

Board of Selectman
May 6, 2019

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

The Board of Selectman held a regular meeting Monday, May 6, 2019, in the Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown. First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

PRESENT: First Selectman Daniel C. Rosenthal, Selectman Maureen Crick Owen and Selectman Jeff Capeci

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Robert Tait, Director of Public Works Fred Hurley and one member of the press

VOTER COMMENTS: None

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES: Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 4/15/19. Selectman Capeci seconded. First Selectman Rosenthal corrected under voter comments, Joan Plouffe is not the chairman of the Democratic Town Committee but is the chair of the Democratic Candidate Committee. All in favor with correction.

COMMUNICATIONS: A report to the Newtown COA was received (Att. A). Selectman Crick Owen was approached by Ned Simpson regarding the volunteer fair being held on May 10 from 3-5pm. The Board of Selectman are invited to attend. First Selectman Rosenthal also encouraged anyone who has not completed the FFH master plan review survey to do it at www.ffhsurvey.com. There are also printed copies in his office. It will be available until May 15.

FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT: R. Tait provided the latest state budget impact for Newtown (Att. B). Newtown still comes out favorable. This is in the middle of the process and there is still a way to go.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Transfer:** F. Hurley explained that this transfer is to get them to June 30th. There were some large increases such as the recycling which was \$50,000 for just 6 months. There were also mechanical breakdowns. The source of a lot of this money is personnel. Some of that money was because people were out on workers comp or disability. The money that was available is not impairing any of the other line items. Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the transfer of \$175,000 from the various accounts to other Public Works accounts as outlined in the appropriation transfer request dated 4/29/19 (Att. C). Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.
2. **Water Pollution Control Plan:** F. Hurley explained that the old plan was very ridged and created extra steps between the WSA and Land Use. This plan makes it more flexible and it tasks us with keeping track of rolling capacity and update Land Use regularly. This plan states they can go to the state for capacity for an environmental issue, not economic

development. Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the Water Pollution Control Plan as adopted by the WSA dated 3/14/19 (Att. D). Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.

3. Resolution opposing shifting Teachers Retirement System cost onto municipalities:

First Selectman Rosenthal explained CCM and COST presented at the COG and there was a lot of discussion was around the teacher pension issue. All in attendance voted to reject teacher pensions. This has real implications for a local budget. They ratified a resolution rejecting the proposal. It is not in any committee bills. What is more likely to happen is that this becomes part of a bigger budget package on the floor and not in committee. They don't vote on this specifically, they have to vote on the bigger budget package. We can't sit silently anymore we need to express our view to, the Governor's office, local delegation, CCM and COST so they can see Newtown's decision. We cannot control this expense as it goes into our local budget. Voters look at the bottom line, not what is driving the bottom line. We will have to go back to the drawing board and cut everything but teacher pensions. It will be shouldered on both the BOE and Town's sides of the budget. The resolution will be shared with the BOE and they can take it up tomorrow evening. If they ratify it as well it will have both arms of the government. Selectman Crick moved the resolution:

Whereas the Newtown Board of Selectmen understands the serious fiscal challenges facing the State of Connecticut;

Whereas Newtown residents pay the state substantial income and sales taxes, they also shoulder a heavy property tax burden, which is in part due to persistent underfunding of municipal aid by the state;

Whereas the Newtown Board of Selectmen rejects the proposal to shift a portion of the "normal cost" of the Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS") onto Newtown residents;

Whereas the state offers no assurances it will faithfully make its required contributions and thus the diversion Newtown property taxes to the TRS cannot guarantee its solvency;

Whereas the proposal as made, stands to divert Newtown property tax dollars to the TRS well in excess of 25% of the "normal" cost associated with teacher salaries due to a significant penalty for the amount Newtown pays above the median;

Whereas the proposal misses the important fact that teacher's salaries are largely determined by the bargaining climate in the state, salaries in surrounding towns, binding arbitration and cost of living - influences that are beyond the control of the local districts, making the penalty seem arbitrary;

Whereas Governor Lamont appeared to state that he will not seek immediate pension reforms to make the system sustainable but would do so at some point in the future;

Whereas addressing revenue without reform is problematic and adds to the concern that the proposal will place an uncontrollable expense to our local budget;

Let it be resolved that The Newtown Board of Selectmen cannot support assuming an open-ended obligation for which the town does not have a role in negotiating the benefit structure nor managing

the investment outcome. It is the position of the Newtown Board of Selectmen that the TRS proposal as it stands will negatively impact education and other municipal services. Local budgets are subject to annual referenda and there is only so much taxpayers will support. Important local objectives would necessarily be reduced or eliminated to pay an invoice to the State of Connecticut that we have no control over. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.

