have now been tasked with keeping the upper trail plowed.

The ice rink here is currently being constructed.

<u>NHS Fields:</u> The practice football field was overseeded and lacrosse fields had been laid out for the spring. We will most likely be starting from scratch when the snow melts.

Dog Park: No new news here.

<u>Treadwell Park:</u> We continue to work on the pool pump replacements when we cannot be outdoors. The dumpster enclosures have been completed. Some spring cleanup work has started here as well.

Eichlers Cove Marina: Preliminary ADA dock designs have been completed. We are waiting on parking design work from Stantec at this point. Dock estimates are close to original estimates, however parking costs will be additional.

Staff:

• 296 hours of vacation/sick/personal/injury/discipline hours were used out of 2112 potential work hours in the past month. This represents a 14% loss in workforce.

