

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY  
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting Monday, May 1, 2023. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at the Newtown Municipal Center. First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened the meeting with salute to the flag.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Daniel C. Rosenthal, Selectman Maureen Crick Owen and Selectman Ed Schierloh.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Finance Director Robert Tait and one member of the public.

**VOTER COMMENTS:** none.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 17, 2023. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The budget passed at referendum. There will be a public hearing relative to a Town Administrator, on May 15 at 6pm. The group is approximately 1/3 of the way through the process and expects to have a recommendation by late summer or early fall.

**FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Mr. Tait reviewed the ARP worksheet of 3/31/2023 (att.). The encumbered column shows amounts obligated; the available column is approved funding that is still available for expenditure. The back of the tax bills will have a breakdown of where the 2023-224 tax dollar goes (att.). There is a tentative bond pricing with Raymond James on May 11 and a settlement on May 24. The Town has 60 days to choose if the markets don't cooperate. For the next meeting Mr. Tait will have a ten month ending report for the current fiscal year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion and possible action:**

1. **Library HVAC Contract:** The subcommittee comprised of members of the Public Building & Site Commission (PBSC) and David Schill of the C.H. Booth Library Board recommended Marchetti for the design of the Library HVAC upgrades. PBSC formally recommended Marchetti in March. The contract is not final yet, however First Selectman Rosenthal is comfortable signing upon final approval from counsel. Mr. Tait added that the insurance company has also reviewed the contract and Purchasing Director Kerri Mubarek has contributed a lot of work to it as well. Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the contract with Marchetti for the design of the Library HVAC upgrades pending approval from town counsel. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.
2. **American Rescue Plan:** Selectman Schierloh moved a resolution providing for an appropriation totaling \$60,000 for new police firearms, associated equipment and ammunition. To be funded from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) (att.). Selectman Crick Owen seconded. All in favor.
3. **Appointments/Reappointments/Vacancies/Openings:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to re-appoint Carolee Mason as the Animal Control Officer and Helen Wigzell, Suada Likovic, Emily Whittaker and Lora Boynton as the Assistant Animal Control Officers, all with an expiration date of April 17, 2024.
4. **Driveway Bond Release/Extension:** Selectman Crick Owen moved the driveway bond release for GRC Construction, 7 Melody Lane and Dashmir Kaliqi, 11 Meridian Ridge, each in the amount of \$1,000.00. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

Rec'd. for Record	5-2 20 23
Town Clerk of Newtown	1230pm
Debbie Aurelia Halstead	

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5. **Tax Refunds:** Selectman Crick Owen moved Tax Refund #19 2022/23 in the amount of \$1,839.77.  
Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

**VOTER COMMENTS:** none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Hawley School project is on schedule. The switchgear is expected the end of May, beginning of June. Eversource will then drop off the transformer. The contractor milled 1/3 of the parking lot at the Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial last Friday. There was a pitch in the elevation that caused erosion; that is now corrected. First Selectman Rosenthal attended a walk through; the site looks great. There will be an additional walk through later in May. The Edmond Town Hall parking lot is being paved. Public Works graded the site of the old Hook & Ladder firehouse and is now working on the lower lot. The crew is helping to haul asphalt; a contractor is doing the paving.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business the regular Board of Selectmen meeting was adjourned at 7:51p.m.

*Attachments: ARP worksheet, 3/31/23; tax dollar breakdown; ARP appropriation – PD.*