4. **Summer meeting schedule:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to modify the BOS meeting schedule as described in attachment E. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.
5. **Appointments/Reappointments/Vacancies/Opening:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to appoint Larry Passaro from an alternate to full board member on the Commission on Aging for term to expire 1/6/20. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.
6. **Driveway Bond Release/Extension:** Selectman Crick Owen move to approve the driveway bond extension for Zbynek Stupka, 7 Serene Way, M12, B5, L14.13 to 11/15/19. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor. Selectman Crick Owen moved the driveway bond release for Robert Manna Jr., Commerce Road, M38, B1, L12 in the amount of \$1,000. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor. Selectman Crick Owen moved the driveway bond release to AAA Construction Services for 65 Taunton Lake Road, M17, B2, L18 in the amount of \$1,000. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.
7. **Tax Refunds –** Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve Refund #17 in the amount of \$7,380.32. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.
8. **Tax Abatements –** Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve May 2019 tax Abatements in the amount of \$35,258.50. Selectman Capeci seconded, all in favor.

VOTER COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: First Selectman Rosenthal announced that they have hired a Human Service Director that will start on Wednesday, May 8. Her name is Natalie Jackson, she has the right management skills, has lead teams, and the right empathy. First Selectman Rosenthal also explained that both the architect and construction manager completed their phase 0, value engineer, and they both came to the same conclusion. As things stand they are within budget and robust contingencies. The project is on track and anticipates officially breaking ground in October. There will be some inside demolition that will begin in the next few months and will allow them to see problems ahead of time as they expose beams.

ADJOURNMENT: having no further business the regular Board of Selectman meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk Pro-tem

Report to The Newtown COA

April 15, 2019

Communications

I. CT AARP Support to Newtown AFLC

John Boccuzzi and Ned Simpson met March 14 at the Greenwich Senior Center, with the three other CT communities in the AARP Livable Community Network and Bill Armbruster, Senior Advisor, AARP Livable Communities, and Community, State and National Affairs. Observations regarding the other three communities, they are:

- Still at the Survey Step which Newtown completed two years ago.
- Organized within their town's government. Senior Center Directors and COAs very hands on with Livable Communities

II. Work Group Reports

Status	Work Group
Hold	A. Create a Newtown seniors distribution list (email and postal addresses) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for new Dir Human Services re possible collaborative effort, and CC mailing plan for inclusion of information about FONS email sign-up
In Process	B. Conduct a study of current transportation services – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and responded to the WestCOG draft 2019-2045 Long Range Transportation Plan
Hold	E. Investigate the RUOK system to check in on seniors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Hold pending the new Dir Human Services
In process	F. Senior/Volunteer column in The Bee and Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on identification of a group of writers committed to providing articles every week Fa. Town event calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bee does not see a role for a (senior) volunteer group to assist in curating their calendar. • Non Profit council will be looking at a Town event calendar after further organization
In process	H. Conduct First Responder training for dementia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarifying certification needs for trainers of first responders
In process	I. Chore services available. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up discussions and a use of Handy Dandy Handyman. • Need volunteer(s) to drive this
Monitor	K. Housatonic Habitat for Humanity Brush with Kindness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With departure of Social Services Dir, we need to see that this does not slip between the cracks
Monitor	AA. Mini Medical Campus at Fairfield Hills (Community & Health Domain) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be addressed in the community survey the FFH Master Plan Review Comm will be issuing
In process	AB. Senior Resources button on Newtown web site (Communications Domain) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Town Clerk to have additional links added
Monitor	AC. Explore affordable housing models (Housing Domain) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Planning department and Economic Development working on opportunities
Added	AD. Deploy AARP Fix It Home Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the CT meeting with Bill A, identified the use of AARP Home Fit Guide to assess a home for features conducive to aging in place as a program to take Town wide with the support of the COA
Ongoing	C. Hold regular meetings between School System and Seniors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly meetings
Monitor	G. Submit program ideas to the COA New Senior Center Program Sub Committee
Ongoing	J. Social Events - FONS

