

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021**, at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT, along with virtual attendance following COVID-19 mandates and precautions. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:42p.m.

Present: Warden Jay Maher, Senior Burgess Chris Gardner, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess James Gaston, Burgess Sarah Phillips, Burgess Jarod Modzelewski, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Tree Warden Rob McCulloch, Zoning Officer Sibley and Clerk Ann Scaia.

Absent: None

Also Present: 6 members of the public.

Senior Burgess Gardner made a motion to accept the April 13, 2021 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Gaston. Motion passed.

Warden's Report: Maureen Crick Owen, president of the Newtown Village Cemetery, offered an update on the Hawley Pond. She reported the silt was cleaned out with the support of the town. The Cemetery Association also applied for a grant but they were not offered the grant to address the invasive plant. The Cemetery Association has enlisted the C&D Underwater Maintenance, who will wait until the plant is at its peak in June/July and will then remove the plant from its roots. This solution is more cost effective thus enabling the Cemetery Association to cover the costs. She went on to report that the dam does not appear to have structural damage but there is being reviewed for a considerable amount of masonry repair in the Fall. She concluded by thanking the Board of Burgesses for offering financial assistance for this project. Zoning Officer Sibley confirmed the grant can be applied to annually as needed for this project in the future.

Warden Maher reported the survey of the Sugar Street project has been invoiced and he has reached out to the survey company for the completed drawings.

Burgess Gaston has sworn in everyone. The Zoning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals officials will be sworn in at the next Zoning meetings.

Tree Warden's Report: Tree Warden McCulloch reported future projects will have to wait until after July 1st, once funding is available. He also requested a discussion of tree pruning on Main Street at the next Borough meeting. He will submit a rough bid spec to be reviewed by the next Borough meeting.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported no changes for the month of April 2021.

Treasurer's Report: The April 2021 report presents: A deposit of \$5,255.00 was made from the Borough Zoning Office. A deposit of \$500.00 was made from Tax Collector, Jodie Enriquez. A deposit of \$70.23 was made of property taxes from AT&T, Frontier and Century Link. A transfer of \$20,700.00 was made to cover last month's invoicing. A transfer of \$5,825.23 was transferred into the ISC Account from the Borough Operating Account. A transfer of \$20,700.00 was transferred from the ISC Account to the Borough Operating Account. Interest on the 12 mo. CD was \$32.03 making a total of \$79,259.26. Please review attached report for April 2021.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for April 2021, seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to transfer \$359.00 from Contingency to Advertising, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to transfer \$240.00 from Contingency to Consulting, seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to transfer \$20.01 from Contingency to Fire Hydrants, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to transfer \$143.42 from Contingency to Office Supplies, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Sibley reported the Land Use office has been very busy processing permits. He also reported regulation amendments for the Edmond Town Hall as it relates to temporary events.

Historic District: Warden Maher offered an update on the proposed design for the Historic District Welcome sign. Warden Maher will present a full size mock up at the June Borough meeting for comments/approval.

Warden Maher also reported on the status of the fence at 32 Main Street. Two Historic District Commission meetings have occurred to discuss the resolution of the fence. Warden Maher stated a landscaper architect, associated with Connecticut Trust Historic Preservation, has been enlisted to assist in possible solutions for the fence. Burgess Gaston reported the Historic District commission is reviewing how best to inform new/current residents of historic regulations for residents in the historic district. He further conveyed the Historic District commission has an obligation to maintain historical standards in the historic district. Burgess Gaston reminded the Zoning Enforcement officer that the Historic District is part of Zoning and that the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector and rest of the and members of Land Use when

residents inquire, or when Land Use is dealing with properties on Main Street, West Street, Church Hill or Currituck that could be in the Historic District, should direct the owners of the property to the Chairperson of the Historic District who is listed on the Town website for Historic District answers and further instruction. Burgess Gaston also reminded all that the Historic District rules per statute included that for a property in the Historic District anytime there is a proposed change or new construction of a fixed structure that was visible from the public roadway the Historic District Commission needed to approve it and issue a Certificate of Appropriateness. That includes things such as roofs, exteriors of the residencies, fences, signs, etc. Repairs or replacements of identical materials, style and structure do not need such Certificates, however, it is best to first check with the Historic District before conducting such work. Burgess Gaston also indicated that the Historic District has a long history of working with residents and user friendliness, citing the Hook and Ladder Firehouse, the Marigold's Restaurant and the John Vorous properties as mutually agreeable successes for all. Zoning Officer Sibley stated the Town Building Official has to list on the permit a contact for any Historic District related requirements. He also stated the Zoning Officer is required to have a copy of application available at the Zoning office. Burgess Gaston offered to draft verbiage to require the Zoning Officer to direct residents to the Historic District commission for specific requirements/regulations as it relates to the Historic District.