Respectfully submitted,  
*Susan Marcinek*

Town of Newtown						3/31/2023		
the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)								
ARP Working Group Worksheet								
ARP award amount					7,674,294			
							Total Expended	
							Up Till	
Possible Uses:							3/31/2023	Encumbered Available (f)
line	General Government:			Recommended	Approved			
1	Fairfield Hills - Replace Water Distribution System	1,500,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	1,092.31	-	1,498,907.69
2	Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements	20,000	✓	12/12/2022	f	-	-	20,000.00
3	Edmond Town Hall Building Improvements	125,000	✓	9/22/2022	f	-	47,842.68	77,157.32
4	Public Works:							
5	Multi-purpose Building Roof	190,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	184,414.62	-	5,585.38
6	Public Works 6 Wheel 8 Ton Dump Truck	240,000	✓	12/12/2022	f		-	240,000.00
7	Public Works Front & Bucket Loader	300,000	✓	7/28/2022	f		298,635.00	1,365.00
8	Truck Washing Station - Design	50,000						
9	Transfer Station Site Improvements	200,000	✓	4/11/2022	f	67,667.50	78,096.00	54,236.50
10	Municipal Building Improvements	100,000	✓	4/11/2022	f	14,400.00	-	85,600.00
11	Sandy Hook Side Walks							
12	section #1 - Glen Road	215,000	✓	9/22/2022	f	-	-	215,000.00
13	Public Safety:							
14	Fire Commission Fire Suppression Tank Repair	50,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	33,153.12	-	16,846.88
15	Fire Company Grants (4 x \$15,000); NUSAR (\$15,000);	90,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	73,447.42	-	16,552.58
16	Ambulance (\$15,000)							
17	Board of Fire Commissioners (5 x \$50,000) + \$50,000 (training)	300,000	✓	1/9/2023	f	-	-	300,000.00
	Police - New firearms, Equipment and Ammunition	60,000	✓	4/27/2023				
18	Recreation & Leisure:							
19	Parks & Recreation Truck with lift gate	90,000	✓	4/11/2022	f		53,005.30	36,994.70
20	Treadwell Park Disc Golf Course	40,000						
21	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment)	150,000	✓	4/11/2022	f		150,000.00	-
22	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment) - add'l amount	50,000	✓	9/22/2022	f		15,603.06	34,396.94
23	Bike Park at Fairfield Hills	75,000	✓	9/22/2022	f	53,717.59	-	21,282.41
24	The Art Walk at Fairfield Hills	50,000						
25	Health & Welfare:							
26	Housing Stalization Fund	20,000	✓	9/22/2022	f	4,110.00	-	15,890.00
27	Senior/Community Center 14 passenger bus	90,000	✓	5/9/2022	f	-	-	90,000.00
	Additional Amount Required (due to current quote)	20,000	✓	2/13/2023	f	-	-	20,000.00
28	COVID supplies/expenses	40,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	411.89	-	39,588.11
29	Child/Youth Enrichment Fund (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	20,000	✓	7/28/2022	f	20,000.00	-	-
30	Community Center:					sent to united way for program		
31	Community Center Generator (75,000)	passed						
32	Community Center Outside Storage Building	75,000	✓	4/11/2022	f	-	-	75,000.00
33	Community Center Patio	155,000	✓	4/11/2022	f	155,000.00	-	-
34	Community Center Outdoor Spray Features (200,000)	passed						
35	Community Center/Senior Center Handicap Doors	16,000	✓	4/11/2022	f	16,000.00	-	-
36	Education:							
37	Hawley School HVAC/Ventilation project	2,500,000	✓		f	2,500,000.00	-	-
38	Student Tutoring Support Program (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	100,000	✓	7/28/2022	f	-	-	100,000.00
39	Middlegate School Playground	33,000	✓	2/13/2023	f	-	-	33,000.00
40	Project Adventure Course Installation & Upgrade	94,000	✓	2/13/2023	f	-	-	94,000.00
	Borough:							
	Sidewalk Construction and Related Safety Improvements	200,000	✓	3/13/2023	f	-	-	200,000.00
41	Function Wide:							
42	Reimburse the Town Medical Self Insurance Fund							
43	for COVID Expenses (since 3/3/2021)	325,000	✓	1/27/2022	f	325,000.00	-	-
		Appropriated	f			Expended	Encumbered	Available
		7,383,000				3,448,414.45	643,182.04	3,291,403.51
	Amount Available after Appropriated	291,294						
✓	Recommended by the ARP Working Group. To go through the Town appropriation process (BOS/BOF/LC)							
f	Appropriated by Legislative Council							
	Appropriation in process							

**Where does your 2023-24 tax dollar go?**

	<u>Cents</u>
Education	64.2
Public Works	9.6
Public Safety	8.8
Debt Service	7.4
General Government	3.8
Recreation & Leisure	3.0
Health & Welfare	1.3
Town Planning	0.7
Other	1.2
	<u>\$ 1.00</u>

A resolution providing for an appropriation totaling \$60,000 for new police firearms, associated equipment and ammunition. To be funded from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant.

\$60,000 requested appropriation was recommended by the ARP Working Group on 04/27/2023.