Steering Comm Members: Ned Simpson, Bill Brimmer, John Boccuzzi, Gary MacRae, Steve Rosenblatt, Curt Symes, Tracy Brady, Pat Llodra and Anna Wiedemann

Newtown Senior Groups Roles

- NAFLC Steering Committee: Monitor and facilitate work on NAFLC goals & objectives. Communicate/coordinate with other Town initiatives. Tactical in nature
- CoA: Senior Center programs, senior services, senior advocacy, agent for Federal, State or Town boards, commissions, authorities or agencies
- FONS: Source for volunteers, activity sponsorship, communications vehicle, and senior advocacy



Connecticut Conference
of Municipalities

Municipal Resource and Service Center

May 1, 2019

Appropriations/Finance Committees' Proposed FY 20 State Budget Impact on: Newtown

Grant:	Current Year FY 19	Gov. Proposed FY 20	Comm. Proposed FY 20	Comm. FY 20 v. Gov. FY 20	Comm. FY 20 v. FY 19
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Adult Education	4,575	4,681	4,681	0	106
ECS Grant	4,565,640	4,590,121	4,516,620	-73,501	-49,020
LoCIP	240,865	206,461	206,461	0	-34,404
Pequot-Mohegan Grant	829,098	829,098	829,098	0	0
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	0	0	0	0	0
PILOT: State-Owned Property	456,363	456,363	456,363	0	0
Town Aid Road	470,587	470,587	470,587	0	0
Grants for Municipal Projects	235,371	235,371	235,371	0	0
Municipal Transition Grant (Car Tax)	0	0	0	0	0
Municipal Revenue Sharing	0	0	0	0	0
Municipal Stabilization Grant	267,960	267,960	267,960	0	0
Teachers' Retirement Contribution	0	-240,135	-240,135	0	-240,135
Total	7,070,459	6,820,507	6,747,006	-73,501	-323,453

545 Long Wharf, 8th Floor, New Haven, Ct 06511

203-498-3000

www.ccm-ct.org

✓ - Same as 2019.20 Budget

Ⓢ - Different

575K

REVENUE BUDGET DETAIL

<u>REVENUE TYPE / ACCOUNT</u>	2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	2018 - 2019	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	Increase / (Decrease)	Percent Change
<u>PROPERTY TAXES</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ESTIMATES</u>	<u>A - B</u>	
CURRENT YEAR TAXES	101,138,735	102,500,234	105,499,739	105,499,739	58,243,157	108,205,769	2,706,030	2.6%
PRIOR YEAR TAXES	439,379	566,705	475,000	475,000	353,435	475,000	-	0.0%
INTEREST AND LIEN FEES	401,946	395,102	425,000	425,000	128,893	400,000	(25,000)	-5.9%
SUPPLEMENTAL MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES	1,057,900	1,032,359	1,100,000	1,100,000	-	1,100,000	-	0.0%
TELECOMM. PROPERTY TAX	60,864	49,285	60,000	60,000	-	49,000	(11,000)	-18.3%
	103,098,824	104,543,684	107,559,739	107,559,739	58,725,484	110,229,769	2,670,030	2.5%
<u>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</u>								
ELD. TAX RELIEF - CIRCUIT BR.	144,371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IN LIEU OF TAX-ST OWNED PROP	733,247	417,704	417,704	417,704	456,363	417,704	-	0.0%
VETERANS ADD'L EXEM	18,888	20,164	20,163	20,163	-	19,033	(1,130)	-5.6%
TOTALLY DISABLED	1,767	1,754	1,753	1,753	-	1,643	(110)	-6.3%
TOWN AID FOR ROADS	470,708	470,865	470,865	470,865	235,293	470,865	-	0.0%
MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT	911,124	903,200	829,098	829,098	-	829,098	-	0.0%
CT SCHOOL BUILDING GRANTS	92,422	288,968	85,225	85,225	-	-	(85,225)	-100.0%
MISCELLANEOUS STATE / FEDERAL GRANTS	29,868	20,838	50,000	50,000	3,363	25,000	(25,000)	-50.0%
LOCIP GRANTS	-	378,513	240,865	240,865	-	240,865	-	0.0%
GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	235,371	235,371	235,371	235,371	-	235,371	-	0.0%
MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING	572,949	304,962	257,863	257,863	267,960	257,863	-	0.0%
EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT	4,949,568	4,254,799	3,956,332	3,956,332	1,141,410	3,956,332	-	0.0%
PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NON-PUB SCHOOL TRANSPORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HEALTH SERVICES - ST. ROSE	21,300	20,858	22,170	22,170	-	22,170	-	0.0%
	8,181,583	7,317,997	6,587,409	6,587,409	2,104,389	6,475,944	(111,465)	-1.7%