Sidewalks: Warden Maher reiterated, from last month's Borough meeting, the Board of Burgesses approved appropriating the \$10,000 allocated for sidewalks to be utilized towards the maintenance of the bomanite for the sidewalks starting in front of the Edmond Town Hall heading north to 65 Main Street. Warden Maher has spoken with the contractor and the work will be completed by June 30, 2021.

Streets & Parks: Warden Maher had nothing new to report.

New Business: Senior Burgess Gardner stated the flagpole will be painted next week. The summer flag is delayed due to the flag being on back order. He is currently looking into another source for a summer flag.

Old Business: None.

Public Participation: Bob Geckle, of 35 Queen Street, asked if monthly accounting for line item budgets of actual vs. budget as recommended by the Borough auditors. He went onto to state he agreed the Zoning Officer should direct residents in the Historic District to the Historic District commission for regulations/requirements. Kiley Gottschalk, of 9 Knollwood Drive, suggested realtors be made aware of the Historic District regulations. Burgess Gaston stated the lawyer at a closing should be informing the buyer of requirements of purchasing property in the Historic District.

**The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at
7:30p.m.**

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE CURRENT STATE OF EMERGENCY
DECLARED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE MEETING WILL NOT BE IN-PERSON.
A PUBLIC CALL-IN PHONE NUMBER WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR REMOTE
PARTICIPATION.**

**There being no further business, Burgess Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at
8:36 p.m.,** seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Scaia
Borough Clerk

A recording of the meeting may be found here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ak_yeFvXPOEA0f2m1lhH0CneWnN-JboMswki_Eztktt27EPDeqUnNrLAB-37zn.amXv2Mlnux9bPdIP?startTime=1620776723000

NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT FOR: APRIL 2021

TOTAL TAXES DUE FOR GRAND LIST 2019:		\$160,258.65
LAWFUL CORRECTIONS:	INCREASE	\$1,712.23
	DECREASE	-\$38.98
TAXES COLLECTABLE:		<u>\$161,931.90</u>

AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

CURRENT TAX:	\$161,092.89
BACK TAX	\$2,259.29
INTEREST:	\$1,523.57
LIENS & FEES:	<u>\$236.00</u>
TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE:	<u>\$165,111.75</u>

TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE:	\$164,900.00
REFUND GIVEN FROM CURRENT YR TAX	\$147.99
REFUND GIVEN DUE FROM PRIOR YR	\$0.00

TAX COLLECTION SUMMARY:

GL 2019	TAXES COLLECTED	\$161,092.89	
	TAXES SUSPENDED	\$0.00	
	TRANSFERS	\$21.34	
	BOUNCED CHECKS	\$0.00	
	REFUNDS	-\$147.99	
	TOTAL CURRENT TAX COLLECTED	<u>\$160,966.24</u>	99.40%
	UNCOLLECTED TAXES	<u>\$965.66</u>	0.60%
	OVERPAYMENTS	\$0.00	

NOTE:

BACK TAXES OUTSTANDING FOR LIST 2018 AND PRIOR:	
UNCOLLECTED TAXES	\$242.09
OVERPAYMENTS FROM PRIOR YEARS	-\$151.33
ADJUSTMENTS	\$4.01
TRANSFER (TO CURRENT YEAR)	-\$21.34

DATE:
11-May-21

SIGN: *Jodie Enriquez*
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN

Treasurer's Report Month Ending April 30, 2021

	ACCOUNT 673 Operating Account	ACCOUNT 2470-D Insured Cash Sweep	TOTAL
BEGIN 4/1/2021	\$250,010.62	\$354,192.90	\$604,203.52
Interest Transfer	-\$10.62	\$10.62	\$0.00
Transfer to Clerk's Account	check #303 -\$20,700.00		-\$20,700.00
Transfer in from ICS	\$20,700.00	-\$20,700.00	\$0.00
Deposit from Bldg/Zoning	\$5,255.00	\$0.00	\$5,255.00
AT&T, Frontier, CenturyLink property tax	\$70.23	\$0.00	\$70.23
Deposit from Tax	YTD:\$164,900 \$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Transfer out to ICS Acct.	-\$5,825.23	\$5,825.23	\$0.00
Interest earned 4/30/2021	\$10.96	\$14.11	\$25.07
ENDING BALANCE 4/30/2021	\$250,010.96	\$339,342.86	\$589,353.82

6 MONTH CD Account matures 9/10/2021

BEGIN 4/1/2021	\$79,227.23
Interest earned 4/30/2021	.25 APY \$32.03
ENDING BALANCE 4/30/2021	\$79,259.26

Respectfully submitted 5/11/21