The ARP Working Group is comprised of the following:

Board of Selectmen

- Ed Schierloh \*

Board of Finance

- Sandy Roussas
- Erica Sullivan \*

Legislative Council

- Charles Gardner \*
- Matthew Mihalcik \*
- Michelle Ku \*

Ex-officio

- First Selectman, Dan Rosenthal \*

Detail attached.

\* Present



The purpose of this memo is to request the consideration of funding to replace the department's current duty firearm with a more modern and versatile weapon. The department currently uses the Glock model 21 Gen 4 (fourth generation), a 45 caliber pistol, for its duty weapons. During the annual inspection of the firearms in December of 2022, it was discovered that the guns are due for either rebuilding with the replacement of worn parts or replacement of the firearms. The cost to rebuild the weapons and replace the magazines would be approximately \$200 per gun for parts for a total of approximately \$11,000. The manufacture date of the Gen 4 Glock is between 2010 and 2016. Glock is currently producing Gen 5 (fifth generation) models. Given the replacement part cost and considering the age of the weapons, pricing was obtained for new weapons. Based on the pricing and trade-in value of the current firearms, the department is looking to transition to a Glock Gen 5, model 45, 9mm handgun, with a Red Dot Optic.

The considerations for this transition include significant improvements to the Glock Gen 5 over the Gen 4, the addition of modern optics for the weapons, and the ballistics improvements of 9mm ammunition. The Gen 5 Glock's new model variations are an improvement over previous generations by making the guns ambidextrous; previous versions required armorers to make changes for left-handed shooters. Glock also removed the finger grips with adjustable back straps allowing for more versatility and comfort for shooters with different hand sizes. Both of these features are improvements that have caused equipment and training issues for officers at the police department.

In 2014 the FBI completed an extensive study and found that, for many reasons, the 9mm round was the recommended round for law enforcement. The study found no discernable difference in the terminal performance of the 9mm vs. other calibers. The 9mm cartridge has less felt recoil, allowing for faster and more accurate shot strings than the .40 or .45. Additionally, 9mm ammunition is about 25 to 30% less expensive and more available than .45 caliber ammunition. The annual cost for .45 ammunition is approx. \$12,000 a year, and there is a 12 to 18-month delay in receiving this ammunition. The projected cost of 9 mm ammunition is \$9,000, and the ammunition is available.

The department currently uses red dot optics on patrol rifles. The officer's accuracy, speed, and confidence greatly increased with the red dot vs. the traditional sighting system. Red Dot Optics on duty pistols are now the industry standard as it allows the officer to keep both open eyes making for faster and more accurate target detection, improved target detection under stress, improved situational awareness, more accuracy with moving targets, faster follow up shots, and greater accuracy for aging officers or those with vision issues. The red dot optic is not compatible with our current duty pistol.

The 9mm GLOCK Gen 5 model 45 (MOS) with an attached Red dot sight offers the best combination of caliber and sighting system for a duty weapon in law enforcement today. Currently, this model firearm with the optic is \$904.96 each. The sellers are offering a \$310.00 trade-in value for our current firearms, dropping the cost to \$594.96 per gun.

- The total purchase price for fifty-five firearms with optics is \$32,800.
- New holsters and magazine pouches would be needed at an estimated cost of \$10,800.
- The purchase of ammunition is estimated to cost \$15,000.00 (ammunition rates fluctuate based on market availability, and this estimate is on the high side). This would include ammunition for transitional training and new duty ammunition.
- The total estimated cost for the firearms, equipment, and ammunition is estimated to cost \$58,600.00.

Prepared by Bryan Bishop

On Tue, Feb 14, 2023 at 9:33 AM Robert Tait <[robert.tait@newtown-ct.gov](mailto:robert.tait@newtown-ct.gov)> wrote:

Hello Captain,

- Question on the ARP request. Ammo is \$15,000?
- What does the department do with the old ammo?
- Typically, how much is budgeted each year for ammo.

thanks

Bob

The ammunition for the transition is estimated at \$15,000.00. This covers the cost of the ammunition needed for the transition training. The cost and availability fluctuate with market demand. Currently, we are running low on the .45 caliber ammunition we have, so there would be little left over. Depending on the quantity, the leftover ammunition could be sold or traded if there is a substantial amount or kept for training if it is a small amount.

Typically, ammunition costs between \$6,000 to \$8,000 a year. Currently, the lead time on some ammo types is 12-18 months.

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Bryan Bishop  
Captain  
Newtown Police Department