Attachment C

**TOWN OF NEWTOWN
APPROPRIATION (BUDGET) TRANSFER REQUEST**

FISCAL YEAR 2018 - 2019 DEPARTMENT Public Works DATE 4/29/19

	Account		Amount	
FROM:	1-101-13-500-5110-0000SALARIES & WAGES - FULL TIME	HWY	(115,000)	USE NEGATIVE AMOUNT
	1-101-13-510-5661-0000SALT	WINTER MAINT	(30,000)	
	1-101-13-650-5411-0000WATER / SEWERAGE	BLDG MAINT	(13,000)	
	1-101-13-510-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	WINTER MAINT	(6,000)	
	1-101-13-515-5110-0000SALARIES & WAGES - FULL TIME	TRANS STA	(3,000)	
	1-101-13-515-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	TRANS STA	(5,000)	
	1-101-11-180-5360-0000PROF SVS - ELECTION	REGISTRARS	(3,000)	
TO:	1-101-13-510-5660-0000SAND	WINTER MAINT	11,400	USE POSITIVE AMOUNT
	1-101-13-500-5653-0000ROAD PATCHING MATERIALS	HWY	13,000	
	1-101-13-650-5130-0000SALARIES & WAGES - OVERTIME	BLDG MIANT	5,000	
	1-101-13-650-5505-0000CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	BLDG MAINT	20,600	
	1-101-13-515-5505-0000CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	TRANS STA	58,000	
	1-101-13-650-5624-0000ENERGY - OIL	BLDG MAINT	53,000	
	1-101-13-650-5622-0000ENERGY - ELECTRICITY	BLDG MAINT	14,000	

REASON:

All inter-department (except \$3,000). See attached memo for explanation.

AUTHORIZATION:

(1) DEPARTMENT HEAD

(2) FINANCE DIRECTOR

(3) SELECTMAN

(4) BOARD OF SELECTMEN

(5) BOARD OF FINANCE

(6) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

date:

5/3/19

5/3/19

AUTHORIZATION SIGN OFF

FIRST 335 DAYS >>>>WITH IN A DEPT.>>>>LESS THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2) & (3) SIGNS OFF; MORE THAN \$50,000>>>> (1), (2), (3) & (5)
>>>>ONE DEPT TO ANOTHER>>>>LESS THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL EXCEPT (6); MORE THAN \$200,000>>>>ALL SIGN OFF
AFTER 335 DAYS >>>>(1), (2), (3), (5) & (6) ANY AMOUNT FROM CONTINGENCY>>>> ALL SIGN OFF



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The source accounts are all sufficient to year end after this transfer. The largest amounts available were due to delay in filling personnel vacancies; employees out on workers' compensation or disability and some of the benefits of fewer severe winter storms. The other surplus came in the Water and Sewer budget from a reduction in benefit assessments due to reaching final payoff.

The accounts requiring assistance did so for very different reasons:

Winter Sand – Due to more ice rather than snow events, there was the need for more applications of sand to provide traction rather than salt.

Patch – While the winter storms were fewer in number, the same was not true of the freeze/thaw cycles nor the amount of rain that hydraulically pushed patch material out of potholes. The need is greater this year for the reasons stated.

Overtime/Building Maintenance – The need is the result of a number of off hour call backs for system failures and coverage for workman's compensation situations.

Contractual Services/Building Maintenance – There were a number of unanticipated mechanical system failures including but not limited to pumps, wells and condensers. This transfer covers the current shortage and provides funding to year end.

Contractual Services/Transfer Station – This request is almost entirely due to a recycling processing tip fee increase that started January 1st and added approximately \$50,000 in cost by itself. The balance of the transfer covers other fee increases and additional processing for storm debris not covered by FEMA.

Energy/Building Heat – This increase was needed to cover higher consumption and cost than anticipated for natural gas due to the community center.

Electricity/Building Maintenance – This covers the billing for the Landfill solar field for the beginning of last year that was not billed until this year. That expense is already accounted for in the next budget. The balance of the request covers unanticipated costs for new facilities such as the new PD site. We have made allowances for covering these costs in the next budget.

Finally, we will be keeping close tabs during the next budget on any of these items that may carry forward and make necessary adjustments as soon as possible.

4 Turkey Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470
Tel (203) 270-4300
Fax (203) 426-9968

Fred Hurley,
Director



**TOWN OF NEWTOWN
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

Marianne Brown,
Chairman
Richard Zang
Louis Carbone
George Hill
Alan Shepard
Eugene Vetrano
Carl Zencey

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLAN
Adopted 3/14/19**

I. 690-96 Authority; purpose; establishment of plan

The Newtown Water Pollution Control Authority was established as an agency of the Town by Ordinance 56, adopted by the Legislative Council on May 7, 1980, in accordance with Section 7-246 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and redesignated as the Water and Sewer Authority ("WSA") by Ordinance 56A adopted by the Legislative Council on April 7, 2004.

The WSA has prepared this Water Pollution Control Plan to designate and delineate the boundaries of areas to be served by Town sewers and areas where sewers are to be avoided and to describe the policies and programs to be carried out to control surface water and groundwater pollution control problems.

II. 690-97 Facilities Plans

The Interim Design Report by Fuss & O'Neill set out the design parameters for the construction of the sewerage system to serve the state and town properties in the central area of Newtown. The treatment plant was designed and constructed for a 20-year average daily flow of 932,000 gallons per day and the sewers were designed and constructed for the ultimate 40-year average daily flow of 1,864,000 gallons per day.

The Newtown Facilities Plan of 1992 identified potential ultimate sewer service areas in the Sandy Hook riverside communities, South Main St, and Taunton Pond West. These areas were dropped from the final design when it was determined that septic repairs and controls on future development would be a more cost-effective solution.

By agreement the state and town each have access to a share of the plant capacity. As flows from either party increase to near their allotted share of capacity that party may request the loan of unused plant capacity from the other to meet environmental needs until the combined flows approach the system limits at which time the plant may be expanded.

A separate sewerage system was built in the Hawleyville area of the town to encourage economic development, not to meet environmental needs. By agreements with the towns of Bethel and Danbury up

to 150,000 gallons per day of sewage may be pumped through Bethel to the municipal treatment plant in Danbury.

III. 690-98 Designation and delineation of SSAs

Sewer service areas are shown on maps originally approved June 2015. Updated maps will be filed with DEEP and the Town Clerk.

IV. 690-99 Policies and objectives

All areas outside of the designated sewer service areas are sewer avoidance areas. It is the intention of the WSA not extend sewers into Sewer Avoidance Areas unless recommended by the Newtown Health District or mandated by the DEEP for environmental reasons.

Sewers may be extended into Sewer Avoidance Areas when requested by the Town as municipal improvements in accordance with Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The WSA will continue to participate in the mandatory review process of the Health Panel Review Panel along with members of the Health District, Inland Wetlands, and Planning and Zoning Commission to control activities in sewer avoidance areas that may exacerbate hydrogeologic conditions on the site.

As an aid to town planning agencies the WSA will provide periodic reports on available sewer capacity in all sections of the sewerage systems.

V. 690-100 Effective date; amendment of plan; filing

The date of adoption shall be deemed the effective date of this Water Pollution Control Plan. This plan may be amended by the WSA with the approval of the Board of Selectmen. A copy of this plan and any updates shall be filed with the State Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The original Water Pollution Plan was adopted on February 9, 1995 and previously amended on June 24, 1999, August 13, 2009 and January 8, 2015.

Date: 3/14/19 Amended: Marianne Brown
Marianne Brown, WSA Chairman

Date: _____ Approved: _____
Daniel Rosenthal, First Selectman

Attachment E

BOARD OF SELECTMAN MEETINGS – SUMMER 2019

Maureen away June 3 – cancel meeting

Dan away June 17 – cancel meeting, reschedule for June 24

Cancel July 1

Hold July 15

Cancel Aug. 5

Hold Aug. 19

June meetings: 6/11; 6/24

July meeting: 7/15

August meeting: 8/19